

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: ALL
Output Group: ALL

DEST Question No. E442_04

Senator Carr asked on 5 November 2003, EWRE Hansard page 71

Question:

- a. When do you expect the final version of the *Mapping Australian Science and Innovation* report to be released?
- b. Have any significant changes been made to the Interim Report?
- c. The Interim report is a substantial document: nearly 350 pages. How much has this particular inquiry cost?
- d. How many staff have been involved in the Report's compilation?
- e. How many staff from other Departments have been involved?
- f. Who authored the report?
- g. Has the Taskforce, or any of the Department's involved in this review contracted external consultants for any aspect of the review or the report itself? If yes, who?
- h. On the Interim report itself, are you concerned at the findings of this review?

Answer:

Mapping Australian Science and Innovation

- a. The main report, *Mapping Australian Science and Innovation*, was released on 28 November 2003 and the report as well as supporting papers are on the Department's website at <www.dest.gov.au/mapping/>.
- b. Changes have been made to the interim report, *Mapping Australian Science and Innovation*, dated 20 August 2003. Following the advice of the Reference Group, the executive summary of the report was restructured to draw out strengths, weaknesses and complementarities in Australia's science and innovation system. The sections on intellectual property (IP) and management, utilisation of research and innovation, international science and technology and emerging sciences and technologies have been expanded to bring in additional data and information from case studies and commissioned research. There is new information in the Business Innovation section, in response to comments received at the Stakeholder Forum in September. Data and analysis from the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts in relation to information and communications technologies (ICT) have also been incorporated into the main report. There have been no significant changes or deletions to the key findings of the mapping study.
- c. The total cost of the mapping study to the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST) was just over \$1 million, comprised of salaries, staff travel, consultations and meetings, commissioned work, printing costs and general administration.
- d. Over the course of the compilation of the mapping report, eight DEST staff have been involved in the Mapping Taskforce.

- e. Over the course of the compilation of the mapping report, five staff from other Commonwealth departments and agencies have been involved in the Mapping Taskforce. In addition, other Commonwealth and state and territory departmental officials provided input through a working group, but were not involved in the report's compilation.
- f. DEST authored the report, *Mapping Australian Science and Innovation*, in consultation with DITR, DCITA and under the guidance of the Reference Group chaired by the Chief Scientist.
- g. External consultants have been engaged over the course of the mapping study:
 - Dr Jenny Gordon and Roger Mauldon (Centre for International Economics)
 - Dr Rosemary Purdie
 - Dr Lyndal Thorburn and Dr John Langdale (Advance Consulting)
 - Dr Mark Matthews (Policy Intelligence Pty Ltd)
 - Associate Professor John Henry (Deakin University)
 - Dr Stella Clark (Bio21 Australia Ltd)
 - Dr Muriel Watt (Unisearch Ltd)
 - Professor Ron Johnston (Australian Centre for Innovation & International Competitiveness Ltd)
 - Dr Bob Birrell (Monash University)
 - Dr John Bell (The Allen Consulting Group)
 - Mr Don Scott-Kemmis (Australian National University)
 - Dr Denis Saunders
 - Dr Hilary Cadman and Mr James Dixon (Biotext).
- h. The report, *Mapping Australian Science and Innovation*, has been completed and is one of a number of inputs into the Australian Government's deliberations on future policy for science and innovation. It should be noted that the available data, on which the analysis in the report is based, largely predates the implementation of *Backing Australia's Ability*.