

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: CSIRO
Output Group: - CSIRO

DEST Question No. E623_04

Senator Carr asked on 5 November 2003.

Question:

At a time when 10% of research divisions budgets have been taken and redistributed, why is remuneration of senior officers quarantined, and in fact increased by 21%. Do you believe that to be equitable? Why is no equivalent financial rigor imposed on these positions?

Answer:

CSIRO has provided the following response.

Executive salaries and Board remuneration

The increase in the aggregate amount of remuneration in Note 33 is affected by the inclusion of additional temporary staffing arrangements (effectively an increase in Officers counted in the Note of 20% albeit the number of positions was the same) as explained in the answer to E617_04. Consequently, the calculation of an increase of 21% in the remuneration of senior officers, and the inference as to equity, are not valid. The actual rate of remuneration increase is given in the answer to E618_04 i.e. increases for senior officers (excluding performance payments or the impacts of changes in responsibilities) were all between 4.2 and 5.0%.

The Board considers that an appropriate standard of financial rigour is being observed across CSIRO and endorses the current range of initiatives aimed at improving administrative and management efficiencies.