

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 3

Output Group: 3.2 – Assistance for science collaboration and innovation

DEST Question No. E655_06 - Final

Senator Wong provided in writing.

Question:

How will the selection process work? Is the Minister compelled to take advice on the appointment from others or consult groups or can the Minister appoint the Chief Scientist by himself?

Answer:

Selection of Chief Scientist

The position of Chief Scientist was advertised in the Australian media and attracted a significant number of high calibre applicants. The Minister asked a selection committee comprising the former Chief Scientist, the Secretary of the Department of Education, Science and Training, the Secretary of the Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources and the Minister's Chief of Staff to consider applications and the result of the Executive search, to meet with short listed applicants.

The Minister is not compelled to take advice from others.