

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: CSIRO

Output Group: CSIRO

DEST Question No. E736_06

Senator Webber provided in writing.

Question:

In setting the operational saving of \$5 million from the current review of support services in this year's budget, why didn't CSIRO estimate how many job losses this could be, or whether the saving would be achieved by other efficiencies?

If projecting to this level of detail wasn't done what confidence does the organisation have that the \$5 million is realistic?

Answer:

CSIRO has provided the following response.

Research Support Services and projected \$5M saving

CSIRO set an objective for the research support services review of generating a saving of 20-25% of in scope support costs within three years of implementation. CSIRO set this objective in February 2005 at a broad level to focus the activities of the review. A breakdown of the savings into staff or other costs was not possible ahead of conducting the review which commenced in May 2005. The \$5m included in the 2005-06 budget is a high level estimate of the potential impact of the review in 2005-06. The review is continuing with a final decision of potential efficiency gains expected in December 2005.