2010 Other Public Sector Research Income (Category 2) Review: Terms of Reference

2010 Higher Education Research Data Collection Review of Other Public Sector Research Income Inclusions

In the first half of 2010, the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (DIISR) will undertake a review of allowable inclusions of Other Public Sector Research Income (Category 2) within the Higher Education Research Data Collection (HERDC).

With the refocussing of the Institutional Grants Scheme into Joint Research Engagement program in 2010, increased emphasis will be placed on Category 2 research income as a driver of Research Block Grant funding allocations. Fundamental to this reform is sector confidence that the income being included is fit for purpose.

Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference are as follows:

1. Examine the purpose of Category 2 research income in the HERDC, the associated definitions and the resulting specifications of income that should be included.
2. Examine sources of income currently reported by Higher Education Providers as Category 2 against the HERDC definition of research income.
3. Undertake a number of audits of Category 2 income returns for the purposes of clarifying the appropriate inclusions and exclusions in this Category.
4. Provide advice to the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research on outcomes from the review and proposed solutions to any identified problems.

Review Process

The review will be undertaken by DIISR. In the first quarter of 2010, the Department will release a consultation paper, with appropriate framing questions, to the sector for comment. The Department will prepare advice to the Minister on outcomes from the review by mid 2010.