

**Division 7: Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation — Service 1, Science \$88 898 000 —**

Ms J.M. Freeman, Chair.

Mr D.J. Kelly, Minister for Science.

Mr S. Wood, Director General.

Ms F. Roche, Executive Director, Science and Innovation.

Mr S. Melville, Director, Corporate Services.

Ms N. Arrowsmith, Chief of Staff.

Mr N. Clarke, Senior Policy Adviser.

Mr N. Burgess, Senior Policy Adviser, ICT.

Ms A. Anderson, Senior Media Adviser.

[Witnesses introduced.]

**The CHAIR:** This estimates committee will be reported by Hansard. The daily proof *Hansard* will be available the following day. It is the intention of the Chair to ensure that as many questions as possible are asked and answered and that both questions and answers are short and to the point.

The estimates committee's consideration of the estimates will be restricted to discussion of those items for which a vote of money is proposed in the consolidated account. Questions must be clearly related to a page number, item, program or amount in the current division. Members should give these details in preface to their question. If a division or service is the responsibility of more than one minister, a minister shall only be examined in relation to their portfolio responsibilities. The minister may agree to provide supplementary information to the committee rather than asking that the question be put on notice for the next sitting week. I ask the minister to clearly indicate what supplementary information he agrees to provide and I will then allocate a reference number. If supplementary information is to be provided, I seek the minister's cooperation in ensuring that it is delivered to the principal clerk by Friday, 29 September 2017. I caution members that if a minister asks that a matter be put on notice, it is up to the member to lodge the question on notice through the online questions system.

I have one question from the member for Churchlands.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** I refer to page 99, which relates to the creation of a science, technology, engineering and mathematics advisory panel chaired by the Chief Scientist. How much funding has been allocated to this panel, how was the funding decided upon and do all those involved in the panel agree that funding is adequate for purpose?

[12 noon]

**Mr D.J. KELLY:** An amount of \$1 million is allocated to that endeavour across the forward estimates—that is, \$250 000 a year. I suppose that is an indicative amount. All the participants in that panel have agreed to participate without charging fees, which is very good of them. My advice is that there is no issue about funding. People are very excited about putting together a STEM strategy for Western Australia. They are really looking forward to just getting on with the job.

**The appropriation was recommended.**