

Appendix B — Consultations

Information about Australian Government agencies consulted during the conduct of the review is provided in **Table 16**.

Table 16. Consultations

| Portfolio ^s | Agency | Summary of activities |
|--|---|--|
| Agriculture, Water and the Environment | Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE) | <p>DAWE's purpose is to enhance Australia's agriculture, environment, heritage and water resources through regulation and partnership. DAWE provide grants and invests in new initiatives to help boost productivity and exports, protect our environment and heritage and promote climate action. Relevant regulatory responsibilities include pest and disease risks of goods, people and vessels arriving in Australia, agricultural goods exported from Australia, and import and export of wildlife.¹⁰⁴</p> <p>Relevant regulatory responsibilities include <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i>, <i>Biological Control Act 1984</i>.¹⁰⁵</p> |
| Defence | Department of Defence | <p>The Department of Defence deals with defence, including international defence relations and defence co-operation, defence scientific research and development, defence procurement and purchasing, and defence industry development and co-operation. Research areas include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air, land and sea vehicles • Autonomous systems • Chemical, biological, radiological & nuclear • Cyber • Electronic warfare • Human science • Information and communications • Operations analysis • Propulsion and energy • Surveillance and space • Weapons systems.¹⁰⁶ <p>Relevant regulatory responsibilities include <i>Customs Act 1901</i>, <i>Defence Trade Controls Act 2012</i> and <i>Weapons of Mass Destruction (Prevention of Proliferation) Act 1995</i>.¹⁰⁵</p> |
| Education, Skills and Employment | Department of Education, Skills and Employment (DESE) | <p>DESE leads implementation on national policy and programs including supporting the early childhood education and care and schooling systems and enabling students to access the higher education and skills they need to maximise employment opportunities.</p> <p>Current research programs and initiatives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Support program to ease the immediate financial pressures on universities caused by COVID-19 • Strategic University Reform Fund • Research Infrastructure Investment Plan • University Research Commercialisation Scheme • Centre for Augmented Reasoning.¹⁰⁷ |

^s Australian Government Department of Finance. Flipchart and list of Commonwealth entities and companies. Retrieved 12 November 2021 from: <https://www.finance.gov.au/government/managing-commonwealth-resources/structure-australian-government-public-sector/pgpa-act-flipchart-and-list>

| Portfolio ^s | Agency | Summary of activities |
|---|---|--|
| Education, Skills and Employment | Australian Research Council (ARC) | The ARC advises the Australian Government on research matters, administers the National Competitive Grants Program, a significant component of Australia's investment in research and development, and has responsibility for Excellence in Research for Australia. The ARC supports research and research training through national competition in all fields of science, social sciences and the humanities, and brokers partnerships between researchers and industry, government, community organisations and the international community. ¹⁰⁸ |
| Foreign Affairs and Trade | Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) | DFAT promotes and protects Australia's international interests to support our security and prosperity. DFAT works with international partners and other countries to tackle global challenges, increase trade and investment opportunities, protect international rules, keep our region stable and help Australians overseas. ¹⁰⁹ |
| Foreign Affairs and Trade | Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) | ACIAR supports research projects in four regions—eastern and southern Africa, East Asia, South and West Asia and the Pacific. ACIAR's research projects focus on agribusiness, climate change, crops, fisheries, forestry, horticulture, livestock systems, social systems, soil and land management and water. ¹¹⁰ |
| Health | Department of Health | <p>The Department of Health works to deliver an affordable, quality health and aged care system and better health, ageing and sport outcomes for all Australians. The Department funds research to inform the development of policy for health, aged care and sport, and to assist with monitoring and evaluation of the Department's initiatives and programs. Research funded by the Department includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • trends and risk factors of different diseases • how different treatments affect patient outcomes • new technologies • health care costs • the health status of different groups of people.¹¹¹ <p>Relevant regulatory responsibilities include <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i>, <i>Gene Technology Act 2000</i>, <i>National Health Security Act 2007</i> and <i>Therapeutic Goods Act 1989</i>.¹⁰⁵</p> |
| Health | National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) | NHMRC's legislated functions are to fund health and medical research and training, and to issue guidelines and advise on improving health outcomes, through prevention, diagnosis and treatment of disease and the provision of health care. NHMRC also has a role in promoting the highest standards of ethics and integrity in health and medical research. ¹¹² |
| Health | Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) | The OGTR supports the Gene Technology (GT) Regulator, who is an independent statutory office holder responsible for administering the <i>Gene Technology Act 2000</i> and corresponding state and territory laws. The GT Regulator has specific responsibility to protect the health and safety of people, and to protect the environment from any risks posed by gene technology. ¹¹³ |

| Portfolio ^s | Agency | Summary of activities |
|--|--|--|
| Industry, Science, Energy and Resources | Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources (DISER) | <p>DISER supports productivity and economic growth, and job creation for all Australians by investing in science, technology and commercialisation and growing innovative and competitive businesses, industries and regions.</p> <p>Activities related to investing in science, technology and commercialisation (Activity 1.1) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting and capitalising on national science expertise to drive innovation, enhance productivity and generate globally competitive solutions across the economy to improve Australia's response to COVID-19 as well as addressing national and international challenges, such as in space, cyber, health, energy, climate change, resources, agriculture, disaster management and artificial intelligence. • Promoting the growth of a highly skilled workforce through greater understanding, awareness and participation in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), particularly for women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and other underrepresented groups. • Supporting basic research, business research and development, commercialisation and translation of research, and access to early-stage finance, and encouraging collaboration between industry and the research sector, including through Australia's world-class science agencies, and infrastructure. • Enabling Australia's participation in world-leading science, supporting access to domestic and international science facilities and deepening international science engagement to drive Australia's national interests. • DISER's public research institutions include the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS), Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO), National Measurement Institute (NMI), and Geoscience Australia.¹¹⁴ |
| Industry, Science, Energy and Resources | Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) | <p>CSIRO carries out scientific research for purposes including assisting Australian industry, furthering the interests of the Australian community, and contributing to the achievement of Australian national objectives or the performance of the national and international responsibilities of the Commonwealth. CSIRO also encourages or facilitates the application or utilisation of the results of such research. Its function also includes international scientific liaison, training of research workers, publication of research results, technology transfer of other research, provision of scientific services and dissemination of information about science and technology.¹¹⁵</p> <p>The Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness (formerly known as the Australian Animal Health Laboratory) helps protect Australia's multi-billion dollar livestock and aquaculture industries, and the general public, from emerging infectious disease threats. It is a high-containment facility designed to allow scientific research into the most dangerous infectious agents in the world.¹¹⁶</p> |

| Portfolio ^s | Agency | Summary of activities |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| Prime Minister and Cabinet | Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet | <p>The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) has six purposes and supporting priorities that reflect where the Department's efforts are focused to deliver the Australian Government's priorities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growing our economy, incomes and creating jobs • Vibrant and resilient regions • Strengthening families and communities • Advancing Australia's international interests and enhancing national security • Governing well • Preparing well to respond to critical issues.¹¹⁷ |