



Hon Ros Bates MP
Office of the Minister for Science, Information Technology,
Innovation and the Arts

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Mrs Rosemary Menkens MP
Chair, Member for Burdekin
Education and Innovation Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mrs Menkens

Thank you for considering the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Science, Information Technology, Innovation and the Arts. I would like to clarify a few statements I made at the parliamentary estimates hearing of 16 October 2012.

I made a comment that productivity in Queensland has decreased and is the lowest in the country. I can advise the Committee that in terms of both multifactor productivity and labour productivity, average productivity growth rates have been lower for the period of 2001-02 to 2007-09 compared to 1992-93 to 2001-02. However, these growth rates have not been the lowest in the country.

I can also advise the Committee that according to the 2012 Queensland Innovation Report by the University of Queensland Business School, the percentage of businesses innovating in Queensland has decreased in the past 12 months.

I would also like to clarify that:

- \$622 000 of taxpayers' money was wasted on a pile of rocks with a couple of vines hanging out of it in a hinterland national park
- government IT spend works out to be \$1 million an hour
- the email identification system was a \$252 million program over 10 years.

If you have any questions about my advice to you, it is suggested that you contact Mr Philip Reed, Director-General, Department of Science, Information Technology, Innovation and the Arts by email at Philip.Reed@dsitia.qld.gov.au or on telephone (07) 3247 3407.

Yours sincerely

The Hon Ros Bates MP
Member for Mudgeeraba
Minister for Science, Information Technology, Innovation and the Arts