

#117

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Page 2: Section 1: submitter contact information

Q1

Name

Johannes Laubach

Q2

Email address

Privacy - 9(2)(a)

Q3

No

Can MBIE publish your name and contact information with your submission?
Confidentiality notice: Responding "no" to this question does not guarantee that we will not release the name and contact information your provided, if any, as we may be required to do so by law. It does mean that we will contact you if we are considering releasing submitter contact information that you have asked that we keep in confidence, and we will take your request for confidentiality into account when making a decision on whether to release it.

Q4

Yes

Can MBIE contact you in relation to your submission?

Page 3: Section 2: Submitter information

Q5

Individual

Are you submitting as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?

Page 4: Section 2: Submitter information - individual

Q6

Yes

Are you a researcher or scientist?

Q7

Age

Privacy - 9(2)(a)

Q8

Gender

Q9

In which region do you primarily work?

Respondent skipped this question

Q10

Ethnicity

Respondent skipped this question

Page 5: Section 2: Submitter information - individual

Q11

What is your iwi affiliation?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 6: Section 2: Submitter information - individual

Q12

If you wish, please specify to which Pacific ethnicity you identify

Respondent skipped this question

Page 7: Section 2: Submitter information - individual

Q13

What type of organisation do you work for?

Crown Research Institute or Callaghan Innovation

Q14

Is it a Māori-led organisation?

No

Q15

Which disciplines are most relevant to your work?

Biological sciences,
Earth sciences,
Environmental sciences,
Physical sciences

Q16

What best describes the use of Mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge) in your work?

It does not contain Mātauranga Māori

Page 8: Section 2: Submitter information - organisation

Q17

Respondent skipped this question

Organisation name

Q18

Respondent skipped this question

Organisation type

Q19

Respondent skipped this question

Is it a Māori-led organisation?

Q20

Respondent skipped this question

Where is the headquarters of the organisation?

Q21

Respondent skipped this question

What best describes the use of Mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge) in your organisation?

Page 9: Section 3: Research Priorities

Q22

Priorities design: What principles could be used to determine the scope and focus of research Priorities?(See page 27 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

Consult widely and regularly with organisations representing wider interests of public good and livelihoods (e.g. environmental, social, industry bodies)

Q23

Priority-setting process: What principles should guide a national research Priority-setting process, and how can the process best give effect to Te Tiriti?(See pages 28-29 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

High priority to questions of global and national importance, ensuring survival of humanity and natural environment.

Low/no priority to questions of interest purely for commercial/competitive advantage (these should be funded by interested sectors).

Leave a good share of available research funds in non-prioritised contestable funds, to explore ideas and foster innovation and creativity

Q24

Respondent skipped this question

Operationalising Priorities: How should the strategy for each national research Priority be set and how do we operationalise them?(See pages 30-33 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

Page 10: Section 4: Te Tiriti, mātauranga Māori, and Māori aspirations

Q25

Engagement: How should we engage with Māori and Treaty Partners?(See page 38 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

Include Maori organisations in the process of identifying priorities

Q26

Respondent skipped this question

Mātauranga Māori: What are your thoughts on how to enable and protect mātauranga Māori in the research system?(See pages 38-39 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

Q27

Respondent skipped this question

Regionally based Māori knowledge hubs: What are your thoughts on regionally based Māori knowledge hubs?(See page 39 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

Page 11: Section 5: Funding

Q28

Respondent skipped this question

Core Functions: How should we decide what constitutes a core function, and how do we fund them?(See pages 44-46 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

Q29

Yes

Establishing a base grant and base grant design: Do you think a base grant funding model will improve stability and resilience for research organisations?(See pages 46-49 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

Q30

Establishing a base grant and base grant design: How should we go about designing and implementing such a funding model?(See pages 46-49 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

It needs to cover salaries for the majority of science and technical personnel and a core of support staff (e.g. IT, accounting). Then, it will improve job security, it will protect and value specialised expertise and track records, and it will also make international collaborations more attractive and feasible (because they will not depend on finding “funded time” to allocate to such collaborations). Researchers feeling secure and valued and networking internationally will enhance stability and resilience.

Page 12: Section 6: Institutions

Q31

Institution design: How do we design collaborative, adaptive and agile research institutions that will serve current and future needs?(See pages 57-58 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

Confidentiality - 9(2)(ba)(i)

Distinctions between the scope and directions of the institutions should be kept. The scope and directions should be set by the institutions' leaders and subjected to approval by independent governance/advisory groups, but they should NOT be contractually tied to the base funding, as that would hamper the institutions' flexibility to respond to new challenges and establish new collaborations.

Do not create a hierarchical behemoth like CSIRO in Australia (where researchers' work satisfaction seems to be very low). The institutions should be free to pursue additional funding opportunities, to grow and provide opportunities for younger staff. Successes with external funding should not impact on base funding.

Remove bureaucratic accounting rules, e.g. for CAPEX (the lower and upper limit of "minor CAPEX" have not changed in over 20 years, which impacts on the flexibility of obtaining experimental instrumentation).

Q32

Role of institutions in workforce development: How can institutions be designed to better support capability, skill and workforce development?(See page 58 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

Prioritise strategic recruitment and skills development higher than strategies for commercial success or strategies trying to second-guess what future "benefits to NZ" might be. Strategic recruitment needs to cover a wide range and many niches of disciplines, and aim for a good mix of young and old for succession planning (of scientists and technicians).

Q33

Respondent skipped this question

Better coordinated property and capital investment: How should we make decisions on large property and capital investments under a more coordinated approach?(See pages 58-59 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

Q34

Respondent skipped this question

Institution design and Te Tiriti: How do we design Tiriti-enabled institutions? (See page 59 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

Q35

Respondent skipped this question

Knowledge exchange: How do we better support knowledge exchange and impact generation? What should be the role of research institutions in transferring knowledge into operational environments and technologies?(See pages 60-63 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

Q36

Respondent skipped this question

Workforce and research Priorities: How should we include workforce considerations in the design of national research Priorities?(See pages 69-70 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

Q37

Base grant and workforce: What impact would a base grant have on the research workforce?(See pages 70-71 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

A base grant that covers salaries for the majority of science and technical personnel and a core of support staff (e.g. IT, accounting) will improve job security, it will protect and value specialised expertise and track records, and it will also make international collaborations more attractive and feasible (because they will not depend on finding “funded time” to allocate to such collaborations). Researchers feeling secure and valued and networking internationally will enhance stability and resilience. Their expertise and skills can be built from the “big picture” of their disciplines, not in response to short-term demands. In the current system without base funding, there is a tendency to take any “safe” and short-term commercial contracts, to be risk-averse, and to not criticise major funders. It takes researchers’ focus away from topics of high national or international relevance if these are not currently funded.

A base grant model could also greatly reduce internal bureaucracy, because it would be unnecessary to micro-account for how much time is spent on which project. The focus could shift from an “on budget” delivery to an “on target/high quality” delivery.

Q38

Better designed funding mechanisms: How do we design new funding mechanisms that strongly focus on workforce outcomes? (See page 72 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

Some funds could specifically encourage/enable employment of doctoral and postdoctoral researchers, outside of the base-grant-funded core workforce. This would build the fresh capability needed to secure succession when the most experienced researchers retire.

Page 14: Section 8: Research infrastructure

Q39

Funding research infrastructure: How do we support sustainable, efficient and enabling investment in research infrastructure?(See pages 77-78 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

Remove bureaucratic accounting rules, e.g. for CAPEX (the lower and upper limit of “minor CAPEX” have not changed in over 20 years, which impacts on the flexibility of obtaining experimental instrumentation).

Allow equipment purchases from institutional base funding as well as from external project funding, according to research needs.
