#47

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Page 2: Section 1: submitter contact information

Q1

Name

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

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?

Q10

Ethnicity

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?

Earth sciences,

Environmental 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)

What are key research needs for New Zealand?
Is public funding the best vehicle to produce this research, or is it commercial / industrial funding?
The needs of our country as a whole should to be the focus, not the commercial success of individual research providers.

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)

Strong involvement of active research scientists (and not just their managers) in the process is needed.
The panel making the decisions should be balanced, reflecting broad scientific expertise and an overview understanding of science, the political and societal landscape, and importantly the international context. New Zealand is a small but active member of the international community, and our aim should be to proactively participate in matters of global concern, e.g. climate change, environmental pollution, and feeding a growing human population. Our science needs are include some areas that require consistent, long-term funding, and some emergent short-term opportunities that are best funded using short-term funds.

Q24

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)

Once the priorities are set, specialist consultations are required to flesh out a strategy to deliver on the research priority. Given the small size of our research communities, I imagine that this is not too onerous a process. It could follow the strategy development process used at the start of the National Science Challenges, which revolved around formulating key foundational documents that described the rationale and strategy around each of these priorities.

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)

Engagement should occur across the board where there are interested and affected Maori partners. This is the case where the research affects Maori culture, lands, businesses, or other aspects of Maori value. It is difficult in areas of science where there is next to no Maori participation, e.g. fundamental science. I advocate for strong engagement where this makes sense, but not a requirement across the board for Maori engagement -- this would simply become an empty box-ticking exercise. More fundamentally, specific opportunities for Maori to more broadly participate in research (e.g. scholarships) would be good.

Q26

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)

Respondent skipped this question

Q27

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)

Such hubs might be good as Maori centres of learning, e.g. about how to adapt to climate change. It is however difficult to imagine siloed "hubs" of knowledge in an increasingly interconnected world where knowledge is generally universal.

Page 11: Section 5: Funding

Q28

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)

A core function is a key scientific research topic whose pursuit is in the public interest, to advance our environmental, societal, or economic interests.

Q29

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)

Yes

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)

The base grant would cover basic costs of core research facilities (building, research vessels, HPCs, administrative costs) that are not directly associated with any single particular research project. This way opportunity costs for new research becomes a lot more manageable, also also a level playing field is established between CRIs and academia that can have very different base costs (and hence costs to a research project, under the existing charging model).

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)

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)

Capability development requires a long-term commitment, especially of finances, to build and maintain that capability. For example, in climate science, such a commitment could be towards building and maintaining a climate observational and modelling capability. This includes permanent positions for people holding up this capability. Failure to maintain the capability can lead to instantaneous loss of what took years to build...

Q33

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)

I much like the idea of colocating academic and research -- internationally this is sometimes very successful, but underused here. This goes to the idea of creating small, multi-institutional, well-focused Centres of Research Excellence that could be associated with academic teaching centres with the same focus.

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

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)

Internationally the focus is on publications. This has to be complemented with a parallel focus on socioeconomic / environmental / cultural benefits that are often non-monetary or hard to quantify. I think if the purpose of a particular bit of research is short-term commercialization, it should probably be left to private funding. It's the big public-interest research that is unlikely to spin off commercial benefit in the short term that should come under public funding.

Page 13: Section 7: Research workforce

Q36

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)

Tackling national research priorities requires the development of people capability. This means permanent positions and opportunities to attract funding for these positions.

Q37

Respondent skipped this question

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)

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)

At present we have too much reliance on competitive funding streams. This means very short planning horizons, funding uncertainty, and a reluctance by institutions to invest in long-term staff development.

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)

Research infrastructure is often prohibitively expensive for individual users. Even handing down pro rata the cost of usage to individual users can put them off.
Ways to address this include more sharing of a resource across the research sector, maybe more international collaboration, and more base grants to cover the cost of that infrastructure.