

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio
2016 - 2017 Additional Estimates
2 March 2017

DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE

TOPIC: Grants - Senate Procedural Order of Continuing Effect 16

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Carr

QUESTION No.: AI-151

In relation to the Departmental and Agency grants list tabled on 17 February 2017 pursuant to Senate Procedural Orders of Continuing Effect 16:

- a. Please describe the nature of the two grants to the Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre for \$385,000 and \$440,000, in the list of grants for the period 27 September 2016 to 06 February 2017 including:
 - i. What are the grants for? Are they for operational and administrative matters, or for specific projects?
 - ii. If they are for specific projects, please outline the nature of these projects and provide a breakdown showing what the funding will be used for.
 - iii. If they are for operational and administrative matters, please outline the nature of these matters and provide a breakdown showing what the funding will be used for.
 - iv. Will any of the grant money be used to fund travel for the Chair and/or staff of the Growth Centre?
- b. Please describe the nature of the grant to the Cyber Security Growth Centre for \$31.9 million in the list of grants for the period 27 September 2016 to 06 February 2017, including a detailed breakdown showing what the funding will be used for.
- c. Please describe the nature of the two grants to James Cook University for \$55,000 each in the list of grants for the period 27 September 2016 to 06 February 2017, including a detailed breakdown showing what the funding will be used for.
- d. Please describe the nature of the grant to LendLease Development for \$3.3 million in the list of Departmental grants updated for the previous reporting period 14 April 2016 to 26 September 2016.

ANSWER

- a.i. The grants are for research projects to improve understanding of advanced manufacturing in Australia.
- ii. The \$385,000 (GST inclusive) grant was for stage two of the Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre's (AMGC) data project. The objective of this project is to develop a definition of 'advanced manufacturing' and a robust measurement framework.

The \$440,000 (GST inclusive) grant was split evenly over two projects: stage 3 of the data project; and research into the advanced manufacturing sector's workforce and skills.

- iii. N/A
- iv. No

- b. The \$31.9 million (GST inclusive) for the Cyber Security Growth Centre includes funding for four years extending from 2016-17 to 2019-20. The detailed breakdown is as follows:
- \$3.85 million per year of operational funds for the not for profit company established as the Australian Cyber Security Growth Network Limited (ACSGN). The ACSGN is the entity that will operate the Cyber Security Growth Centre. As per the Industry Growth Centre Initiative Programme Guidelines, these operational funds may be used for purposes such as facilitation and coordination costs, salaries, services, lease of premises and equipment costs associated with undertaking activities of the Programme.
 - In addition to the operational funds a further \$16.5 million will be provided in 2017-18 (\$3.3 million), 2018-19 (\$7.7 million) and in 2019-20 (\$5.5 million). These additional funds are specifically allocated as 'Projects Funds'.
 - Project Funds are the portion of the ACSGN's annual funds allocated to industry-led collaborative Projects to improve the productivity, competitiveness and innovative capacity within and between the six sectors of the Industry Growth Centres Initiative.
 - The establishment and funding of a Cyber Security Growth Centre was announced on 7 December 2015 as part of the National Innovation and Science Agenda, it is also a key initiative of Australia's Cyber Security Strategy announced by the Prime Minister on 21 April 2016.

- c. The details regarding the two grants to James Cook University for \$55,000 (GST inclusive) each are as follows:

The grants relate to the Innovation Connections programme and is between James Cook University and collaborating businesses. One is with Seafarm Queensland. The project commencement date was 21 November 2016 with a completion date of 21 November 2017. The project is to identify levels of viral loads in prawns during the production cycle. The grant will be used to cover 50% of the total project costs. The other grant is with Mainstream Aquaculture Table Fish. The project commencement date was 18 January 2017 with a completion date of 18 January 2018. The project is aimed at optimising barramundi production. The grant will be used to cover 50% of the total project cost.

- d. The grant in question is a CRC Project Grant (a stream of the CRC Programme) titled Innovation in Advanced Multi-Storey Housing Manufacture for \$3,300,000 (GST inclusive) over three years.

This project will develop and commercialise an innovative housing system that will transform conventional housing construction towards an advanced manufacturing future. By boosting productivity in Australia and increasing competitiveness in global value networks, the high value, market-ready housing products and processes developed in this collaboration will create new jobs, growth, and export opportunities.