

**QUESTION No.11**

(Hansard 30/05/05, pp. E47 and E50)

**Senator Lundy** asked about:

Can you provide the Committee with the names of the councils currently involved in discussions on allocation of grants under the Regulation Reduction Incentive Fund for ICT demonstration projects when that information is available and the agreements are signed?

Can you provide the specific examples of the regulation reduction initiatives through each of the current grants and for the grants that are currently being negotiated? Can you provide the actual amount of each grant and the conditions by which the groups need to acquit against the grant?

**ANSWER**

In responding to this question, Mr Griffin [General Manager, Business Entry Point Branch] offered to provide copies of the grant deeds in relation to funding for projects under the Regulation Reduction Incentive Fund ICT Demonstration Project program. Funding agreements have been signed between the Commonwealth of Australia and:

- Whittlesea Council and others;
- Brisbane City Council;
- Corporation of the City of Adelaide;
- District Council of Grant;
- Hobart City Council;
- Armidale Dumaresq Council and others;
- City of Wanneroo;
- City of Swan;
- ACT Planning and Land Authority; and
- Palmerston City Council.

Copies of the deeds have been provided separately to the Senate Economics Legislation Committee secretariat.

All grants that were under negotiation at the time of the hearing have now been finalised. Details of the grants for ICT demonstration projects that have been approved are attached.

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**Attachment**

**Regulation Reduction Incentive Fund ICT Demonstration Projects as at 11 July 2005**

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>State/Territory</b>              | Victoria  |
| <b>Lead Council</b>                 | City of Whittlesea  |
| <b>Other Stakeholders</b>           | Wellington Shire Council (consortia partner)<br>Surf Coast Shire Council (consortia partner)<br>Manningham City Council (consortia partner)<br>Murrindindi Shire Council (consortia partner)<br>City of Casey (consortia partner)   |
| <b>Brief description of project</b> | Simplify five local government regulatory processes, develop an interactive, self-guided compliance tool, build the online system in an Application Service Provider model and make the system available to all Victorian Local Government Agencies.  |
| <b>Transactions</b>                 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Planning: Application for a planning permit for an extension to an existing building or erection of an outbuilding.</li> <li>2. Planning: Application under the planning scheme for a reduction of car parking requirements.</li> <li>3. Building: Application for a building permit for an office/home-based business extension.</li> <li>4. Health: Registration for approval to operate or refurbish food premises.</li> <li>5. Local Laws: Application for a permit for footpath occupation.</li> </ol> |
| <b>Cost</b>                         | \$591,760 (GST exclusive)   |

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| <b>State/Territory</b>              | Queensland   |
| <b>Lead Council</b>                 | Brisbane City Council (BCC)  |
| <b>Other Stakeholders</b>           | Queensland <i>SmartLicence</i> (State Government licensing and information service and payment gateway)  |
| <b>Brief description of project</b> | <p>The outcome being pursued by BCC is to offer the majority of its business licences and permits through the <i>SmartLicence</i> Online (SLOL) website. In this way BCC hopes to provide a seamless government solution to business operators such that they can easily identify which licences and permits they need and then apply and pay for them all at the same time.</p> <p>SLOL will collect revenues on behalf of the BCC and ensure that any relevant information and payments are distributed back to the Council.</p> |
| <b>Transactions</b>                 | <p>Environmental Health: Skin Penetration (PAIC); Food (Takeaway Food, Café or Restaurant, Shop, Temporary Food Stall, Footway Dining, Bakery &amp; Pastry Cook, Manufacture, Mobile Food Vehicle).</p> <p>Other: Footway Permits; Advertising Signs.</p>  |
| <b>Cost</b>                         | \$175,120 (GST exclusive)  |

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| <b>State/Territory</b>              | South Australia  |
| <b>Lead Council</b>                 | Adelaide City Council (ACC)  |
| <b>Other Stakeholders</b>           | Chimo Pty Ltd (service provider)<br>BizGate (State Government payment gateway)   |
| <b>Brief description of project</b> | ACC will receive four fully capable, tested and working online transactions as well as up to ten downloadable transaction documents (PDF format) that will be returnable online through Transaction Manager.<br><br>Bizgate will be involved to ensure that they are in the best position to support these transactions. The transactions will also be promoted to constituents and the success of their implementation will be reported at the completion of 12 months. |
| <b>Transactions</b>                 | City Works Permit<br>Outdoor Dining Approval<br>On Street Activities Request<br>Temporary Parking Controls   |
| <b>Cost</b>                         | \$88,582 (GST exclusive)   |

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>State/Territory</b>              | South Australia   |
| <b>Lead Council</b>                 | District Council of Grant (DCG)   |
| <b>Other Stakeholders</b>           | Chimo Pty Ltd (service provider)<br>BizGate (State Government payment gateway)  |
| <b>Brief description of project</b> | DCG will receive two fully capable, tested and working online transactions as well as up to ten downloadable transaction documents (PDF format) that will be returnable online through Transaction Manager.<br><br>Bizgate will be involved to ensure that they are in the best position to support these transactions. The transactions will also be promoted to constituents and the success of their implementation will be reported at the completion of 12 months. |
| <b>Transactions</b>                 | Request for Bdouble access on roads<br>Fire permits application   |
| <b>Cost</b>                         | \$88,582 (GST exclusive)  |

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|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>State/Territory</b>              | Tasmania  |
| <b>Lead Council</b>                 | Hobart City Council   |
| <b>Other Stakeholders</b>           | StudioQ (service provider)  |
| <b>Brief description of project</b> | This project will enable small businesses, particularly architects, builders, plumbers, developers and other tradespeople, to lodge development applications online and gain access to a range of information that will enable them to track the progress of that application.                                      |
| <b>Transactions</b>                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ability for registered users to lodge development applications online</li> <li>• Track the progress of that application through the Council process online</li> <li>• Receive feedback about the application online</li> <li>• Pay the lodgement fee online</li> </ul> |
| <b>Cost</b>                         | \$87,430 (GST exclusive)  |

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|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>State/Territory</b>              | New South Wales  |
| <b>Lead Council</b>                 | Armidale Dumaresq Council  |
| <b>Other Stakeholders</b>           | Walcha Council (alliance partner)<br>Uralla Shire Council (alliance partner)<br>Guyra Shire Council (alliance partner)   |
| <b>Brief description of project</b> | The mainstay of this shared services model is a new shared service business systems platform, designed from a zero base that will deliver: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• seamless operation of shared service business processes across participating councils;</li> <li>• streamlined end-to-end business processes with comprehensive embedded performance measures to facilitate efficiency and continuous improvement; and</li> <li>• streamlined, simplified and enhanced customer service and regulatory compliance interactions for all council customers, particularly small businesses.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Transactions</b>                 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Online Certificate Request and Delivery (conveyancing certificate)</li> <li>2. Online Commercial Utility Billing with Periodic Self-Assessment</li> <li>3. Tender response conformance self-assessment system</li> <li>4. Online GPS-linked provision of noxious plant infestation map coordinates for rural landholders and contractors.</li> </ol>   |
| <b>Cost</b>                         | \$690,000 (GST exclusive)  |

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|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>State/Territory</b>              | Western Australia   |
| <b>Lead Council</b>                 | City of Swan  |
| <b>Other Stakeholders</b>           | City of Wanneroo<br>Small Business Development Corporation (State Government)   |
| <b>Brief description of project</b> | Undertake the development of a self-assessment licensing advisory service. This will essentially involve the development of a number of online tools that aim at reducing time and effort required for small business to make applications for business licences and permits.   |
| <b>Transactions</b>                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An application self-assessment tool for home based business to determine whether they need to apply for a particular licence or if no approvals are required.</li> <li>• An application self-assessment tool for advertising signage to determine whether local government approval and/or other statutory authority approvals are necessary.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Cost</b>                         | \$200,000 (GST exclusive)   |

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|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>State/Territory</b>              | ACT   |
| <b>Lead Agency</b>                  | ACT Planning & Land Authority (ACTPLA)  |
| <b>Other Stakeholders</b>           | Development Assessment Forum  |
| <b>Brief description of project</b> | ACTPLA aims to develop a simple pilot project comprising an integration model and basic implementation of that model. This will effectively demonstrate the business process improvement benefits of implementing a generic 'best practice' model using SOA and XML based principles as effective mechanisms for any Australian council to improve online interactions with the business community. |
| <b>Transactions</b>                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online, web-based application form that will enable applicants to electronically submit their development proposals.</li> <li>• Electronic notification of Development Approval (Notice of Decision).</li> <li>• Generic client/business system integration model.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Cost</b>                         | \$98,500 (GST exclusive)  |

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|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b>State/Territory</b>                | Northern Territory  |
| <b>Lead Council</b>                   | Palmerston City Council (PCC)   |
| <b>Other Stakeholders (Name/role)</b> | Chimo Pty Ltd (service provider)<br>BizGate (SA State Government payment gateway)   |
| <b>Brief description of project</b>   | <p>PCC will receive two to three fully capable, tested and working online transactions as well as up to ten downloadable transaction documents (PDF format) that will be returnable online through Transaction Manager.</p> <p>Bizgate will be involved to ensure that they are in the best position to support these transactions. The transactions will also be promoted to constituents and the success of their implementation will be reported at the completion of 12 months.</p> |
| <b>Transactions</b>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online booking for Council facilities</li> <li>• Information Act application forms</li> <li>• Dog registration</li> <li>• Other Council licences and permits</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Cost</b>                           | \$88,582 (GST exclusive)  |