

Question on Notice

No. 898

Asked on Thursday 17 September 2015

MR MOLHOEK ASKED THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND PUBLIC WORKS AND MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND INNOVATION (HON L ENOCH) –

Will the Minister provide a detailed list of all grant recipients funded by the departments of Housing and Public Works, and Science, Information Technology and Innovation in the past financial year and current financial year and include for each grant payment the (a) program, (b) recipient, (c) grant amount, (d) payment date, and (e) purpose for grant?

ANSWER:

In relation to the Department of Science, Information Technology and Innovation, the Queensland Government has historically offered a range of competitive, merit-based grant programs that support collaborative research projects, fellowships, scholarships and startups that benefit Queensland and Queenslanders now and in the future. In 2014/15, \$22.83 million was provided for research and innovation projects and startup related activities. In 2015/16, \$4.02 million has been provided as at 15 September 2015.

Through the \$180 million Advance Queensland initiative, the Government will continue to invest in research and innovation excellence, and provide real outcomes for Queenslanders through our support of our leading scientists. I expect the first of the Advance Queensland recipients to be awarded in the near future.

In response to the specifics of the Member's question, outlined in Table 1 is information for both the 2014/15 and 2015/16 on grant programs, grant recipients, payment amounts and the purpose of the program.

With respect to the Department of Housing and Public Works, it provides Current Grants and Capital Grants to a broad range of organisations and individuals. Primarily these grants relate to housing services, which are targeted at dealing with critical issues including housing affordability, access to private rental markets, on-site support for persons to sustain their tenancies, social housing maintenance, upgrades and new constructions.

As indicated on Page 102 of the Department of Housing and Public Works Annual Report 2014-15, the department's total expenditure on grants and subsidies for 2014/15 was \$116.568 million.

The number of organisations and individuals that receive grant payments from the department is significant and the consequential number of individuals and organisations that are the recipients of the benefit of those grant payments is in the tens of thousands. Using the Rental Grants Program as an example, there were 3,802 recipients of the rental grant in 2014/15.

Outlined in Table 2 below is a high level summary of the current and capital grants by program, an overview of the purpose of the grant and expenditure in 2014/15 (\$116.568 million) and year to date expenditure for 2015/16 as at 30 September 2015 (\$17.642 million).

I have been advised that it is neither practical nor reasonable to divert Department of Housing and Public Works' resources to identify and list details for all grant payments requested in the Member's question. To do so would require significant resources, diverting staff away from the delivery of services to Queenslanders.

I would also note that for certain grant programs, the department may not have permission to release such information. If the Member has a specific question about a specific grant, subject to any commercial-in-confidence or privacy issues, I would be more than happy to seek that information.

TABLE 1 **DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION GRANT PAYMENTS – 2014/15 and YTD 2015/2016**

Program	Recipients	Grant expenditure 2014/15 \$'M	Grant expenditure YTD \$'M (as at 15 September 2015)	Program purpose
Accelerate Fellowships	Griffith University James Cook University Queensland University of Technology University of Queensland University of Southern Queensland	1.000	0	Support the attraction and retention of skilled researchers to undertake innovative research projects that benefit Queensland and Queenslanders.
Accelerate Partnerships	University of Queensland Queensland University of Technology James Cook University Australian Institute of Marine Science Central Queensland University CSIRO	1.899	0	Supports Queensland research organisations to undertake practical and applied science and research projects – in collaboration with research and industry partners – that will have a positive impact on Queensland.
Accelerate Ideas	TenasiTech Pty Ltd	0.044	0	Supports researchers and industry to demonstrate the potential commercial viability of a new or existing idea.

Program	Recipients	Grant expenditure 2014/15 \$'M	Grant expenditure YTD \$'M (as at 15 September 2015)	Program purpose
Business and Industry Transformation Incentives	AMT Helicopters Pty Ltd Sunpork Commercial Piggeries Pty Ltd Heat Treatment (Qld) Pty Ltd Suncoast Gold Macadamias (Aust) Limited	0.517	0	Support innovation, increasing productivity, exporting for growth and building regional strengths.
Cooper-Hewitt Fellowships	Department of Education and Training John Paul College	0.035	0	The Cooper Hewitt Fellowship supports a registered Queensland school teacher to visit the Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum, in New York USA to learn more about the use of design in education.
National and International Research Alliances Program	Queensland University of Technology University of Queensland Griffith University	0.589	0	Supports Queensland research organisations to undertake take highly innovative research and development projects with leading-edge partner organisations in Australia and overseas with a focus on the development of new or improved products, processes or systems that have the potential to be commercialised or have public good applications.
Research-Industry Partnerships Program	CMTE Development Limited	0.050	0	Supports Queensland researchers and companies to undertake collaborative world-class innovation projects in order to develop new or improved products, processes or systems that will achieve a commercial return or deliver a public good within four years.
Indo-Queensland	University of Queensland	0.056	0.043	Supports Queensland researchers to jointly undertake highly innovative agricultural and medical biotechnology research projects with leading-edge Indian research organisations.

Program	Recipients	Grant expenditure 2014/15 \$'M	Grant expenditure YTD \$'M (as at 15 September 2015)	Program purpose
Biotechnology Projects Funds				
Research Partnerships Program	TenasiTech pty Ltd Griffith University University of Queensland	2.380	0.100	Supports research and development projects to be undertaken in collaboration with partner organisations either in Australia and/or overseas and deliver benefits to Queensland in the short to medium term.
Co-Investment Fund	Queensland University of Technology Griffith University University of Queensland Queensland Cyber Infrastructure Foundation Ltd Metro South Hospital and Health Service – Princess Alexandra Hospital	5.185	0.070	Support Queensland applicants seeking supplementary funding for proposals that have already obtained Commonwealth Government or Philanthropic Organisation funding approval in areas of research that will deliver tangible benefits for Queensland.
Smart Futures Premier's Fellowships	Queensland University of Technology University of Queensland	0.500	0	The Smart Futures Premier's Fellowships provide funding for fellows to lead nationally and internationally prominent research teams in Queensland and complete a research project over five years.
Smart Futures PhD Scholarships	University of Queensland	0.054	0.012	The Smart Futures PhD Scholarships provide top-up funding for scholars to undertake innovative PhD research at Queensland universities over three years.

Program	Recipients	Grant expenditure 2014/15 \$'M	Grant expenditure YTD \$'M (as at 15 September 2015)	Program purpose
	Queensland University of technology James Cook University Central Queensland University Griffith University			
Smart Futures Fellowships	University of Queensland Queensland University of Technology James Cook University University of Southern Queensland University of the Sunshine Coast Metro North Hospital and Health Service – The Prince Charles Hospital Mater Medical Research Institute Limited	0.760	0.045	Support the attraction and retention of skilled researchers to undertake innovative research projects over three years that benefit Queensland and Queenslanders.

Program	Recipients	Grant expenditure 2014/15 \$'M	Grant expenditure YTD \$'M (as at 15 September 2015)	Program purpose
	Queensland Institute of Medical Research			
Industry and Sectoral Projects Fund	AusBiotech Ltd Life Sciences Queensland Limited James Cook University University of Queensland	9.376	3.516	One off funding commitments to strategic projects such as the Australian Institute of Tropical Health and Medicine, the Clem Jones Centre for Ageing Dementia Research, and Life Sciences Queensland
Queensland-Chinese Academy of Sciences Collaborative Science Fund	University of Queensland Queensland University of Technology	0.137	0.150	Supports Queensland research organisations to collaborate with Chinese Academy of Sciences research institutes on practical and applied science and research projects that address identified priority areas for the benefit of Queensland and China.
Smithsonian Fellowships Program	Board of the Queensland Museum James Cook University Queensland University of Technology Queensland Academy of Science Mathematics and Technology	0.072	0.041	The Smithsonian Fellowships program supports Queensland researchers to visit an overseas Smithsonian Institution facility to undertake a project that facilitates the exchange of knowledge and skills between Queensland and the Smithsonian Institution.

Program	Recipients	Grant expenditure 2014/15 \$'M	Grant expenditure YTD \$'M (as at 15 September 2015)	Program purpose
StartUp Queensland Program	Silicon Lakes Ltd StartUp Catalyst Pty Ltd Startup Toowoomba Pty Ltd Troy Anthony Haines Innovation Centre Sunshine Coast Pty Ltd Cairns Innovation Hub Pty Ltd Prompt Management Pty Ltd as Trustee for Angus and Klayman Family Trust Regional Development Australia Moreton Bay Inc Ubuntu Enterprises Pty Ltd JESI Management Solutions Pty Ltd IT Forum Gold Coast Inc	0.171	0.045	Assist in building capability within the Queensland startup communities by delivering practical information and advice, increased collaboration and transformational entrepreneurship.

TABLE 2 - 2014/2015 AND YTD 2015/16 (as at 30 September 2015) FINANCIAL YEAR

Program	Grant Expenditure 2014/2015 \$M	Grant Expenditure YTD 30 Sept 2015 \$M	Purpose for Grant
HOUSING - CURRENT GRANTS			
National Rental Affordability Scheme	23.987	0	NRAS program aims to deliver innovatively designed affordable housing and provide a viable affordable housing private rental alternative to social housing for low to medium income households.
RentConnect Tenancy Assistance	0.357	0.105	The RentConnect program was established in 2008 to divert demand from social housing by assisting households with the capacity to afford and manage a private rental tenancy to find and secure a home in the private rental market.
RentConnect Tenancy Guarantee	0.118	0.001	The RentConnect Tenancy Guarantee aims to encourage private sector lessors and agents to rent properties to people who are having difficulty entering the private rental market.
Rental Grants	1.844	0.441	To help eligible households in housing crisis with some of the costs associated with moving into private rental accommodation.
Comptons Caboolture Residential Subsidies	0.177	0.037	To provide affordable living to eligible seniors in Caboolture.
Private Market Assistance Sub-total	26.483	0.584	Helps households access private rental market or home ownership, diverting low to moderate income earners away from public housing.
Common Ground	0.204	0	The initiative combines affordable housing with on-site support services to assist tenants to sustain their tenancies and improve their health, social and economic outcomes.
Social Housing Sub-total	0.204	0	
NPARIH Maintenance DOGIT	12.027	0.684	To maintain social housing properties to department standards.
DOGIT – Cherbourg	2.362	0.371	To maintain social housing properties in Cherbourg to department standards.
DOGIT – Indigenous Current Grants Maintenance	8.600	2.623	To maintain social housing properties to department standards.
DOGIT - Yarrabah	2.131	0.367	To maintain social housing properties in Yarrabah to department standards.
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Sub-total	25.120	4.045	
Housing Minister’s Advisory Committee (HMAC)	0.955	0.872	State contribution to the operation of the Housing Ministers Advisory Committee.

Program	Grant Expenditure 2014/2015 \$M	Grant Expenditure YTD 30 Sept 2015 \$M	Purpose for Grant
Industry Development Framework	1.170	0.294	To deliver a suite of initiatives to strengthen the capability and capacity of the housing assistance industry with a focus on sustainability.
Base Admin	0.085	0.002	
Other – Sub-total	2.210	1.168	
TOTAL CURRENT GRANTS	54.017	5.797	
HOUSING - CAPITAL GRANTS PROJECTS			
National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing – Commonwealth funded	33.714	8.584	In May 2009 the Queensland Government entered in to a National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing (NPARIH) with the Commonwealth. All parties are committed to addressing significant overcrowding, the issue of social inclusion, including responding to Indigenous disadvantage. This funding is allocated to Infrastructure, Surveys, Minor Works programs and Workers Accommodation facilities.
Deed of Grants In Trust (DOGIT) Community Grants	15.946	2.129	To provide capital upgrades and refurbishments to Indigenous communities.
Indigenous Communities Housing Organisations – Commonwealth funded	1.846	0.003	Funding from Commonwealth to refurbish or replace the housing stock of ICHOs which agreed to new funding arrangements with the State (33 of 80 ICHOs agreed to transition of which 6 withdrew).
Rural and Remote	0.980	(0.261)	Rural and Remote Program funds were initially allocated in 2008-09 to target housing needs in specific Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. Funding is currently being provided to various councils in the form of capital grants to undertake new constructions. The Rural and Remote Program is also addressing overcrowding through a house extension program to the Northern Peninsula Area (NPA) and the Torres Strait Islands. (Note 1)
Long Term Housing and Capital Investment State-wide	0.460	0	To work with the Community Housing providers to increase the number of social housing properties. Construction not yet completed.
Nation Building and Jobs - State Contribution	0.160	0	To facilitate coordination, monitoring and delivery of timely economic stimulus through building prosperity for the future and supporting jobs now.
Affordable Housing Capital Grants	2.760	0	Capital grant funding of \$7.5M (GST Exc) to Brisbane Housing Company toward construction of 57 one-bedroom units at 9-13 Bothwell Street, Mount Gravatt East. Construction reached practical completion on February 2015.
Other Capital Grants	0.436	0	

Program	Grant Expenditure 2014/2015 \$M	Grant Expenditure YTD 30 Sept 2015 \$M	Purpose for Grant
Caravan Parks - Woombye Gardens and Lazy Acres	4.488	0	The caravan parks were sold to Sundale (a not for profit organisation) on 14 July 2014 to continue to manage as caravan parks.
TOTAL CAPITAL GRANTS	60.790	10.455	
OTHER GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES (PUBLIC WORKS)			
Australian Building Codes Board	0.497	0.776	Annual funding contribution to the Australian Building Codes Board to support the development and administration of the National Construction Code.
Gracemere Industrial Area	1.264	0.614	To fund works for the Gracemere Industrial Area infrastructure including roadworks, water mains, sewerage mains, and sewerage treatment plant.
TOTAL OTHER GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES	1.761	1.390	
TOTAL ALL GRANTS	116.568	17.642	

Note 1. Actual expenditure for the year to 30 September 2015 is negative due to the reversal of expenditure accrued at 30 June 2015. The amount accrued at 30 June was an estimate which included a contingency factor which is now known to be overstated and will not be accrued again.