

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016**

Outcome: Agency: ARC

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000196

Senator McKenzie, Bridget provided in writing.

ARC: National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy

Question

National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy

- How important is it to ARC-funded research that there is funding for the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy?
- What provision there was in the previous government's forward estimates for NCRIS?
- What would be the consequences for ARC-funded research of a failure to provide for the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy?

Answer

The Australian Research Council (ARC) has provided the following response:

- The ARC is able to provide information on projects that list National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS) facilities as part of the funding proposal. For ARC funding awarded in 2015, \$2,653,400 (or 0.5 per cent) went to projects that listed facilities funded as part of NCRIS. There may be many other projects funded by the ARC that use NCRIS facilities which are not specifically mentioned in the proposal for funding.

ARC funded projects that collaborate with NCRIS ensure that our researchers have access to world class research infrastructure facilities both here in Australia and around the world. This is essential to maintain our research capability and capacity for innovation in our industries. As part of the National Innovation and Science Agenda (NISA), the Government announced \$1.5 billion of ongoing funding over 10 years—to provide continued support for the NCRIS network of critical research infrastructure facilities.
- None.
- The ARC is unable to speculate on the consequences for ARC-funded research of a failure to provide for NCRIS.