

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2006-2007 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 1
Output Group: ARC

DEST Question No. E1001_07

Senator Carr asked on 14 February 2007, EWRE Hansard page 9.

Question:

National Competitive Grants Program

Senator CARR—How many projects were terminated last year?

Mr Marsden—I will have to take that on notice. I do not have that information.

Senator CARR—For instance, is it a reasonably consistent number across the last three years?

Mr Marsden—I would say a reasonably consistent low number, but I would like to provide the precise number to the committee.

Senator CARR—Could you indicate to us the reasons for termination?

Mr Marsden—Yes, we can.

Answer:

ARC has provided the following response:

National Competitive Grants Program

In each of the last three years less than 1.4 per cent of projects funded under the ARC's National Competitive Grants Program (NCGP) have been terminated. Details are below:

Year	Terminated projects	Projects which received any funding in the year
2006	73	5257
2005	40	5047
2004	57	4771

The main reasons for projects being terminated are:

- lack of availability of key researchers (generally due to ill health, death or change in personal circumstances such as the pursuit of other employment opportunities);
- inability of the administering organisation to engage a suitable postgraduate research student for a project under the *Linkage Projects* scheme, part of the NCGP; and
- inability of a partner organisation to continue to participate in a project under the *Linkage Projects* scheme.