



Senator the Hon Katy Gallagher

Minister for Finance
Minister for Women
Minister for the Public Service
Senator for the Australian Capital Territory

REF: MS24-000267

Senator the Hon Sue Lines
President of the Senate
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear President *Sue*

I write with regard to Senate Order 23E Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines, agreed by the Senate on 12 May 2020.

The Senate Order requires that I lay on the table by 30 April of each calendar year:

- a. *all reports and correspondence received by the Minister for Finance under paragraph 4.12 of the Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines 2017 during the preceding calendar year (noting that the Guidelines do not apply to all grant administrators, including not applying to the allocation of funding by Sports Australia under the Community Sport Infrastructure Grants program ('Sports Rorts'));* and
- b. *a summary of the decisions reported under paragraph 4.12 of the Commonwealth Grant Rules and Guidelines 2017, including the Central Budget Management System program title, sub-program, grant activity, grantee, total grant value, grant funding location, postcode, and a brief statement of reason for the decision.*

Paragraph 4.12 of the *Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines 2017* (CGRGs) requires ministers to report to the Minister for Finance annually on all instances where they have decided to approve a particular grant which the relevant official has recommended be rejected. Ministers must report by 31 March each year for the preceding calendar year.

In accordance with the Senate Order, I enclose a copy of correspondence from the Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Minister for Defence Personnel, and separately from the Minister for Industry and Science. I also enclose a summary table of decisions reported within these letters, as required by the Senate Order.

I would be grateful if you could arrange for these documents to be tabled in accordance with the Senate Order.

I have copied this letter to the Prime Minister.

Yours sincerely

Katy Gallagher
Katy Gallagher



THE HON MATT KEOGH MP
MINISTER FOR VETERANS' AFFAIRS
MINISTER FOR DEFENCE PERSONNEL

MS24-000054

Senator the Hon Katy Gallagher
Minister for Finance
Minister for Women
Minister for the Public Service
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister, *Katy*

APPROVAL OF GRANTS UNDER THE 2023-24 SALUTING THEIR SERVICE (STS) GRANT PROGRAM NOT RECOMMENDED BY OFFICIALS

I am writing to you in accordance with the requirement outlined in the Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines (CGRGs) that you be notified of the details each time a Minister approves a grant that is not recommended by officials. I will approve the grants outlined below that were not included on the list of grants recommended by officials under batch two of the 2023-24 Saluting Their Service (STS) commemorative grants program.

I am approving the grant for Iona College. Iona College have undertaken to restore a statue of William "Bill" Dodd first crafted of marble as the centrepiece of the Manly War Memorial, until it went missing in the early 1990s, after being damaged by vandals. The Iona College will restore the damaged statue, following its discovery in a Brisbane City Council depot in 2013, and place it as the centrepiece of a newly constructed War Memorial within college grounds. I have considered the application from Iona College and believe activity to be of a commemorative nature due to the historical nature of the statue to be restored. Officials did not recommend this grant because they believed the memorial commemorated an individual, which is an ineligible activity. However, while the memorial uses the form of an individual it is nonetheless of regional significance in the area. The use of a figure is commonplace in Queensland where as a cenotaph would be used in the Southern states.

I am also approving the grant for Mandurah Valley Vietnam Veterans Group, as 2023 was significantly the 50th anniversary of the end of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War, and organisations were encouraged to apply for funding to recognise Vietnam Veterans in this important milestone. Officials did not recommend this grant because the applicant provided little relevant details in the criterion response, though in my view the information was sufficient.

Please see a summary of the approved grants below. I have also enclosed a copy of the letters to the successful organisations for your information.

Reason for Notification	Grantee	Grant activity	Amount Approved	Grant location
Not recommended by officials	Iona College	Restoration and Relocation of the original statue of William 'Bill' Henry Dodd to Iona College	\$106,804	Wynnum Central, Queensland
Not recommended by officials	Mandurah Valley Vietnam Veterans Group	Purchase 2 plaques commemorating the 50 th anniversary of the end of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War.	\$2,325	Dawesville, Western Australia

Yours faithfully,



HON MATT KEOGH MP

26 February 2024



**THE HON ED HUSIC MP
MINISTER FOR INDUSTRY AND SCIENCE**

MC24-000306

26 MAR 2024

Senator the Hon Katy Gallagher
Minister for Finance
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

Katy

I am writing in accordance with the Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines requirement that Ministers report instances annually where they have approved a grant that the relevant officials have recommended be rejected.

As requested, the enclosed report has been prepared by my department detailing one instance of a grant I approved as the Minister for Industry and Science in 2023 that meets the above requirement.

Yours sincerely

Ed Husic

Ed Husic MP

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Annual Ministerial Reporting as per paragraph 4.12 of the Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines 2017

CBMS Program Title	Sub-Program	Grant Activity	Grantee	Total Grant Value	Grant Funding Location	Postcode	Brief statement and reason for decision
Investing in science, technology and commercialisation	Cooperative Research Centres Program	Vertically integrated battery anode material development program	iTech Minerals Ltd ABN: 41 648 219 050	\$565,543	Mawson Lakes, South Australia	5095	The application supported a Government policy priority. The project provided further information to address the recommending committee's concerns.

**Summary of decisions where ministers have approved grants that the relevant officials recommended be rejected
2023 Calendar Year**

Minister	CBMS program	Sub program	Grant activity	Grant recipient	Total grant value (GST status)	Grant funding location	Postcode	Brief statement of reason for decision
The Hon Matt Keogh MP Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Minister for Defence Personnel	Program 3.2 Commemorative Activities	Saluting Their Service Commemorative Grants Program	Restoration and relocation of the original statue of William 'Bill' Henry Dodd.	Iona College	\$106,804 (GST excl)	Wynnum Central, Queensland	4178	The Minister stated in his correspondence: 'I have considered the application from Iona College and believe [the] activity to be of a commemorative nature due to the historical nature of the statue to be restored. Officials did not recommend this grant because they believed the memorial commemorated an individual, which is an ineligible activity. However, while the memorial uses the form of an individual it is nonetheless of regional significance in the area. The use of a figure is commonplace in Queensland whereas a cenotaph would be used in the Southern states.'
The Hon Matt Keogh MP Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Minister for Defence Personnel	Program 3.2 Commemorative Activities	Saluting Their Service Commemorative Grants Program	Purchase two plaques commemorating the 50 th anniversary of the end of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War.	Mandurah Valley Vietnam Veterans Group	\$2,325 (GST inc)	Dawesville, Western Australia	6211	The Minister stated in his correspondence that: 'I am also approving a grant for Mandurah Valley Vietnam Veterans Group as 2023 was significantly the 50 th anniversary of the end of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War, and organisations were encouraged to apply for funding to recognise Vietnam Veterans in this important milestone. Officials did not recommend this grant because the applicant provided little relevant details in the criterion response, though in my view the information was sufficient.'
The Hon Ed Husic MP Minister for Industry and Science	Program 1.2 Investing in science, technology and commercialisation	Cooperative Research Centres program	Vertically integrated battery anode material development program.	iTech Minerals Ltd	\$565,543 (GST inc)	Mawson Lakes, South Australia	5095	The Minister stated in his correspondence that 'the application supported a Government policy priority. The project provided further information to address the recommending committee's concerns.'