EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Funding Rules made under section 60 of the Australian Research Council Act 2001

ARC Linkage Projects Funding Rules for funding commencing in 2014

Issued by the authority of the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research

Subject: Australian Research Council Act 2001
ARC Linkage Projects Funding Rules for funding commencing in 2014

Authority
Section 60 of the Australian Research Council Act 2001 (the Act) provides that the Minister must approve ARC funding rules.

Purpose and effect
The ARC Linkage Projects scheme provides funding to Eligible Organisations to support research and development (R&D) projects which are collaborative between higher education researchers and other parts of the national innovation system, which are undertaken to acquire new knowledge, and which involve risk or innovation.

In accordance with subsection 59 (2) of the Act, the ARC Linkage Projects Funding Rules for funding commencing in 2014 contain:
(a) the eligibility criteria to be met in order for a proposal to be approved for financial assistance (including criteria relating to the kinds of organisation that may receive assistance and the kinds of research program in respect of which assistance may be provided);
(b) how to apply for financial assistance;
(c) the assessment process for deciding which proposals will be recommended for approval;
(d) the ways in which, and circumstances in which, a funding approval may be varied; and
(e) any additional accountability requirements that the ARC thinks desirable.

In accordance with subsection 59 (2) of the Act, the ARC Linkage Projects Funding Rules for funding commencing in 2014 rules take account of, and are consistent with:
(a) the funding cap for the year, or each of the years, to which the rules apply; and
(b) the funding split determination for the year, or each of the years, to which the rules apply.

The ARC Linkage Projects Funding Rules for funding commencing in 2014 were approved by the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research, the Hon Kim Carr, on 19 July 2013. No amendments have been made.

Documents incorporated by reference
The following documents are incorporated by reference:
- the NHMRC/ARC/UA Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research (2007);
- the NHMRC/ARC/UA National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007);
- and codes on animal research promulgated by the NHMRC, available from (www.nhmrc.gov.au);
- Instructions to Applicants for funding commencing in 2014, available from (www.arc.gov.au);

Commencement
The ARC Linkage Projects Funding Rules for funding commencing in 2014 shall take effect upon registration on the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments.
Section 1 provides the name of the Funding Rules.

Section 2 provides the commencement details.

Section 3 provides definitions.

Section 4 provides an overview and outlines the objectives of the ARC Linkage Projects scheme and selection criteria.

Section 5 outlines the level of funding, restrictions on budget items, and types of research not supported.

Section 6 outlines organisational types, roles, eligibility and contribution.

Section 7 outlines roles and eligibility for participants.

Section 8 outlines the proposals including number of proposals and cross-scheme eligibility.

Section 9 outlines the submission of proposals in RMS, closing time for proposals and conflict of interest.

Section 10 outlines the assessment and selection process.

Section 11 appeals process

Section 12 outlines reporting requirements including end of year report and final report.

Section 13 outlines fundamental principles of conducting research including ethics and research practices, applicable law, confidentiality, intellectual property and incomplete or misleading information.

Appendix A: Eligible Organisations