

Questions taken on notice and further information agreed to be supplied at the hearings.

Portfolio:	Defence Industry
Witness:	The Hon. Colin Brooks MP
Committee Member:	Richard Riordan
Pages of transcript:	pp. 3-4

Relevant text:

Colin BROOKS: Well, we were advocating very strongly for that. I mean, this is a sector where we advocate, facilitate and provide grant funding to programs that are largely funded by the federal government, so our role is very clear in this, which is that advocacy role.

Further to your question, I have worked through the different levels of investment. A project like Thales in Bendigo – and I note that the federal Minister for Defence Industry was in Melbourne recently announcing work with a company called SYPAQ, which is a very innovative Victorian company specialising in autonomous systems but has become better known for those cardboard flat pack drones that went to Ukraine. He announced further investment there, so there are some big investments coming in. Then, just to finish off your question, I mentioned in my opening remarks the \$10 million land systems fund. One of those is the SCUP, the supply chain uplift program. As of today we have allocated grants to 44 companies across six rounds of funding, the most recent one announced today. I have got a long list here of the 44 companies, if you want me to go through them.

Richard RIORDAN: You might like to table them, just to supply my notes.

Colin BROOKS: I will table a list. Yes, I will supply the list to the committee.

Richard RIORDAN: That would be great.

Answer:

Consenting recipients of the Supply Chain Uplift Program - excluding Commercial in Confidence information - is publicly available on Victorian Government and Hanwha Defence Australia websites: <https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-04/230426-Supply-Chain-Support-To-Boost-Local-Defence-Manufacturing-.pdf>, <https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/backing-victorias-defence-supply-chain-win-more-contracts>, <https://www.hanwha-defence.com.au/news/victorian-government-grants-to-support-hanwha-defence-australias-local-supply-chain>, <https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2025-08/250811-Backing-Local-Manufacturers-To-Boost-Jobs.pdf>, <https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/growing-victorias-defence-supply-chain-and-jobs>.

Given the proximity of the Round 6 Supply Chain Uplift Program announcement and the Public Accounts and Estimates Committee inquiry into the 2026-27 Budget Estimates Hearing for

the Defence Industry portfolio, the Department remains in the process of finalising grant arrangements.

The amounts provided to individual companies under the Victorian Land Systems Fund - Supply Chain Uplift Program are commercial-in-confidence.