

Question on Notice

Portfolio:	Small Business
Witness:	Secretary, Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions
Committee Member:	Nick McGowan
Page/s of transcript:	2-3

Relevant text:

Nick McGOWAN: Thank you, Minister. Forgive my ignorance, but on page 145, where there are ‘Output’ and ‘Sub-outputs’ and ‘Industry, small business and medical research (2024–25: \$476.0 million)’ and then for ‘Sub-outputs’, ‘Industry and small business’, \$418.7 million, can you tell me from both of those, output and suboutputs, what the component is for small business alone – or the Secretary or whoever might have the answer?

Tim ADA: Danni, are you happy to –

Danni JARRETT: Thanks, Mr McGowan. For the component that relates to small business, though, as you would appreciate, that output covers a number of different portfolios, but for small business, the output for 2024–25 – I understand that is your question –

Nick McGOWAN: Yes.

Danni JARRETT: relates primarily to supporting Victorian small businesses, which relates to the business toolkits and Business Victoria online.

Nick McGOWAN: And the total funding envelope for those two initiatives?

Danni JARRETT: It is \$2.3 million.

Nick McGOWAN: So of the \$476 million, there is \$2.3 million for small business in the output – is that correct?

Danni JARRETT: And then there is also the multiyear funding from 2022–23 and 2023–24, which relates to the flood response business support programs.

Nick McGOWAN: Yes, but that output is just 2024–25.

Danni JARRETT: The question for 2024–25 relates to \$2.3 million.

Nick McGOWAN: Yes, but what I am asking about is the output funding here – of the \$476 million, how much of that is small businesses?

Tim ADA: I think, Mr McGowan, if I can, Minister, we might take that on notice. As Ms Jarrett said, it pertains to the new budget initiatives. There is also some funding in 2024–25 relating to the commitment the government has made and was in last year’s budget relating to multicultural precincts and trader groups. We might take the question on notice to answer it.

Nick McGOWAN: Thank you.

Answer:

The Industry, Small Business and Medical Research output includes \$19.55 million in 2024-25 for initiatives and activities under the Small Business portfolio.

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Nick McGOWAN: Mr Secretary, while we are speaking, the government, via NAB, commissions an annual survey that pertains to the impact of state regulations on business. Do you know whether the department received this survey or a summary of its findings?

Tim ADA: I might ask Ms Jarrett or Ms Carosone to add to my comments. We have access to a lot of data and insights publications. As to whether we actually receive the specific survey that you mentioned, Ylva, do you want to add to that?

Ylva CAROSONE: I am happy to. Can I just clarify, please, the exact name of the survey?

Nick McGOWAN: I am not familiar with the name, myself. I can get that to you, but it is via the NAB, so I am guessing there is only one survey. They commission annually a survey relating to the impact of state regulations on business.

Ylva CAROSONE: Yes, we do receive lots of reports like that. And that is commissioned by NAB?

Nick McGOWAN: I am just wondering, because they were previously publicly available since 2016. Are we able to see a copy of that survey result?

Ylva CAROSONE: I would be happy to follow up if that is a report that we did actually receive. It could be one that has been received by our colleagues in regulation reform, in that portfolio, but I am happy to take that on notice.

Nick McGOWAN: I would be grateful if you could do that. Thank you very much.

Answer:

The National Australia Bank (NAB) Quarterly Business Survey is a national survey of businesses undertaken by NAB and is publicly available here (<https://business.nab.com.au/nab-quarterly-business-survey-march-2024/>).