

\$60 million funding boost for Investment Attraction South Australia

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Investment Attraction South Australia will receive an additional \$60 million over four years to attract new businesses to the state, promote job creation and develop key industry sectors.

It will comprise \$30 million in grants over 2017-18 and 2018-19 and \$30 million in low-interest loans over 2019-20 and 2020-21.

The agency is focussed on attracting large interstate and overseas companies to relocate to, or expand, their operations in South Australia. The agency can also provide support to new projects that deliver significant economic benefits to the state.

The early success of the agency includes investment attraction and new jobs at international aerospace company Boeing, IT giant NEC, food processor Ingham's and IT services provider Datacom.

The additional funding for Investment Attraction South Australia is one of the initiatives included in the State Government's \$200 million Future Jobs Fund.

This State Budget investment in Investment Attraction South Australia provides \$10 million in 2017-18 and \$20 million in 2018-19 to further support and secure new investment in South Australia within key industries including:

- Shipbuilding and defence
- Renewable energy and mining
- Tourism, food and wine
- Health and biomedical research
- IT and advanced manufacturing.

This investment builds on previous funding of \$20 million over 2017-18 and 2018-19 provided in the 2016-17 Budget.

Since October 2015, the agency has assisted 16 companies, secured more than \$1 billion worth of investment projects to the state, creating more than 5600 direct and construction jobs for South Australians.

Investment Attraction South Australia's success has been achieved primarily through case-management assistance, with only eight projects having received financial support.

Treasurer Tom Koutsantonis said the State Government has been working hard to make South Australia the best place in the country to do business.

"It makes a lot of sense for big national and international businesses such as Boeing, NEC and Babcock to base their operations in South Australia. We are the lowest cost state, we are centrally located with excellent infrastructure, we have world-class education institutions and graduates, and we are cutting and abolishing a number of business taxes," Mr Koutsantonis said.

Investment and Trade Minister Martin Hamilton-Smith said Investment Attraction South Australia is leading the state's efforts in pursuing and securing new international and national investment in South Australia with more than 5000 jobs and \$1 billion investment created so far.

"The agency's key focus is to capture foreign direct investment which, global examples show, leads to job creation and business growth," Mr Hamilton-Smith said.

"Today's additional investment allows the agency to offer targeted incentives to get businesses over the line and convince them to make the move to South Australia, bringing in new capital and creating lasting jobs of the future.

"Many South Australian jobs of the future lie in defence, small business, export and trade, which is why we are investing heavily in these sectors. "