An ARC perspective on Centre administrative matters

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Topics

• Staff contacts for Centre schemes
• Key administrative matters
  – Establishment
  – Postaward management
  – Reviews
  – Future Planning
• Questions
Establishment

• The Funding Agreement and **Key Performance Indicators** – **issues and what we really like to see**
• So you got less funds than requested – if you are changing the scope of research activity the ARC may ask for **revised research plan**
• **Recruitment** – named versus unnamed participants
• **Governance** – no standard model but important to get it right
• Considering **Open Access and Open Data**
• Announcement, launches, openings, major media events – Protocols for the Minister’s Office and ARC
Postaward Management

ARC needs to know and/or approve

- **Change of named staff** - Centre Director Chief and Partner Investigators, Chief Operating Officer or equivalent. ITRP Centres - named student participants too

- **Changes to organisations** and/or their contributions

- Major **changes to Research Program.** Please also manage ongoing integration of the projects

- Significant **changes to the Budget** – decrease, increase, refocus, changes to major purchasing or infrastructure access problems

- Budget **carryover of funds** – the ARC will allow carry forward of funding from one year to the next with justification (ie late start, recruitment delays, equipment or field work issues)
Postaward Management

• Managing Partner Organisations and their expectations – the ARC perspective when things go wrong
• ARC and the **accountability requirements**
• ARC reads all Centre *annual/progress reports and provides feedback*
• **Conflict of interest**
  – What is it? The recent policy change…
• **Avoiding Commonwealth funding overlap**
• **Centres can actively leverage other funding** – grants, consultancies, contracts
• **Commercialisation and IP matters** – Resources to manage, mentoring your staff, and effective planning
Postaward Management

- **Outreach** – you have obtained large sums of public funding
  - **Outreach KPIs** are very important – engagement with end users and the public
  - **Capacity building** – mentoring your researchers and students
  - **Your tools** – events, a really great website, speaking publicly (through media or forums), publications including your annual/progress report
  - Media and publications – Protocols on **acknowledgment of ARC**
- The ARC will be seeking **Research Impact case studies** for public release including the ARC website
Reviews

• **Preparation** – Plan for it in Year 1 and the ARC will give you guidance in advance about requirements when the time comes
• Reviews require **written submissions** and ARC representatives coming for a **site visit**
• An ARC **report will be produced with recommendations**
• Incorporate **the recommendations** into your future research planning
• **Some things to know**
  – The review is about the Centre - CIs often feel disappointed that the process is not a deep and meaningful assessment of the science.
  – The review is a serious checkpoint.
• ITRP – Hubs – there is a **provision of ad-hoc reviews** which may occur after the first three years. It may be the ARC asking for a written report or even a site visit
Future Planning

• **Wind down plans** – don’t do this at the last minute
  – ITRP Hubs – needed to demonstrate an ongoing relationship with industry after ARC funding ceased
• New ARC scheme rounds and preparing rebids - *start now*!
• **Other sources of funding** if research is rephasing to translation/commercialisation
• **ARC will not fund** clinical trials, industry product development – there are other sources of funding for these. There may be some transitioning of research outcomes directly into industry as well