

**Tuesday, 22 August 2023**

## **ADOPTION OF ARC REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS STRENGTHEN AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH**

The Regional Universities Network has welcomed the Government's announcement that all 10 recommendations of the review of the Australian Research Council (ARC) Act have been accepted.

RUN Executive Director Alec Webb said the adoption of these recommendations from the ARC review are essential to ensuring that Australia continues to be at the forefront of research globally.

"Australia's future economic prosperity will be underpinned by a fundamentally strong, robust, and transparent research ecosystem.

"The recommendations of the ARC review are pivotal to ensuring that Australia's research and development will remain world-class", said Mr Webb

"Regional Australia is host to world-class research, and these reforms will empower regional universities to continue to generate impactful research aligned to the unique social, industrial, and cultural needs of their respective regions.

"These reforms however are only the first step in addressing the maldistribution of national research funding, activity, and infrastructure between metropolitan and regional Australia.

"Without addressing the significant challenges that regional Australia faces competing for research funding and opportunities, there is a significant risk that metropolitan Australia will continue to dominate Australia's research landscape", said Mr Webb.

RUN looks forward to working closely and constructively with the Government and the Australian Research Council in delivering these reforms.

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