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Member for Kooyong
Minister for the Environment and Energy

MEDIA RELEASE

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\$4.6 MILLION INNOVATION CONTRACT ENABLES HAWTHORN-BASED RESEARCH TO DEVELOP COUNTER- IED TECHNOLOGY

I am delighted to welcome the announcement Swinburne University in Kooyong will be working in partnership with RingIR Pty Ltd a New South Wales based company, to develop and demonstrate an innovative technology to enhance Defence capability, thanks to a Turnbull Government Innovation Contract.

The project, worth \$4.6 million in federal funding to RingIR, is to be carried out at Swinburne University's *Factory of the Future* in Hawthorn, and will develop a counter-improvised explosive device (IED) capability, which uses highly sensitive laser spectrometry technique to locate and identify the vapours exuded from explosives.

The Turnbull Government's announcement demonstrates our commitment to support and enhance the Australian Defence Force as well as the research capacity at Swinburne University.

This technology could be used by our ADF so they can effectively respond to improvised threats.

The 2016 Defence Industry Policy Statement outlined the Government's commitment to building and harnessing the innovation potential of Australia's defence industry.

On 5 December 2016, the Government launched the Defence Innovation Hub, which brings together existing Defence innovation programs to deliver a more streamlined and agile approach to Defence investment in innovation.

As a direct result of the actions of the Turnbull Government, defence industry is fast becoming a pillar of our economy and I encourage organisations in Kooyong and across metropolitan and regional Victoria to find out how they might get involved.

For more information on becoming involved in defence industry go to:
<http://www.defenceindustry.gov.au>.

Industry and research organisations can continue to submit proposals through the Defence Innovation Portal at: www.business.gov.au/cdic.

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