

ISSUED BY THE NSW DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

21 December 2017

19 JOBS AS NSW GOVERNMENT BACKS AWARD-WINNING DIGITAL AGENCY

The NSW Government-backed Jobs for NSW is assisting award-winning digital agency AFK to grow its Australian software development team and expand its innovation lab with a \$300,000 loan.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Small Business John Barilaro said the loan funding would create 19 jobs over five years with AFK's main focus on hiring local developers.

"AFK is a world-class digital agency that has worked on major projects including redesigning and developing the Commonwealth Bank's intranet for their 56,000 staff which won multiple global innovation awards." Mr Barilaro said.

"Jobs for NSW is providing a \$300,000 Accelerating Growth Loan to help AFK to grow and scale, bring more highly skilled jobs to our state, invest in the latest technology and maintain its position at the digital industry forefront."

Jobs for NSW' Accelerating Growth Loans range from \$200,000 to \$500,000 and support fast-growth small to medium enterprises that are scaling quickly and creating jobs, but face barriers accessing finance from traditional lenders.

AFK owner and founder James Sugrue said the support from Jobs for NSW will allow the company to grow exponentially.

"In previous years we have invested heavily in exploring new technologies and this loan will help us continue our journey and grow our team," Mr Sugrue said.

"It will give us the support we need to grow in the Australian and New Zealand markets, to hire more staff as we look to meet aggressive revenue targets over the next 18-months.

"In the world of high risk creativity we think ahead to help brands be future fit. We explore how brands can use innovation and technology to make experiences better for people now and in the future."

For further information on Jobs for NSW support for business visit <https://www.jobsforsw.com.au/>