

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES - 21 NOVEMBER 2013 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Grants

Question reference number: HS 22

Senator: Ludwig

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 24 January 2014

Number of pages: 6

Question:

- a) Could the department/agency provide an update list of all grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants from 7 September 2013 to date? Please provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.
- b) Have all grant agreement details been published on its website?
- c) Please list all grants that were approved prior to 7 September 2013, but did not have financial contracts in place on 7 September 2013. Please provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants. Please lists which grant applicants had been contacted advising of their success. Please provide the current status of these grants. Have any of these grants been cancelled, paused, discontinued or cut?

Answer:

- a) No new grants have been approved between 7 September 2013 to 11 December 2013.
- b) The Department of Human Services has published information relating to grant payments on the department's internet site within the required timeframe and format in accordance with the Commonwealth Grant Guidelines (refer <http://www.humanservices.gov.au/corporate/government-initiatives/better-futures-local-solutions>).
- c) The previous Minister for Human Services approved a total of \$6.6 million (GST inclusive) in funding for a series of projects as part of the Local Solutions Fund on 20 July 2013. All successful grant applicants were contacted by the then Minister's office on 5 August 2013. A list of the projects is at Attachment A. Funding agreements for these projects have not yet been executed, pending consideration by the current Minister for Human Services regarding expenditure on these projects.

Attachment A: National Place Based Advisory Group – Strategic Projects

#2013-14 and #2014-15 – Announced but not yet funded i.e. contracts have not been signed

Theme 1: Strengthening Engagement With Local Government				GST INCLUSIVE		Project Total Funded	Project Total Funded
Location	Organisation Name	Project Number	Project Description	2013-14#	2014-15#	GST INCLUSIVE	GST EXCLUSIVE
Bankstown	The Benevolent Society	BAN0474	The Place To Be Project - The Place To Be project is designed to improve links between the community, employers and local government. The project will establish a Partners' Steering Group made up of key community representatives. This group will develop an employer engagement strategy, a local economic plan, and a campaign promoting Bankstown as the place to be. It will also explore the development of an electronic portal that will connect local people to local services. This is part of a whole of community approach for improving social, employment and training opportunities.	\$201,667	\$176,458	\$378,125	\$343,750
Burnie	Tasmanian Life Long Learning Inc. (TL3)	BNI0480	Burnie Works - The Burnie Works project will work closely with Burnie City Council to introduce a Collective Impact framework in Burnie and the wider Cradle Coast region. This will promote cooperation between employers, community organisations and government. With a focus on employment, it will encourage programmes to be more innovative, sustainable, and effective. Not only does Burnie Works aim to increase employment opportunities, it also aims to support local people in embracing these opportunities.	\$197,473	\$172,789	\$370,262	\$336,602
Logan	Regional Development Australia Logan and Redlands Inc.	LGN0483	Logan City Moving Forward as One project - The Logan City Moving Forward as One project will work closely with the Logan City Council to build a strategic leadership model. Once in place, it will build a common agenda to inform plans for improving social and economic outcomes, including employment and education. Existing and new partnerships across government, community, and industry sectors will drive the identification of service gaps and opportunities for coordinating programmes. Organisations with complementary goals will be linked to improve the effectiveness and sustainability of programmes across the community.	\$202,081	\$176,821	\$378,902	\$344,456
Shepparton	Goulburn Valley Family Care Inc.	SHE0486	Making Greater Shepparton Greater project - The Making Greater Shepparton Greater project will develop a governance framework focussed on the long term needs of Shepparton. It will align Australian Government initiatives with locally developed strategies and programmes. The project will partner with recognised leaders, including the Council of Greater Shepparton, 'the Community Fund,' and the community and business sector to improve cross-sector awareness and cooperation. This shared responsibility encourages more financial involvement from community partners, will improve programme sustainability, and aims to attract interest from new funding sources.	\$195,460	\$171,028	\$366,488	\$333,171
TOTAL				\$796,681	\$697,096	\$1,493,777	\$1,357,979

Theme 2: Using Social Media To Link Young People To The World Of Work				GST INCLUSIVE		Project Total Funded	Project Total Funded
Location	Organisation Name	Project Number	Project Description	2013-14#	2014-15#	GST INCLUSIVE	GST EXCLUSIVE
Burnie Hume Kwinana Logan Playford Wyong	TBC		This collaborative project involves six Local Government Areas. It will engage young people through social media and associated applications which can be accessed 'on the go'. It is critical for young people, especially those who might be classed as vulnerable, to engage with networks of their peers, with employers and with social media networks connected with employers to position themselves for possible job opportunities. The proposed social media will assist young people to make relevant connections to business, Chambers of Commerce, local government and community organisations. The project will deliver over a two-phase approach. The first phase will deliver a proof of concept paper exploring options for a local social media and/or Mobile Application to identify local community and other services for young people, as well as other target groups such as young parents and jobless families. The second phase will concentrate on the development and deployment of the application.	\$506,667	\$443,333	\$950,000	\$863,636
Wyong	youthconnections.com.au	WYG0478	Better Futures IT Hub project- The Better Futures IT Hub project recognises that websites, social networking, text messaging and apps are tools that young people use to connect with information and each other on a daily basis. This project will build an IT Hub within the Better Futures Hub. The IT Hub will include a virtual centre to provide interactive support and information from various support services across the community to improve job readiness and access to employment opportunities for people under 24 years old. It will identify effective models and approaches for inspiring young people to embrace the technology and use it to support their transition into work.	\$138,667	\$121,333	\$260,000	\$236,364
TOTAL				\$645,334	\$564,666	\$1,210,000	\$1,100,000

Theme 3: Enhancing The Job Readiness of Job Seekers				GST INCLUSIVE		Project Total Funded	Project Total Funded
Location	Organisation Name	Project Number	Project Description	2013-14#	2014-15#	GST INCLUSIVE	GST EXCLUSIVE
Bankstown	Chester Hill Neighbourhood Centre Inc.	BAN0473	Getting Bankstown Job Ready - The Getting Bankstown Job Ready project will develop a whole of community approach to increase job readiness and support local people in accessing employment opportunities. Key partners across government, community organisations, training providers and employers will drive the project through the new Partners' Steering Group. This group will identify and improve partnership networks across the community so local effort is more collaborative and complementary. It will support community partners to maximise the impact, connectivity and sustainability of existing and new programmes.	\$258,133	\$225,867	\$484,000	\$440,000

Kwinana	Bridging the Gap Inc.	KWA0484	Education to Employment Transitions project - The Education to Employment Transitions project aims to build ambition and opportunity for young people in education, training and employment. The project will establish partnerships with community service and mentoring organisations, employers, and local high schools. It will provide a work preparation and career guidance program for school leavers and will link participants with the local employment network by encouraging work experience placements.	\$258,133	\$225,867	\$484,000	\$440,000
Rockhampton	Jobs Queensland Ltd	ROK0470	Building Foundations for Better Futures project - Building Foundations for Better Futures project will address the needs of job seeking youth and families by providing flexible training options to improve job readiness and support them in getting a job. The project will gather input from community organisations, local training providers and employers to target local training programs and identify support services to cater for the needs of the cohort. The project will establish direct connections with local employers to improve job opportunities for the target groups.	\$258,133	\$225,867	\$484,000	\$440,000
Shellharbour	WEA Illawarra	SHL0475	Skills and Networks for Jobseekers Project - The Skills and Networks for Jobseekers project will test five innovative training and education programs based on the Employability Skills Framework. The project will bring together key stakeholders from community organisations, business and training providers to ensure the programs are relevant to local labour demands. The programs will support jobseekers in developing the core qualities and skills needed for gaining and sustaining employment. The project will also develop a tool kit for employers to support the strengthening and development of the local small business sector. Findings and outcomes from this project will be shared locally and nationally to better inform industry practice in employability skills training.	\$258,133	\$225,867	\$484,000	\$440,000
Wyang	Employment and Training Australia Inc.	WYG0479	Better Futures Hub Wyong Employment and Learning Hub - The Wyong Employment and Learning project is an extension of the Better Futures Hub project funded through Round 2 of the Local Solutions Fund. The project will employ a Job Readiness Coordinator to build employability skills of young people within the Better Futures Hub through hands-on support, guidance and training. Jobseekers will be supported by the Job Readiness Coordinator to establish their own mentoring program — where people who have transitioned into work can support others currently going through the process. The Job Readiness Coordinator will actively engage local business, industry, training providers, and government to generate more employment, training, and support opportunities for young people. The project will also subcontract Imagination Unlimited to develop a social enterprise 'Business Centre.' The Business Centre Manager will establish linkages with community stakeholders to attract them in procuring the services of the Business Centre. Services such as call centre, mail-outs, and data entry will be performed by youth participating in work experience activities. Income generated by the Business Centre will be used to further training opportunities for youth.	\$268,119	\$234,604	\$502,723	\$457,021
			TOTALS	\$1,300,651	\$1,138,072	\$2,438,723	\$2,217,021

Theme 4: Matching Demand And Supply For Childcare				GST INCLUSIVE		Project Total Funded	Project Total Funded
Organisation Name	Location	Project Number	Project Description	2013-14#	2014-15#	GST INCLUSIVE	GST EXCLUSIVE
Banksia Gardens Association Incorporated	Hume	HME0471	<p>Innovative Childcare for Local Families Project - The Innovative Child Care for Local Families (ICLF) project aims to address some of the complex issues with regard to availability, flexibility and quality of child care. The project will establish a key stakeholder group to drive the implementation of this project and ensure it is effective in informing long-term strategies for the local child care industry. Banksia Gardens Community Services is the lead entity for a consortium including Hume City Council and Victoria University who will work with and engage local child and family service providers, Communities for Children and Hume Early Years Partnership.</p> <p>The project will conduct the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research into the needs of child care provision in Hume. Recommendations from this research will focus on ways to enhance business viability for local child care providers and improving employment outcomes within the area 2. Pilot a flexible delivery service in a minimum of three local child care centres. This will test the long-term viability of flexible child care delivery and will inform the business case for a future model 3. Research to improve the accessibility of child care in the community. This will assess the effectiveness of different technologies to match child care supply and demand. This study will also include a full costing of the design and roll-out of an online service that will support parents in determining local child care availability 	\$242,000	\$211,750	\$453,750	\$412,500
Illawarra Area Child Care	Shellharbour	SHL0476	<p>Futures Education And Care in - The FutuRe Education And Care in Shellharbour project will develop strategies to meet the complex child care needs of working families. The project will occur in three phases:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research and consult with the community to determine current and future supply and demand of local child care. Complete an assessment of child care options in Shellharbour focussing on affordability, availability, flexibility and quality 2. Develop an employment project to support job seekers in undertaking education and training in child care. It will develop strategies to support effective career path development for child care trainees. Recruit a Project Officer to engage community partners and facilitate the implementation of a model that supports a better fit between available child care and the needs of the community. The project will trial flexible service options including a 'last minute' style model for long day care, family day care, in home care, and occasional care 3. The project will undertake full evaluation using Social Return on Investment principles. 	\$242,000	\$211,750	\$453,750	\$412,500
TOTALS				\$484,000	\$423,500	\$907,500	\$825,000

Theme 5: Learning from Implementation				GST INCLUSIVE		Project Total Funded	Project Total Funded
Organisation Name	Location	Project Number	Project Description	2013-14#	2014-15#	GST INCLUSIVE	GST EXCLUSIVE
TBA	Bankstown Burnie Hume Kwinana Logan Playford Rockhampton Shellharbour Shepparton Wyong		Learning from Implementation will be implemented in each location. It will focus on the key elements of the place based model, investigating how each has contributed to the model's overall implementation. In addition, it will examine how the elements interact to achieve a place based approach. Given the innovative nature of the place based model being implemented, reflective practice may also identify aspects which have not functioned optimally. This presents an additional opportunity to learn from reflection and implement constructive change in the place based model. This will provide a structure and support to the Local Advisory Groups and communities as a whole that would encourage them, at regular intervals, to reflect on their practice against a number of set themes and to formally document lessons learnt and better practice.	\$293,332	\$256,668	\$550,000	\$500,000
			TOTALS	\$293,332	\$256,668	\$550,000	\$500,000
			National Place Based Advisory Group – Strategic Project	GRAND TOTAL	\$3,519,998	\$3,080,002	\$6,600,000