

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO**  
**2015-16 Supplementary Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: Cross Outcome - Across Programmes      Question No: SQ15-000909**

**Topic: DSS Discretionary Grants**

**Hansard page: Written**

**Senator Carol Brown** asked:

1. Of the organisations offered funding through the 2014 grants process and through subsequent gap funding did any reject the funding offer? How many?
2. Please provide a list of the organisations, the grant service and location.
3. What reasons were given for rejecting the contracts?
4. Have alternative providers been contract for each of these services and locations? How long did it take to get alternative providers in each of those areas?

**Answer:**

1. Of the 942 funding offers made through the 2014 funding round, eight funding offers were declined. Four of these offers were for project-based funding, with four offers for frontline service delivery in specific coverage areas.
2. A list of organisations that declined a funding offer is provided at **Attachment A**.
3. It is not a requirement for organisations to provide an explanation of their decision to decline an offer. The Department did not record information on why an organisation chose to decline an offer of funding.
4. For each of the four declined offers relating to service delivery, alternative service providers were identified as part of the Department's service gap analysis, with funding offered as part of that process.

NEW AGREEMENT OFFERS DECLINED			
Activity Name	Organisation Legal Name	Location offered	Notes
Multicultural Arts and Festivals	Co.As.It. Community Services Inc.	SA4 - Brisbane Inner City SA4 - Brisbane - East SA4 - Brisbane - West SA4 - Brisbane - North SA4 - Brisbane - South SA4 - Gold Coast SA4 - Logan - Beaudesert SA4 - Moreton Bay - North SA4 - Moreton Bay - South	Project-based funding, not specific coverage areas. No service gaps were created through these offers being declined.
Multicultural Arts and Festivals	Ethnic Communities Council of Western Australia Inc.	SA2 - North Perth	
Community Development and Participation Grants	Australian Refugee Association Inc.	SA3 - Charles Sturt SA3 - Playford SA3 - Port Adelaide - East SA3 - Port Adelaide - West SA3 - Prospect - Walkerville SA3 - Salisbury	
Community Development and Participation Grants	NSW Rural Fire Service	SA2 - Griffith (NSW) SA2 - Griffith Region	
Commonwealth Financial Counselling and Financial Capability	Norwest Lincs Incorporated	SA4 - Sydney - Outer West & Blue Mountains	
Commonwealth Financial Counselling and Financial Capability	Townsville Community Legal Service	SA4 - Townsville	Funding for frontline services in specific locations, addressed through the Department's service gap process.
Financial Crisis and Material Aid - Emergency Relief	Anglicare WA	SA4 - Bunbury SA4 - Western Australia - Outback SA4 - Western Australia - Wheat Belt	
Children and Parent Support Services	Relationships Australia (QLD)	SA2- Daintree	