

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2016-17 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 2.1 Families and Communities

Question No: SQ16-000335

Topic: Food Relief

Hansard page: Written

Senator Anne Urquhart asked:

1. The response to QoNs SQ16-000156 states there are national contracts of \$250,000 for SecondBite and \$750,000 for FoodBank for Food Relief. These figures don't line up with the numbers in your Departmental Grants report. Can you clarify these figures at all and explain the different figures?
2. The same response also stated there is no breakdown of how much is spent in each state and region. Can you advise what requirements or guidelines these grants have in relation to the allocation of food aid for different states?
3. Are there any requirements for food aid organisations to provide services to isolated or remote communities in these national contracts? In a Tasmanian context, I'm specifically thinking about somewhere like the West Coast where there is significant disadvantage, but they are hours away from the nearest food relief organisational base in Devonport.
4. Can you tell me if there is any other way to determine where the money went? Are organisations required to report on how they spent government funds? If not, how can you ensure that the spending is meeting the needs of individual states and that needy regions aren't missing out?

Answer:

- 1) The Departmental Grant report covers the period 1 March 2015 to 30 June 2017. The figures quoted in QoN SQ16-000156 are for 2016-17 only.
- 2) See answer (a) to QoN SQ16-000156.
- 3) No.
- 4) See answer (a) to QoN SQ16-000156.