

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications  
Legislation Committee  
Answers to questions on notice  
Environment portfolio**

**Question No:** 2  
**Hearing:** Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 1  
**Programme:** Biodiversity Conservation Division  
**Topic:** GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY ENVIRONMENT, SUSTAINABILITY AND HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS  
**Hansard Page:** 19  
**Question Date:** 26 May 2014  
**Question Type:** Spoken

**Senator Waters asked:**

Senator WATERS: Will the government be increasing the funding for community consultation to replace that reduction of GVESHO funding?

Senator Cormann: If you are asking me on behalf of the government what judgements will be made by the Minister for the Environment in the environment portfolio, I will take that question on notice and consult with the minister to see whether I can assist you further.

**Answer:**

The Grants to Voluntary Environment, Sustainability and Heritage Organisations programme did not provide funding for community consultation.

The Australian Government continues to recognise the valuable contribution made by voluntary organisations and remains committed to supporting community groups to engage in local environment protection and the preservation of cultural heritage.

In this context, addressing local and community environmental priorities underpins the Green Army and National Landcare programmes.

The Australian Government will also continue to support local heritage groups by providing up to \$1.4 million over three years through the delivery of the *Community Heritage and Icons Grants*, as well as providing funding to protect heritage places of national significance.