

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

**Question No:** 132  
**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Corporate  
**Programme:** Corporate Strategies Division (CSD)  
**Topic:** Discretionary Grants Program  
**Hansard Page:** 7  
**Question Date:** 19 October 2015  
**Question Type:** Spoken

**Senator Urquhart asked:**

**Senator URQUHART:** Do you have a breakdown of the different types of grants and who actually makes the decisions or is it a moving target?

**Mr Thompson:** No, it is typically well known. For all grants programs we have to publish guidelines that specify who the decision maker is. Typically it is the minister.

**Senator URQUHART:** Are you able to provide a copy of that?

**Mr Thompson:** Sure, we can provide that.

**Answer:**

All administered grants or grant programmes are governed by guidelines that are specific to that grant programme.

The guidelines are developed and published in accordance with *Commonwealth Grant Rules and Guidelines*, and specify in the selection process documentation, the approver or decision maker for that grant programme. The Minister is the decision maker for all current grant programmes administered by the Department.

The Department publishes all competitive grant programme guidelines on its website at <http://www.environment.gov.au/about-us/grants-funding>.