

Senate Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

2017 - 2018

Division/Agency: Australian Taxation Office
Question No: 262
Topic: Small Business Roadshow
Reference: Hansard page 38 (30 May 2017)
Senator: Gallagher, Katy

Question:

Senator GALLAGHER: The ATO has been participating in the Small Business Roadshows with the Minister for Small Business. This might be a question for one of your colleagues. Have you been doing that by invitation from the minister or have you had involvement in organising the roadshows?

Ms Lendon: We have been doing a range of roadshows, of which one is by invitation of the Minister for Small Business to participate in and come along with information, support and guidance about the sorts of products that we have that support small business. So we have those, but we have also had other community forums that we have participated in, which we have organised ourselves, where we link with local chambers of commerce and so on to provide information and show people the support and guidance that we have.

Senator GALLAGHER: I am specifically interested in the Small Business Roadshows that Minister McCormack has been holding. You have just participated in those. Is it Treasury who would organise those meetings? Would it be the Markets Group? Who supports the Minister for Small Business?

Mrs Purvis-Smith: I would say that it would be either Markets Group or Corporate Group.

(1.) Senator GALLAGHER: What resources do you provide to these Small Business Roadshows? How many people attend?

Ms Lendon: I would have to take that on notice, but we normally have at least one or two people go along. It will cover issues like our debt area, and it will cover areas around small business topics—so experts who work on advice products and things like that. It also covers supporting products so that we can demonstrate those to people as well. I cannot say exactly how many attend, but it would be a handful of people. We normally draw from the area that is closest to where the event is being held. So we draw our staff from the local area so that we minimise any costs of travel and things like that.

(2.) Senator GALLAGHER: Could take on notice the resources given to that and also how many of them you have attended. I think there have been over 30. Can you tell me whether you have attended all of them. That would be useful...

Answer:

1. Typically one ATO staff member participates in each event. At three of the events, the ATO sent one additional staff member.
2. As at 30 June 2017, the ATO has attended all 34 Small Business Roadshow roundtables.