

Senate Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

2015 - 2016

Department/Agency: Treasury

Question: SBT 384-391

Topic: Grants

Reference: written - 30 October 2015

Senator: Wong, Penny

Question:

Grants

Since 1 January 2015:

- 384 What guidelines are in place to administer grants?
- 385 How are grants applied for?
- 386 Are there any restrictions on who can apply for a grant? If yes, please detail.
- a) Can these restrictions be waved? If yes, please detail the process for waving them and list any grants where the restrictions were waved.
- 387 What is the procedure for selecting who will be awarded a grant?
- 388 Who is involved in this selection process?
- 389 Does the minister or the minister's office play any role in awarding grants? If yes, please detail.
- a) Has the minister or the minister's office exercised or attempted to exercise any influence over the awarding of any grants? If yes, please detail.
- 390 Provide a list of all grants, including ad hoc, one-off discretionary grants awarded to date. Provide the recipients, amount, intended use of the grants, what locations have benefited from the grants and the electorate and state of those locations.
- 391 Update the status of each grant that was approved prior to the specified period, but did not have financial contracts in place at that time. Provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants, what locations have benefited from the grants and the electorate and state of those grants.

Answer:

384. Treasury follow the '*Commonwealth Grant Rules and Guidelines*' published by the Department of Finance. Treasury also have in place an Accountable Authority Instruction and Operational Guideline on grants.
- For the Australian Small Business Advisory Services (ASBAS) programme, ASBAS Ministerial Guidelines are available at <http://www.business.gov.au/grants-and-assistance/australian-small-business-advisory-services/asbas/Pages/ASBAS-Guidelines.aspx>.
385. Grants are applied for in accordance with the '*Commonwealth Grant Rules and Guidelines*'. For the ASBAS programme, refer to the ASBAS Ministerial Guidelines.
386. No. For the ASBAS programme, refer to the ASBAS Ministerial Guidelines.
- a) No.

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387. Treasury follow the procedures in the '*Commonwealth Grant Rules and Guidelines*' when selecting who will be awarded a grant. For the ASBAS programme, refer to the ASBAS Ministerial Guidelines.
388. Treasury officials and appropriate financial delegates are involved in the selection process. For the ASBAS programme, refer to the ASBAS Ministerial Guidelines.
389. The minister may approve grants in accordance with the '*Commonwealth Grant Rules and Guidelines*'. For the ASBAS programme, refer to the ASBAS Ministerial Guidelines.
- a) No.
390. A list of all grants is available on the Treasury's website at <http://www.treasury.gov.au/About-Treasury/OurDepartment/Treasury-Grants>
391. Not applicable. All grants approved prior to the specific period had financial contracts in place.