

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

Agency – Fair Work Ombudsman

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-000554

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

FWO - Grants

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. What guidelines are in place to administer grants?
2. How are grants applied for?
3. 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.
4. What is the procedure for selecting who will be awarded a grant?
5. Who is involved in this selection process?
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. 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

1. – 5. The Fair Work Ombudsman's Accountable Authority Instructions provide general guidelines and instructions for staff to follow the Commonwealth Grant Rules and Guidelines prior to entering into a grant agreement.
6. No.
7. During the period 14 September 2015 to 31 January 2016, the Fair Work Ombudsman has not entered into any grant agreements.
8. Not applicable.