

## Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

### QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018

#### Outcome 2 - Workplace Relations and Economic Strategy

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ17-004050

Senator Marshall asked on 29 May 2017 on proof Hansard page 112

#### Question

#### **AIG and ACCI grants under the Productivity Education and Training Fund**

Senator MARSHALL: In relation to the grants, Senator Abetz asked you to take on notice a couple of things in relation to, I think, measuring against the current guidelines and those in the past. I think there were some other questions too. I would ask you to take those same questions on notice and apply them to both the AIG and ACCI grant, and also respond accordingly in terms of both of those grants.

Ms Parker: Yes. They are almost identical.

Senator MARSHALL: That is right. I would not want you to just come back with a position on one.

CHAIR: There was the union education foundation.

Ms Parker: Yes, that is fine. We can do that.

#### Answer

#### ***Application of EMSQ17-004045 – Payment dates under the Productivity Education and Training Fund to Ai Group and ACCI***

#### *Payments of grants*

The Productivity Education and Training Fund grants were paid to the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI) and the Australian Industry Group (Ai Group), in two equal instalments: 1) upon execution of a funding agreement; and 2) by 30 August 2012 subject to the parties agreeing to project milestones and deliverables.

The table below lists the activity completion and grant payment dates.

Grantee recipient	Agreement Execution	First grant instalment* paid (\$2.75m inc GST each)	Milestones and deliverables agreed	Second and final grant instalment paid (\$2.75m inc GST each)
ACCI	29 June 2012	<b>10 July 2012</b>	1 November 2012	<b>7 November 2012</b>
Ai Group	29 June 2012	<b>10 July 2012</b>	14 December 2012	<b>10 January 2013</b>

\* Payment accrued to 2011–12.

### *Grant expenditure reporting and acquittal*

ACCI and Ai Group's funding agreements require them to acquit and report on its spending of Australian Government funds. This includes that ACCI and Ai Group must:

- provide annual plans and progress reports on 31 January each year (clause 11.1a). These documents provide details on deliverables, budgets and expenditure, key performance measures and risk management.
- provide detailed six monthly statements of income and expenditure by 31 January and 31 July each year, including a statement of the balance of funds. The CEO, chief internal auditor or a board member must certify that the funding was used in accordance with the agreement (clause 11.1b).
- submit a final detailed statement of income and expenditure at the end of the project, including a statement of the balance of the funds, prepared by an independent auditor. The auditor must certify that the funding was used for the project in accordance with the agreement (clauses 11.3 – 11.6).

### ***Application of EMSQ17-004047 – Annual plan to Ai Group and ACCI***

Copies of the Productivity Education and Training Fund annual outline plans provided by the Ai Group and ACCI are attached.

Some minor information has been redacted from the plans as it is considered to be personal information that is not readily available from public sources, such as names and direct contact information and salaries of individuals, or because it provides commercially sensitive detail, such as subcontractor rates.

### ***Application of EMSQ17-004048 – Commonwealth Grant Guidelines to Ai Group and ACCI***

Please refer to the answer to EMSQ17-004048, which addresses administration of all grants under the Productivity Education and Training Fund, including grants to Ai Group and ACCI.