

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S PORTFOLIO

**Group: 3**

**Program: 1.6**

**Question No. AE15/122**

**Senator Collins asked the following written question from the 24 February and 27 March 2015 hearings:**

1. Have any grants been allocated under the Living Safe Together Grants programme? Please provide details on each grant.
2. When was the first grant awarded to a successful organisation? When was that organisation notified? When was grant money first delivered to that organisation?
3. The AGD website indicates that the deadline for applications for these grants was extended to 2 March 2015. What was the original deadline? Why was this extended?
4. Can you confirm that the cap for grants is \$50,000?
5. Why was this cap chosen? Has the Government received any advice, from inside or outside Government, that this cap might limit the effectiveness of programs?

**The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:**

The Living Safe Together Grants is one aspect of the Government's commitment of more than \$40 million to countering violent extremism.

The Government has approved over 40 grants, totalling over \$1.9 million, under the Government's Living Safe Together Grants Programme, for community-based organisations to develop skills to work with individuals and divert them away from violent ideologies.

The Department commenced notifying successful applicants on 29 April 2015, and funding agreements are currently being finalised.

Due to the sensitive nature of this work, some grants recipients have requested that the details of their projects not be made public. However, the kinds of programmes and services that will be developed as a result of grants funding include: a sports-based leadership programme for vulnerable young people; programmes to re-establish healthy relationships with families and promote positive peer networks; and a drop-in and retreat centre for young people to access advice and referrals to mental health, education and employment specialist services.

The deadline for grants applications was extended from Monday 9 February 2015 to Monday 2 March 2015 to allow organisations more time to develop their applications.

The Grant Programme Guidelines (published on the Attorney-General's and Living Safe Together websites) set out that:

“Applicants can apply for funding of between \$10,000 and \$50,000 (exclusive of GST) per project. The Department may consider applications for larger amounts where these clearly demonstrate value for money aligned to the programme objective.”