**Question 1**

Topic: Export Market Development Grants (EMDG)

Hansard, page 77

**Senators Ryan and Trood asked:**

Please provide the number of initial payments that were made during 2009–10 for the 2008–09 grant year that were above $27,500.

Please provide the number of grants made to small businesses, as a percentage of the number of the overall grants, for the last two years.

**Answer**

There were 4,558 initial payments of up to $50,000 in 2009–10 for grant year 2008–09, of which 2,294 were above $27,500.

The number of grants made to small businesses who reported less than $5 million in turnover was:

* 2008–09: 3,098 or 78.7 per cent of 3,937 grant recipients. A further 88 grant recipients did not report their level of turnovers.
* 2009–10: 3,366 or 74.7 per cent of 3,366 grant recipients. A further 52 grant recipients did not report their level of turnovers.

**Question 2**

Topic: Export Market Development Grants (EMDG)

Questions taken on notice at the hearing

**Senator Ryan asked:**

***General***

Has there been a reduction in the number of applications or recipients in the third quarter of 2010–11 financial year compared to the third quarter of the 2009–10 financial year? If so, by what per cent was the decrease?

Does Austrade have an estimated cost of preparing an individual submission for an EMDG by business?

How many businesses accessed EMDG for the first time in 2009–10?

***Fraud Hotline***

How many calls has the fraud hotline received for the last three years?

What is the cost of maintaining the fraud hotline?

How many reports of fraud have been investigated since January 2008?

How many reports of fraud from the hotline have led to repayments of EMDGs?

How many staff are employed in relation to maintaining the EMDGs Hotline?

How many reports of fraud from the hotline have led to criminal investigations and convictions?

**Answer**

***General***

No EMDG applications will be received in the third quarter of the 2010–11 financial year, as applications can only be lodged between 1 July and 30 November.

Between 1 July and 30 November 2009, 5149 EMDG applications were received. These represent claims for marketing activities undertaken in the 2008–09 financial year.

The number of EMDG applications for the 2009–10 financial year has not yet been finalised as applications only closed on 30 November 2010. No, Austrade does not have an estimated cost of preparing an individual submission for an EMDG grant by business.

In 2009–10, 1,347 businesses accessed EMDG for the first time.

***Fraud Hotline***

The fraud hotline received three emails and telephone calls in 2007–08, 12 in 2008–09, and 11 in 2009–10.

The cost of the provision of the EMDG Fraud Hotline is $20 per month plus $0.02 per incoming call. Austrade rings the Hotline three to four times a week to ascertain if there are any messages, and receives less than 10 messages per year on the Hotline. There are no other costs associated with the maintenance of the hotline, other than minor staff resource costs in terms of a member of the Special Investigations Unit ringing the Hotline and responding to the calls received as part of their duties.

Ten reports of fraud have been investigated since January 2008.

No reports of fraud from the hotline have led to repayments of EMDG grants in the past three years.

One person attached to the EMDG Special Investigations Units is allocated the task of maintaining the Fraud Hotline as part of their duties.

Over the past three years: one report of fraud from the hotline led to a criminal investigation but there was insufficient evidence to consider prosecution; one led to a criminal investigation and had insufficient evidence to consider prosecution but the applicant withdrew the application; and one case is currently with the CDPP for advice as to whether it is a suitable case in the public interest to pursue criminal prosecution.

**Question 3**

Topic: DHL Export Barometer

Hansard, page 78

**Senators Ryan and Trood asked:**

Please provide the most recent DHL Barometer Survey.

**Answer**

The 2010 DHL Export Barometer Survey is *attached.*

**Question 4**

Topic: Securency

Hansard, page 88

**Senators Ryan and Trood asked:**

Please provide the number of years Paul Martins was employed on behalf or by Securency.

**Answer**

Paul Martins was employed with Securency from 12 February 2007 to 27 January 2008.