

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates Hearing 21-24 May 2012

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1.1 Domestic Policy

Topic: Discretionary Grants

Senator: Senator Ryan

Question reference number: 95

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 6 July 2012

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Could the Department provide a list of all discretionary grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants for this financial year to date? Please provide details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.

Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?

Answer:

In accordance with *Finance Circular No. 2009/04* and the Commonwealth Grant Guidelines, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is required to publish, on its website, information about individual grants no later than seven working days after the funding agreement for the grant takes effect. The Department's listing can be found at <http://www.dpmc.gov.au/accountability/grants/index.cfm> and includes details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.

The term 'discretionary' grant no longer exists and since 2009 there have been no 'interim' reporting requirements.

There were three instances in the financial year to date where the department did not publish the grant agreement details on its website in the required timeframe. All instances related to Arts and Sports programs now managed by the Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport.