

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee —Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing—October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Grants**
Question: **217**
Hansard reference **F&PA p., 15 October 2012**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 30 November 2012

1. To date, how much of the 2012-13 budget appropriations has your department received?
2. For 2012-13 please list each grant program your department administers, and the total funding of each program.
3. Please list each grant program that has not been paused as part of the Government wide grants pause.
4. Please provide the total cash value of each program that has not been paused?
5. Please list each grant program that has currently been "paused" as part of the Government wide grants pause.
6. Please provide the total cash value of each program that has been paused, and the total value of all grants paused?
7. On what date did your department receive advice from the government to pause certain grants programs?
 - a. How was the instruction received, and from whom was it received?
8. Please list the dates the Minister for Finance met with senior department officials to discuss the grants pause and the Minister overseeing your department met with senior department officials
9. From what date was your department told to implement the grants pause?
 - a. When did it do so?
10. Has your department been provided with information regarding when the grants pause would end?
 - a. If so, what was the date?
 - b. Was your department advised if it could communicate when the grants pause would end to grant applicants?
11. Please provide the advice your department gave to Department of Finance regarding which programs should be included in the grants pause.
12. Did your department receive advice/instruction from the Department of Finance regarding how best to communicate the grants pause to grant applicants, the media and other external stakeholders?
13. What information has been provided to grant applicants regarding the grants pause? Please provide scripts if these have been given to call centres, or any other information sheets which have been used internally for discussing the grants pause with applicants.
14. Has your department been advised by the Department of Finance of further grants pauses in the future? If so
 - a. When did you receive notification of future grants pauses?
 - b. What is the date of future grants to be paused
 - c. Which grants programs will be paused?
 - d. What is total value of pauses in future grants programs?
 - e. When will notification of these future grants pauses be made public?
15. How many staff are employed to administer grant programs within the department?
16. During the Grants Pause what activities are these staff involved with?
 - a. Have staff been moved to other divisions during the grants pause?
17. During the Grants Pause are decisions on grants being made, but applicants not being alerted?

Answer

1. DPS Appropriation as per 2012–13 Portfolio Budget Statements is:
 - a. Administered \$12.896 million
 - b. Departmental \$111.739 million*

*Includes \$9.747 million Departmental Capital

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To 30 September 2012, DPS has drawn down the following amounts from its Appropriation.

- a. Administered \$3.428 million
- b. Departmental \$32.002 million**
**Includes \$1.312 million Departmental Capital Budget

The Departmental operating drawdown is \$30.69 million as at 30 September. This amount includes pre-paid expenditure for Comcare and Comcover insurances, and other yearly subscriptions of approximately \$3.5 million. DPS revenue and appropriation for 2012–13 amount to \$109 million.

2. –17. Not applicable. DPS does not administer any grant program.