

4 December 2020

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Environment and Communications
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
By email: ec.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Secretary

On 21 October 2020, Office of the eSafety Commissioner (eSafety) representatives appeared before the Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee in relation to Budget Estimates 2020-21.

During the hearing Senator Urquhart asked for information relating to the Online Safety Grants Program (OSGP), which eSafety administers. Specifically, Senator Urquhart asked whether the eight grants issued under the OSGP to date exhausted all the available funding or were some yet to be finalised. In response, I stated:

'We've apportioned them over three years - \$10 million in funding overall and, I believe, \$2.5 million for the first round of funding.'

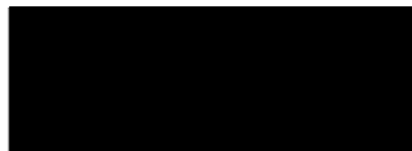
I wish to correct this answer. The first round of allocated grant funding was \$2.25 million.

Senator Urquhart also asked what major government grants announcements there had been for the Office, and what the status of each of those grants under administration. She subsequently asked is that the only one. In response I replied saying:

'Yes, it is.'

Whilst not what eSafety would consider a major grant program, we are in the process of developing guidelines for a modest but still very important grants program under the Fourth Action plan of the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children. Funding of \$0.4 million will be available within the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Technology-Facilitated Abuse Program. No funding has yet been allocated.

I apologise for the error in my answer and trust that this corrected information will be of assistance to the Committee.



Julie Inman Grant
eSafety Commissioner