

## **Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts**

### **Committee Inquiries Question on Notice**

#### **Communications and the Arts**

#### **Challenges and opportunities within the Australian live music industry**

**IQ24-000037**

**Division/Agency:** DIV - Office for the Arts

**Hansard Reference:** Spoken, Page No. 3 (05 June 2024)

**Topic:** Live Music Australia fund – Details for Rounds 1 to 7

**Susan Templeman asked:**

Ms TEMPLEMAN: [...] In terms of the Live Music Australia fund—I know round 8 is under consideration—from what you can tell us for the first seven rounds, were those rounds regularly oversubscribed?

Dr Arnott: Yes, and I can get you the details. There was very strong demand, and we had to obviously say no to a lot of good projects. I can get you the percentage, the success rate or how many applications we received and how much funding was requested. But, yes, it is a very successful program. It's funded hundreds of venues around the country to upgrade their facilities, to get new sound systems and to employ Australian artists to become part of the touring circuit so they can attract those bands to come in and perform for audiences. The insight is that there's demand for the program. Revive Live will be a program in a new form that will be updated for the current situation. We're working on the guidelines for that at the moment. But yes. There's very strong demand. I'd say it's very successful and very well received by the music industry.

Ms TEMPLEMAN: Is it possible to get a breakdown of the different requests? In some ways we might be less interested in what was actually delivered so much as what are the people applying? What are they seeking? What have they identified as the thing that will make it easier for them to be successful in putting on live performance, no matter whether they're venues—I don't know if you've got an existing analysis of the applications that were received—or outdoor one-off performances versus ongoing? I think any sort of analysis of that would be useful.

**Answer:**

The program ended on 30 June 2024. The following outlines the funding requested and awarded for each round:

#### ***Live Music Venues (Rounds 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 & 8)***

- Application success rate was 20%.
- Average number of successful applications was 74 per round.
- Average request was \$52,394 and average grant was \$33,762.
- Total funding requested was \$113.1 million.
- Total funding delivered to live music venues was \$15 million.

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##### ***Music Festivals (Round 5 & 7)***

- Application success rate was 18%.
- Average number of successful applications was 36 per round.
- Average request was \$66,792 and average grant was \$68,481.
- Total funding requested was \$26.78 million.
- Total funding delivered to music festivals was \$5 million.

Funding was provided for activities in the following categories (noting projects could cover multiple activities):

- Administration costs (for example bookings, website upgrades) - 26 projects.
- Small capital works – 79 projects.
- Education (training and staff development) – 65 projects.
- Equipment costs – 277 projects.
- Event costs (for example staging, insurance, security) – 144 projects.
- Marketing – 295 projects.
- Project costs (for example accommodation, travel, freight, permits, planning) – 21 projects.
- Venue costs (for example hiring of venue or equipment, licensing) – 103 projects.
- Artist wages – 326 projects.
- Other wages (for example booking agent, sound technician, crew) – 224 projects.