

Inquiry into the Public Health (Tobacco and Other Products) Bill 2023, and the Public Health (Tobacco and Other Products) (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2023

Canberra hearing – 2 November 2023

Questions on Notice from Senator David Pocock

Answer due COB Thursday, 9 November 2023

Master Grocers

1. Please provide a breakdown of how much funding has been received from each company in the tobacco and the e-cigarette industries over the past five years.

Master Grocers Australia Limited's (MGA) reputation is that of a trustworthy commercial partner and therefore due to third party commercial arrangements we are unable to disclose the nature of these agreements due to confidentiality expectations.

2. Please provide a breakdown of any financial contributions from the tobacco and e-cigarette industries that were received in addition to membership fees over the past five years.

See response to question 1.

3. Has Master Grocers ever employed anyone who has previously worked for either the tobacco or the e-cigarette industries in the past five years?

No, not to the best of our knowledge.

4. If so, what role did that person or those persons perform at Master Grocers?

This question is not applicable given MGA's response to question 3 above.

5. Was the salary of that person or those persons provided for by the tobacco or e-cigarette industries, either directly or through Master Grocers via increased contributions or an agreement to use contributions to fund the salary of that person or those persons?

This question is not applicable given MGA's response to question 3 above.

6. Do any employees of Master Grocers have a sponsored pass to access Parliament House?

Yes.

7. If yes, who are the sponsors of those passes?

MGA understands the Department of Parliamentary Services considers arrangements and information relating to those passes to be sensitive due to matters pertaining to privacy, parliamentary privilege and security. MGA is uncertain whether it is lawfully permitted to disclose the information sought by this question and refers the Committee to the Department of Parliamentary Services.