

I am very disappointed and upset with my experience in becoming a Green Loans Assessor. To date, I have completed the 4 day training course (in December 2009 by an accredited training organisation), become a member of ABSA, paid for my insurance and sent off all the relevant paperwork. ABSA have sent me my photo ID card and I have a HO number, yet I still can not book appointments nor earn any money. This is due to the fact that I have not had my contract signed and returned to me by the government. I have tried to find out what my position is on numerous occasions but do not get very far.

Communication has been very poor and up until only recently I still thought I would become a Greens Loans Assessor and have been waiting to receive all the paperwork from the government. I am now unsure if this will happen.

When I did the course I was assured that I could earn an income as an assessor. As this was a government scheme I felt secure in using my savings to become an assessor. I have recently had another baby so now have 2 children and my wife to support. Up to this date I have been using up my savings to support us and have been waiting to become an assessor. I do not have another job and left my previous job to become an assessor, a sacrifice that I now regret making.

I have paid out a lot of money, nearly \$4000, and received nothing in return. This includes:

- 4-day training course (\$1430)
- Insurance for 1<sup>st</sup> year \$822.25)
- Insurance (compulsory 2<sup>nd</sup> year payment of \$822.25)
- ABSA membership fee (\$660)
- Police check (\$68.89)
- Work clothes (\$93.88)
- Petrol (\$45)
- **Total = \$3942.27**

I would like to say that we are now struggling financially as a family as I still do not have another income. I am trying to find additional work but it is not easy. This has put undue pressure on my family relationships.

The changes to the scheme, whilst some of them may be needed, have forced me to reassess whether I will be able to earn enough money to support my family. I am now looking for other work to supplement any income I receive from the Green Loans scheme. The other possibility is that my wife will have to go back to work early after having our second child as we will not have enough money to live. Both of these choices are not what we wanted.

I would still like the opportunity to be a Green Loans Assessor and believe I should be able to at least recoup any money I have paid out. If this is no longer an option I would like to be told this and believe the government should cover the costs I have paid out to become an assessor (ie. \$3942.27).

My suggestion for improving the scheme would be to firstly refund people who have paid money out to become an assessor and have got nothing in return. If nothing else

this will help restore people's faith that the Government does the right thing (ie. If the Government makes a mistake then it does not allow people to suffer for it). I would really like the opportunity to be an assessor. I am passionate about the environment and would like to help make a difference.

All of my other suggestions for improving the scheme have been mentioned as points already under discussion with Minister Wong.