

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet
Topic: Office for Women Grants

Senator: McAllister, Jenny

Question reference number: 216

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 December 2016

Number of pages: 2

Question:

Please provide for the financial years 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and so far this financial year (2016-17) on:

1. All grant application consideration processes/assessment panels;
2. Variations between departmental recommendations and Ministerial approval of grants;
3. Number and names of successful and unsuccessful grant applicants;
4. Compliance with publication of grant information on OfW website;
5. An itemised table detailing grants (organisation, term, funding allocated) by purpose (assessed strategic objective and impact):
 - domestic/family violence;
 - leadership;
 - workforce participation/economic inclusion
 - CALD, refugee, migrant;
 - Rural and regional women;
 - Older women;
 - Education;
 - Health;
 - Other.
6. Is there a process for evaluating how the funding allocated through the grants program is meeting the strategic objectives?
 - 6.a. If so, what is that process?
 - 6.b. What arrangements are in place for routine and exceptional evaluation of grants in OfW?

Answer:

1. Womens Leadership Development Strategy (WLDS) applications can be made at any time. The Office for Women assesses applications against the WLDS funding criteria on a regular basis and makes recommendations for funding to the Minister for Women for proposals that

align with the funding objectives. This process has been used for all financial years from 2013-14 onwards.

2. There has been one variation to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) recommendations regarding grants. In this instance, the Minister was provided with additional information on the proposed project after the recommendation was made by the Department.

3. Successful applicants are listed on PM&C's website:
<https://www.dpmc.gov.au/office-women/grants-and-funding>.

Due to privacy and commercial confidentiality requirements, PM&C cannot provide details of organisations that have applied and been unsuccessful for funding.

4. PM&C has a policy that all grants are listed on the WLDS website within 14 days of the grant taking effect. The WLDS website is up to date:
<https://www.dpmc.gov.au/office-women/grants-and-funding>.

5. All grants are listed on a table on PM&C's website:
<https://www.dpmc.gov.au/office-women/grants-and-funding>

This table provides the name of the organisation, the term of funding, the funding allocated, and the purpose of the grant. The WLDS grants align with the priorities and funding criteria as listed on the website. The WLDS grants are not assessed against the list of objectives as asked in the question and to attempt to provide the level of detail requested would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

6a. Individual grants are evaluated through project and/or progress reports, achievement of milestones and final reports. Some grants also include an evaluation as part of the funding.

6b. See response to 6a for the routine evaluation of grants.

An exceptional evaluation is performed in circumstances such as for high-risk grants.