

## Senate Standing Committee on Economics

### ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

19 – 20 October 2011

Question No: SBT 375 - 377

Topic: ASIC Discretionary Grants

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bushby asked:

375. Could the Department provide a list of all discretionary grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants for the year 2010-11?

Please provide details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.

376. Could the Department provide a list of all discretionary grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants FYTD?

Please provide details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.

377. Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?

Answer:

375. In 2010-11, discretionary grants of approximately \$2.812m were approved by ASIC. These grants were paid from ASIC's Assetless Administration Fund (AA Fund) which is used to finance preliminary investigations and reports by liquidators into the failure of companies with few or no assets. AA Fund grants are only made to liquidators registered with ASIC. A breakdown by location is shown below:

| State/Territory | \$ (net of GST) |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| ACT             | 4,163           |
| NSW             | 1,080,157       |
| QLD             | 303,602         |
| SA              | 75,874          |
| TAS             | 19,418          |
| VIC             | 539,735         |
| WA              | 788,566         |
| Grand Total     | 2,811,514       |

376. For the FTYD (as at 31 October 2011), discretionary grants of approximately \$0.667m have been approved by ASIC. Again, these grants were paid from ASIC's Assetless Administration Fund (AA Fund). A breakdown by location is shown below:

| State/Territory | \$ (net of GST) |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| ACT             | 16,093          |
| NSW             | 316,221         |
| QLD             | 99,091          |
| TAS             | 15,000          |
| VIC             | 185,798         |
| SA              | 15,000          |
| WA              | 20,000          |
| Grand Total     | 667,203         |

ASIC publishes details of each grant recipient on its website, which can be accessed via (<http://www.asic.gov.au/aafund>). This website lists details of the AA Fund grant recipient, recipient firm details, location (state) and the amount of the grant, and is updated in accordance with the Government's grant reporting requirements.

377. Yes ASIC has complied substantively with the requirements prescribed by Finance Circular 2009/04 relating to the publication of discretionary grants. ASIC is currently reviewing the information published to ensure it complies strictly with Finance Circular 2009/04.