

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, GRANTS TO UNIONS WA OR INDIVIDUAL
UNIONS

1332. Hon. C.L. Edwardes to the Minister for Consumer and Employment Protection

Since the election of the Labor Government in 2001, for each department and agency under the Minister's responsibility -

- (a) how many grants have been made to Unions WA or individual Unions;
- (b) what is the total amount of funds made available to Unions WA or individual Unions;
- (c) what is the purpose of each grant;
- (d) what is the amount of each grant;
- (e) how does the Government monitor the performance of each grant;
- (f) for each grant, what measures has the Government put in place to ensure that the conditions of each grant are complied with;
- (g) on what date did the task/s required under each grant commence;
- (h) on what date was the first payment made and what percentage of the grant did this payment make;
- (i) on what date did the task required under each grant terminate;
- (j) on what date was the required task due to finish;
- (k) on what date was the final payment of the grant made;
- (l) were any people employed or contracted by Unions WA or individual Unions to perform tasks funded by any of these grants;
- (m) which grants were these people employed by;
- (n) what were their duties;
- (o) to whom did these people report;
- (p) how was their performance assessed;
- (q) what is the name of each person and the duty they performed, the payment received for each performance and the total payment from each grant;
- (r) where can the results of these taxpayer-funded programs be obtained;
- (s) will the Minister table the results; and
- (t) if not, why not?

Mr J.C. KOBELKE replied:

- a) A total of seven grants have been made to UnionsWA and individual unions.
- b) \$148 000 for award updating and development of collective agreements and \$91 400 related to tripartite occupational safety and health processes. It should be noted that four grants have been made to employer associations for award updates and an identical amount to that paid to UnionsWA for occupational safety and health processes has been paid to the Chamber of Commerce and Industry.
- c) Five grants were to assist with the updating of selected awards, one grant was for the development of collective agreements where none previously existed, and the other one to assist in the maintenance of tripartite occupational safety and health processes and respond to activities of the WorkSafe Western Australia Commission.
- d) For award updates and collective agreements the following amounts were paid: UnionsWA \$60 000, ALHMWU \$30 000 and \$30 000, AWU \$15 000, SDA \$10 000, ISSOA \$3 000. For occupational health and safety processes a total of \$91 400 comprising of an annual grant of \$33 000 per annum plus an additional \$10 000 for 2002 for the additional impost of the review of the Occupational Safety and Health Act.
- e) & f) For award updates and collective agreements the cash grants are made through a formal contractual arrangement requiring the recipient to report progress against prescribed milestones. For occupational

- health and safety processes the grant is assessed against specific measures, which must be reported in the UnionsWA annual report.
- g) There is no “required” commencement date, however each contract for award updates and collective agreements has a defined term.
 - h) For award updates and collective agreements - UnionsWA 22 November 2002, 75%; ALHMWU 9 January 2003, 75%; ISSOA 13 November 2002, 66.6%; AWU 9 January 2003, 40%. The grant for occupational safety and health processes is an annual grant made available to UnionsWA since 1984/85 and is not related to a specific task.
 - i) The task of updating awards is on-going.
 - j) On expiry of contracts – UnionsWA 1 September 2003; ALHMWU 10 months after the employment of the person to undertake the task; ISSOA 29 April 2003; AWU 6 August 2003.
 - k) The only final payment made was for the ISSOA grant paid on 12 December 2002.
 - l) Yes.
 - m) Unions WA - for award updating.
Unions WA – Health and Safety Officer
The Australian Liquor Hospitality and Miscellaneous Workers Union (ALHMWU) - intends to employ a person.
 - n) In terms of Award updating the grant to Unions WA was for the task of co-ordinating and assisting officiated unions in the process of award updating. For the ALHMWU, the task was to progress the updating of specific awards. In terms of health and safety, the employment of an officer ensures the continued resourcing of the Commission and its Advisory Committees is undertaken.
 - o) The employees engaged for the tasks will report to their respective union employers.
 - p) The performance of union officers is a matter for the union employer.
 - q) Unknown.
 - r) s) t) The principal purpose of the contracts is to update WA awards, which are contained within the records of the WAIRC for public usage. The Occupational Health and Safety Commission publishes an annual report.