



Trade &
Investment

Office of the Secretary

BN14/6676
Your ref: LAC14/243

Mr Jonathan O'Dea MP
Chair
Public Accounts Committee
Legislative Assembly
Parliament of New South Wales
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr O'Dea

**Inquiry into the Examination of Auditor-General's Performance Audit
Reports
*Management of the ClubGRANTS Scheme,***

I refer to my letter of 1 September 2014 and to your letter of 19 September 2014 requesting a response to four questions relating to the implementation of recommendations contained in the Auditor-General's Performance Audit Report, Management of the ClubGRANTS Scheme.

Please find enclosed my response to each of the four questions.

Should you require further information, [REDACTED], A/Executive Director, Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing, can be contacted at [REDACTED]@olgr.nsw.gov.au or on (02) [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Mark I Paterson AO
Secretary

1/10/14

Encl.

**Inquiry into the Examination of Auditor-General's Performance Audit Reports
May 2013-July 2013
Report #229 Management of the ClubGRANTS Scheme,
Department of Trade and Investment; Regional Infrastructure and Services;
Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing; Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority**

Questions on Notice to the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing

1. The Auditor-General recommended that the application process for grants under category three be publicised (recommendation 5). The Implementation of Recommendations table that you attached to your letter of 1 September 2014 (the "Implementation of Recommendations table") outlines that the opening of the ClubGRANTS Fund Category 3 for 2013/14 was publicised by way of the Minister issuing a press release indicating that the funding round would be open from 7 March to 10 April.

- **Please advise the Committee as to what further publicity the Minister and ClubGRANTS Fund Committee might consider for 2014/15.**

In addition to the issue of a press release by the Minister for Hospitality, Gaming and Racing on 29 August 2014 relating to invitations to apply for grants in the 2014/15 round of ClubGRANTS funding, the Office of Liquor, Gaming & Racing advertised the opening of the funding round in the following publications:

Publication	Publication Date
Sydney Morning Herald	30 August 2014
Newcastle Herald	30 August 2014
Illawarra Mercury	30 August 2014
Albury Border Mail	30 August 2014
Tamworth Northern Daily Leader	30 August 2014
Bathurst Western Advocate	30 August 2014
Orange Central Western Daily	30 August 2014
Dubbo Daily Liberal	30 August 2014
Wagga Daily Advertiser	30 August 2014
Lismore Northern Star	30 August 2014
The Broken Hill Barrier Daily Truth	30 August 2014
Coffs Coast Advocate	30 August 2014
Daily Telegraph	30 August 2014
Port Macquarie News	1 September 2014
Central Coast Express Advocate	3 September 2014
Ballina Shire Advocate	3 September 2014

Information on the 2014/15 ClubGRANTS funding round was published on the following websites from 1 September 2014:

- Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing
- NSW Office of Sport and Recreation
- Arts NSW
- Community Builders (a NSW Government clearing house of funding sources)
- ClubsNSW

Information was also included in the Local Government NSW electronic newsletter on 5 September 2014, distributed to local government councils in NSW and made available on the Office of Liquor, Gaming & Racing website.

The Implementation of Recommendations table also outlined that the ClubGRANTS Fund committee had provided a shortlist of projects to the Minister for consideration on 28 May 2014 with respect to the 2013/14 funding round.

- Please advise the Committee whether the 2013/14 [funding round] has been finalised, and if so which projects have been funded.

The 2013/14 funding has been finalised. The following grants were approved.

Applicant	Project	Amount
Eden Local Aboriginal Land Council	Bundian Way Tourist Trail to be constructed around Twofold Bay	\$629,350
Gosford City Council	Woy Woy Sporting Precinct Redevelopment including construction of grandstand and clubhouse	\$2,000,000
Inverell Shire Council	Cameron Park renewal including playing grounds for cricket and rugby league and upgraded amenities	\$510,000
Lismore City Council	Clifford Park upgrade including new amenities building, walking tracks and playground	\$1,638,590
Moree Plains Shire Council and Boomerangs Rugby league Club	South Moree sports field development including addition of amenities block, canteen, second sports field and general upgrading of facilities	\$1,787,511
Nambucca Shire Council	Macksville Park Fun and Fitness Project redevelopment including skate park, recreation room and fitness trails.	\$975,565
Penrith City Council	Jamison Park Community Health, Fitness, Sport and Event Precinct including all age and ability activity zone, playground and general upgrading of facilities	\$934,901
Police Citizens Youth Club Cessnock	Multi-Sports and Activity Centre including skate park, rock climbing, gymnastics hall and sports field	\$1,776,430
Surf Life Saving NSW Port Macquarie	Construction of new multi-purpose facility to support North Coast Surf Life Saving	\$1,051,245
Tamworth Regional Council	Tamworth Regional Playground and Recreation Space including family play zones, fitness trails and bike track	\$1,100,000
Australian Rugby Union Limited	Integration and co-location of NSW Rugby Union, Waratahs Rugby and Australian Rugby Union	\$1,679,883

2. The Auditor-General recommended that all relevant requirements of the *Gaming Machine Tax Act 2001* be included in the ClubGRANTS guidelines (recommendation 1). The Implementation of Recommendations table outlines that a fulsome review of the ClubGRANTS guidelines is proposed during the second half of 2014, subject to approval of the Minister.

- **Please advise the Committee as to the status of the review.**

Approval is being sought from the Minister to conduct a review of the ClubGRANTS guidelines in the fourth quarter of 2014.

- **Please advise the Committee as to whether the minor amendments to the ClubGRANTS guidelines have been finalised and, if so, what amendments were made.**

As previously advised, minor amendments to the ClubGRANTS guidelines are being progressed. This matter is expected to be finalised before the end of 2014.

3. The Auditor-General recommended the establishment of the ClubGRANTS Fund committee (recommendation 4). The Implementation of Recommendations table outlines that this committee has been established and has met.

- **Please provide the Committee with a copy of the terms of reference for the ClubGRANTS fund committee.**

The Charter for the operation of the Category 3 ClubGRANTS Fund, which includes the role of the ClubGRANTS Fund Committee, is enclosed at **Attachment A**.

4. The Auditor General recommended that a complaints mechanism for breaches of the ClubGRANTS guidelines be established and publicised (recommendation 10). The Implementation of Recommendations table outlines that the guidelines have been published on the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing's website and that this website publicises the complaints mechanism.

- **Please confirm how many complaints have been received since the publishing of these guidelines in September 2013.**

As at 26 September 2014, no complaints had been received by the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing relating to apparent breaches of the ClubGRANTS guidelines since September 2013.