

ATTACHMENT A - INFORMATION FOR RELEASE

Q.1 The number of small businesses that received a \$15,000 hardship grant, the number that received the \$4,000 hardship grant, and the number that applied and missed out.

| Table 1. Hardship grants awarded | Number |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| \$4,000 grants | 1,540 |
| \$15,000 grants | 1,330 |
| Total | 2,870 |

| Table 2. Hardship grants refused | Number |
|---|--------|
| Applications incl. ineligible, withdrew or duplicated | 1,125 |

Q.4 A list of the number of businesses from different industry sectors that applied for \$15,000 grants, and the number awarded ie - the number of businesses in each of hospitality, tourism, arts, retail etc.

| Table 3. Industry breakdown* | \$15,000 Grants Awarded | Total Applicants |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Accommodation | 96 | 304 |
| Agriculture | 31 | 96 |
| Communication services | 11 | 52 |
| Construction | 57 | 242 |
| Cultural and recreational services | 40 | 141 |
| Education | 15 | 80 |
| Electricity, gas and water supply | 3 | 15 |
| Finance and insurance | 2 | 21 |
| Fishing | 32 | 194 |
| Forestry | 1 | 13 |
| Health and community services | 55 | 238 |
| Hospitality | 549 | 1025 |
| Manufacturing | 57 | 149 |
| Mining | 1 | 3 |
| Personal and other services | 64 | 303 |
| Property and business services | 34 | 136 |
| Retail | 199 | 692 |
| Transport | 36 | 146 |
| Wholesale trade | 25 | 65 |
| Not specified on application* | 22 | 80 |

*The data was collated via the optional response field: 'Which industry does your business operate in?' on the Small Business Hardship Grant Application Form.

Q.5 The ratings system used to determine which of the applications met the criteria for a \$15,000 grant - ie - were applications given points and those over a certain number of points awarded the higher grants?

Every application was assessed for a grant of \$15,000 against the eligibility criteria plus a demonstration of businesses who:

- met the hardship test, and
- could demonstrate an ability to continue to operate in the current environment and provide products or services necessary for the Tasmanian or Australian community, or
- may need to temporarily cease operation but can demonstrate strong prospects for future jobs sustainment or growth.

Due to limited funds and a significantly high number competitive applications received that met the eligibility criteria, applications were further assessed on their ability to demonstrate:

- an elevated economic and social benefit to the community
- have an FTE forecast of greater than 4 (in the first instance)
- the business's strategic importance in the current environment and
- economic and future job prospects for growth.

This assessment process enabled a fair and consistent approach to be applied to this highly competitive field of applications to award a grant of \$15,000.

The assessment process involved a series of steps and questions relating to the above criteria. Two of these steps were number-based scores or data to help rank applicants for review in the moderation process. This rank did not ultimately determine if an applicant was awarded a \$15,000 grant as it was only part of the assessment process.

The two number-based components of the assessment were:

1. An assessment of the applicant's critical, economic and social benefit for the community during the pandemic, scored out of 5.
2. Number of FTE likely for this time next year and business growth.

Q.7 How many of the small businesses that received \$4,000 hardship grants had actually applied for the \$15,000 grant?

All applicants that received the \$4,000 grant had applied and were unsuccessful for the \$15,000 grant under this program.

Q.8 A breakdown of the \$15,000 grants awarded by electorate.

The Department did not collect business electorate data.

Q.9 A breakdown of the \$4,000 grants awarded by electorate.

The Department did not collect business electorate data.