

## QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 1050

asked on 4 September 2018

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**DR M ROBINSON** ASKED MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT AND SMALL BUSINESS AND MINISTER FOR TRAINING AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (HON S FENTIMAN)

QUESTION: With reference to the Queensland Government Late Payment Policy—

Will the Minister advise (reported separately by quarter from 1 July 2013) (a) the number of late payments made, (b) the total value of payments that were late and (c) the number of claims made by small businesses for payment of interest penalty?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Oodgeroo for the Question.

The Palaszczuk Government recognises that cash flow is vital for small businesses and is committed to fair payment terms.

On 1 June 2018, the Queensland Government released the Queensland Small Business Procurement Commitment consultation paper, in recognition of the importance of small businesses accessing procurement opportunities. The consultation period closed on 31 July 2018.

Responses to the consultation paper are currently being considered and the Department of Employment, Small Business and Training is working across government to finalise a Queensland Small Business Procurement Commitment.

A key focus of the Commitment will be on improving payment timeframes for government contracts. I look forward to releasing this commitment in due course.

In accordance with Queensland's current Late Payment Policy (the Policy), information on the total amount of interest penalty paid to small business and the total percentage of late payments (for all sized businesses) is published by each department on a quarterly basis on the Queensland Government Open Data website ([www.data.qld.gov.au](http://www.data.qld.gov.au)).

In response to part (c) of the Member's question, since 1 July 2013, there have been a total of 52 claims submitted. Of these, 16 were eligible for consideration under the Policy which are detailed in the attached table.

In response to parts (a) and (b), under the Policy, departments are not required to report the total number of late payments made, the total value of payments that were late or distinguish between small or large businesses when reporting the total percentage of late payments. I note this is the reporting requirement established since the policy was introduced in 1 July 2013.

This information requested in (a) and (b) is not available without conducting a manual review of all payments over the time requested and would substantially and unreasonably divert resources of individual agencies to compile.

Quarter	Number of eligible claims made by small business for payment of interest penalty
2013 (Q3)	0
2013 (Q4)	0
2014 (Q1)	0
2014 (Q2)	3
2014 (Q3)	0
2014 (Q4)	1
2015 (Q1)	2
2015 (Q2)	5
2015 (Q3)	0
2015 (Q4)	0
2016 (Q1)	0
2016 (Q2)	0
2016 (Q3)	0
2016 (Q4)	0
2017 (Q1)	3
2017 (Q2)	1
2017 (Q3)	1
2017 (Q4)	0
2018 (Q1)	0
2018 (Q2)	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>