

Question on Notice

No. 956

Asked on 22 August 2024

LEAHY ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TREATY, MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PARTNERSHIPS, MINISTER FOR COMMUNITIES AND MINISTER FOR THE ARTS (HON L ENOCH)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise (a) how many cases of fraud and misuse of funds by staff in the Community Recovery Grants Team have been investigated in the last two years, (b) have any staff been stood down, (c) were any decisions found to be in conflict with the grants administration policy and (d) has any compensation been paid for these errors?

ANSWER:

- (a) As at 30 August 2024, there has been nine (9) matters of alleged fraud or misuse of funds by staff.
- (b) Allegations of fraud or misuse of funds are taken very seriously. It is often appropriate for staff at the subject of these enquiries to be suspended for the duration of the investigation. During this period, one (1) departmental employee was suspended and a further seven (7) agency contracted staff ceased employment with the department.
- (c) Two (2) cases were found to be in conflict with department grants administration policy and were referred to the Queensland Police Service in accordance with appropriate legislative provisions. Due to both legal and privacy reasons, no further information can be provided in relation to the allegations.
- (d) No compensation has been received in relation to these matters.