

SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION —
SMALL BUSINESS FRIENDLY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS PROGRAM

4213. Mr P.A. Katsambanis to the Minister for Tourism; Racing and Gaming; Small Business; Defence Issues; Citizenship and Multicultural Interests:

I refer the Minister to the Small Business Development Corporation's (SBDC) Small Business Friendly Local Government program and ask:

- (a) how many Local Government Authorities have joined the Small Business Friendly Local Government program for each of the years 2016, 2017, and as of 1 October 2018;
- (b) has any Local Government Authority applied to join the program but been rejected;
- (c) since it commenced, has any Local Government Authority been removed from the program; and
- (d) are Local Government Authorities that sign the charter annually reviewed by the SBDC on its ongoing effectiveness as being small business friendly?

Mr P. Papalia replied:

- (a) Following the launch of the Small Business Friendly Local Governments initiative on 9 August 2016, 12 local governments joined in 2016.
8 local governments joined in 2017.
As at 1 October 2018, an additional 6 local governments have joined in 2018, making a total of 24 local governments.
- (b) No.
- (c) Yes – one Local Government Authority.
- (d) A requirement of participating in the initiative is for local governments to submit biannual progress reports to the Small Business Development Corporation. These progress reports outline a local government's progress towards on-time payments, business engagement and their nominated small business friendly activities. There is no formal auditing of participating local governments.