

BOATING — RECREATIONAL FACILITIES FUND

1918. Hon Ken Travers to the Minister for Transport

- (1) Who is eligible to apply for Recreational Boating Facilities Fund (RBFF)?
- (2) Who applied for each grant in the last round of funding approved under the RBFF?
- (3) Are recreational boat owners consulted on how money from boat registration fees is allocated?
- (4) If yes to (3), by what process are they consulted?
- (5) If no to (3), why not?
- (6) Are recreational boat owners involved in the assessment of applications under the RBFF?
- (7) If yes to (6), by what process are they involved?
- (8) If no to (6), why not?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

- (1) Recreational Boating Facilities Scheme (RBFS) grants are available to local governments, state government departments and statutory authorities directly involved with recreational boating facilities. These are enduring entities capable of maintaining the resulting assets.
- (2) In Round 14 of the RBFS, 43 applications were received -
  - 10 from state government departments.
  - Three from community groups.
  - 30 from local governments.
- (3) There is no specific consultation process for recreational boat owners to determine how the funds collected from boat registration fees are allocated. However, the Department of Transport receives ongoing feedback and collects data from the public in relation to marine safety and facility planning matters. All feedback is considered and utilised to determine how funds are allocated.
- (4) Not applicable.
- (5) Funds are returned to the recreational boating community via marine safety and coastal infrastructure programs such as the RBFS.
- (6) Yes.
- (7) Applications are assessed at two stages prior to recommendations being made to the Minister for Transport -

Stage 1

Applications are assessed initially at a regional level by regional panels typically comprised of -

  - Local community boating groups, such as Sea Search and Rescue and Recreational Fishing Advisory Committees.
  - Local Department of Transport, Department of Fisheries, Development Commission and Sport and Recreation officers.
  - Local representatives from State Government departments.

Stage 2

Eligible applications proceed to the Central Assessment (or RBFS) Panel which includes representatives from -

  - FESA (representing Sea Search and Rescue groups).
  - Recfishwest.
  - Jet Sport West.
  - WA Tourism Commission.
  - WA Local Government Association.
  - Swan River Trust.
  - Department of Transport.
  - And in 2010, Boating WA.
- (8) Not applicable.

