

While landlords and tenants are required to negotiate leasing arrangements in good faith, where there is a dispute, a party may seek mediation by the Small Business Commissioner. If this fails, the matter may then proceed to the Magistrates Court for a determination.

The Small Business Commissioner's website provides additional information at <https://www.sasbc.sa.gov.au/article/view/348>, including the mediation process if the parties are unable to resolve the leasing arrangements.

Both the Commonwealth and State Governments have announced support packages designed to assist as many businesses, organisations and employees as possible.

Information relating to the South Australian Government support for businesses, jobs and the community impacted by COVID-19 can be found at: <https://www.treasury.sa.gov.au/Growing-South-Australia/stimulus-measures-to-support-businesses-and-the-community-impacted-by-covid-19>

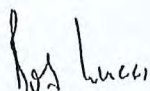
Information relating to the Commonwealth Government economic response to the coronavirus can be found at: <https://treasury.gov.au/coronavirus>

Please note that these websites will be updated progressively as further information becomes available.

The government is pleased that the National Cabinet and the Premier Steven Marshall have released roadmaps to a COVIDSafe Australia and South Australia, which provide some positive news about reopening businesses. The Marshall Liberal Government is doing everything in our power to protect South Australians and the South Australian economy.

I have received letters from the Small Business Commissioner and Member for Hammond on your behalf and have provided them with a copy of this response.

Yours sincerely



Hon Rob Lucas MLC
Treasurer

12 June 2020





Small Business
Commissioner
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Hon. Rob Lucas MLC
Treasurer
Level 8, 200 Victoria Square
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URGENT

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Dear Treasurer

I write to seek your urgent consideration of a rejected application for the State Government's \$10,000 Small Business Emergency Grant administered by the Department of Treasury and Finance.



I have enquired with the Small Business Grant team in Treasury in relation to this matter and they have advised they do not have any discretion to assist [REDACTED]

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Therefore, I respectfully ask that you consider my request to [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Thank you for considering this matter and I look forward to your prompt response.

I can be contacted on 0418 829 964 should you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Chapman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John Chapman
Small Business Commissioner
22nd May 2020

The Hon Rob Lucas MLC

TRS20D1585



Government
of South Australia

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treasurer.dtf@sa.gov.au

Mr John Chapman
Small Business Commissioner
GPO Box 1264
ADELAIDE SA 5001

john.chapman@sa.gov.au

John
Dear Mr Chapman

Thank you for your letter dated 20 May 2020 about financial assistance for small business affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

A key criterion of the Small Business Grant Program is that a business must have employed staff as at 1 March 2020. Employees are generally considered to be staff under the control of the business, and have Pay As You Go Withholding amounts and superannuation paid by the employer.

In relation to taxpayer funded assistance the government has made it clear that it wants to save as many jobs as possible. Therefore the small business cash grant has been targeted to those businesses that employ South Australians because taxpayers cannot afford to assist every small business in the state.

This requirement is similar to other jurisdictions which have implemented similar grant schemes. I acknowledge that this treatment differs from the JobKeeper criteria.

The government has not set any criteria on how the small business grant can be spent, as such a business could use the grant to obtain financial advice.

The South Australian and Commonwealth Governments are providing significant support to assist businesses and employees to survive the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

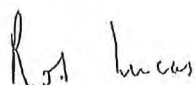
The South Australian Government's \$1 billion economic stimulus package is supporting local businesses through measures including:

- a \$300 million Business and Jobs Support Fund, which is directly assisting businesses and industry sectors facing potential collapse and the loss of jobs due to the impacts of COVID-19 and necessary restrictions to limit its spread;

- a \$250 million Community and Jobs Support Fund, which is providing critical assistance to community organisations and some industry sectors. This fund is also helping with training South Australians seeking new skills and employment, as well as assisting organisations to meet increased demand for services, including emergency relief;
- payroll tax relief in the form of a six month waiver for business groups with annual Australian wages of up to \$4 million; and a six month deferral for businesses with annual wages above \$4 million upon application and assessment of need;
- exempting Commonwealth JobKeeper payments from payroll tax;
- land tax relief where tenants are substantially impacted by COVID-19 and deferrals of land tax payments for up to 6 months;
- the provision of one-off \$10 000 emergency cash grants to eligible small businesses; and
- additional funding for the Economic and Business Growth Fund, which seeks to promote economic growth in South Australia by encouraging growth of existing industries, developing new industries, building international connections, and attracting foreign and national direct investment.

The government is pleased that the National Cabinet and the Premier Steven Marshall have released roadmaps to a COVIDSafe Australia and South Australia, which provide some positive news about reopening businesses. The Marshall Liberal Government is doing everything in our power to protect South Australians and the South Australian economy.

Yours sincerely



Hon Rob Lucas MLC
Treasurer

1 June 2020



Small Business
Commissioner
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The Hon Rob Lucas MLC
Treasurer
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Dear Treasurer

Financial assistance for small businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic

I am writing to request that the Government consider further financial assistance for small businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

COVID-19 emergency cash grants for sole traders

It has come to my attention that sole traders are ineligible for the \$10,000 emergency cash grant as part of the State Government's \$650 million Jobs Rescue Package.



While I note your comments made during Parliamentary debate in relation to sole traders on 14 May 2020, I would be grateful if you would reconsider the Government's position in relation to this particular case, as well as the broader policy as it applies, given it does seem to exclude many small businesses in the circumstances.

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Vouchers for financial advice during the COVID-19 pandemic

I have also been advised by various stakeholders that many small businesses are currently unable to meet the costs of obtaining much needed financial advice from an appropriately qualified accountant, financial planner or business advisor.

I would ask that the Government consider providing eligible small businesses with a \$2,500 voucher to enable to businesses to obtain financial advice in relation to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. These vouchers would be available for a limited time, and would support South Australia's accountants and financial advisors as well as affected small businesses.


I can be contacted on 0418 829 964 or john.chapman@sa.gov.au to discuss these matters.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter and I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely



John Chapman
Small Business Commissioner

 May 2020