



DAVID MORRIS MP
Member for Mornington

Andrews attitude to sole traders – Unreasonable and Unfair

Posted on 23 June 2021

Mr MORRIS (Mornington) (14:42): (5925) My question is to the Minister for Industry Support and Recovery on behalf of a constituent who writes:

We are an established, non essential retail business of over 10 years, with no online trading and only a 'bricks & mortar' presence which was mandated to be closed for some 173 days ... over the past four Victorian lockdowns. Even though no income was generated during this period, we were still required to pay commercial rental, utilities and other running costs.

I confirm we have had NO state government assistance or grants whatsoever ... due to our entity status being a 'Partnership' even though each time a grant has been offered, we have met all the other criteria including our ANZIC Industry Classification.

She goes on to indicate that there have been at least three grants totalling \$10 000—\$3000, \$5000 and \$2000—extended to sole traders but not available to their business.

So it is clear that there has been a failure to deliver support to partnerships.

It is unreasonable and unfair, and the question to the minister is: what is he going to do about it?