



T R E A S U R E R

MEDIA RELEASE

Free online check to see if Government owes you money

NSW Treasurer Eric Roozendaal today warned people to be wary of “money recovery” companies charging fees for a service the NSW Government provides for free.

The NSW Office of State Revenue holds more than \$120 million in money which has not been claimed by its rightful owners.

“This money is anything from unclaimed refunds to deceased estates, share dividends and inactive superannuation accounts whose rightful owners have forgotten it’s sitting in a government account waiting for them to collect it,” Mr Roozendaal said.

“Now I’m hearing reports that more and more ‘money recovery’ companies are writing to people telling them the government owes them money – and charging a fee to recover it.

“Well, the money can be recovered by its rightful owners for free – and all by logging on to a NSW Government website.

“In these difficult financial times, the last thing people need is to pay a fee to an unscrupulous individual when they can easily find out whether they are owed that money without paying one cent.”

The NSW Office of State Revenue is holding over 241,000 items of unclaimed money worth \$120,255,627. The money is held until collected by its rightful owner.

These items range in value from a \$20 NRMA share dividend to more than \$518,000 from a deceased estate.

The Office of State Revenue’s website shows the name of the unclaimed money owner, the type and source of funds and, if provided by the depositing enterprise, the owner’s last known address.

“This website is a free service, so there is no need for people to pay to use an unclaimed money recovery company,” Mr Roozendaal said.

“The NSW Government is doing all it can to return this money to the rightful owners.

“In the last 18 months the Office of State Revenue has handed back almost 6988 claims, worth a total of \$12.8 million. That equates to just over \$1800 per claim.”

“It’s your money, and you should claim it – you don’t need someone else to claim it for you and charge you for a service the Government provides for free,” Mr Roozendaal said.

For more information and to check if you are owed money visit www.osr.nsw.gov.au

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