

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**  
**Budget Estimates May 2017**  
**Communications Portfolio**  
**Australia Council for the Arts**

**Question No: 189**

**Australia Council**

**Hansard Ref: Written, 01/06/2017**

**Topic: Sydney Writers Festival**

**Senator Abetz, Eric asked:**

How much funding did the Australia Council for the Arts provide to the Sydney Writers Festival in 2017?

- (a) What was the purpose of the funding?
- (b) What, if any, input did the Council have into the organisation of the Festival?
- (c) Was the Council involved in the budgeting and planning of the Festival?
- (d) Does the Council have visibility of appearance fees paid to the 'talent'? If so, please advise the payments made and to whom.

**Answer:**

In 2017 the Australia Council will provide the Sydney Writers Festival with \$200,000.

- (a) Sydney Writers Festival is one of the Four Year Funded Organisations. The funding was for general programming and operational support.
- (b) None.
- (c) No.
- (d) No.