

Additional Estimates 2019-20

Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications portfolio, excluding Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development

Tuesday, 3 March 2020

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
1.	5.1	Green	AUSFTA obligations and international streaming services	<p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> It's not specified, but you're saying it'll be before the end of the year?</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> That's certainly the timetable we're working to—even earlier. I don't think it's going to be at the end of the year. I imagine that the consultation paper will be out in the first part of 2020. There will be consultation and we will be developing policy advice for government in short order.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> Minister, to what extent will the options that are to be developed by Screen Australia and ACMA be constrained by the US Free Trade Agreement?</p> <p><b>Senator Reynolds:</b> I'll have to take that question on notice, unless Mr Eccles—</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> Obviously, we are mindful of our international trade obligations and that will be part of any advice that we provide to government around the economic benefits for the local sector—the benefits of increasing the availability of quality Australian content—as well as some of the other issues associated with trade agreements. That will obviously be in the mix.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> Is it possible for Australia to apply content obligations to overseas based streaming services?</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> I'd need to take that on notice.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 8
2.	5.1	Green	Digital Platforms Inquiry – options paper	<p><b>Senator Reynolds:</b> Just to make this clear, as we've said, the options paper will form part of industry consultation to give stakeholders the opportunity to comment on the options that they put forward; but the guiding principle is to best support Australian stories and Australian producers so that our Australian stories are on screens locally and can be exported around the world in a rapidly evolving sector. That is the overarching mandate.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> Is any legislation referred to in that mandate?</p> <p><b>Senator Reynolds:</b> I'll have to take that on notice. I wouldn't have thought so. Mr Eccles?</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> A lot of the obligations that are provided on broadcasters are enshrined in regulation. Obviously, once the options are developed and consulted on, the government</p>	03/03/2020 Page 10

				response to that, in terms of the policies that they implement, could well have regulatory implications.	
3.	5.1	Urquhart	<b>Changes to broadcasting policy under the <i>Broadcasting Services Act 1992</i></b>	<p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> No. Have there been any changes to broadcasting policy under the Broadcasting Services Act 1992? That's the year of the act, is it not?</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> Yes. Since 1992? I'd need to take that on notice and look into it.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> I guess that's the issue. The services act was 1992. Can you talk me through the changes that have happened from that time?</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> I don't have that information with me.</p>	<b>03/03/2020</b> <b>Page 13</b>
4.	5.1	Urquhart	<b>Spectrum for community TV stations in Melbourne and Adelaide</b>	<p><b>Senator Reynolds:</b> Senator Urquhart, can I just clarify? Going to your previous question about extensions, I've just got some technical advice. There is no extension from 30 June this year. I understand that some have technically had a bit more than the six years. Perhaps I can get further clarification on that, but there will be no extension from 30 June 2020. Just to be clear, some have gone over the six years, as I understand it.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> Can you answer whether there's any alternative use of the spectrum for community TV stations in Melbourne and Adelaide?</p> <p><b>Senator Reynolds:</b> If our technical experts who are here from the department can't answer that question, I certainly can't, but I'll take it on notice for you.</p>	<b>03/03/2020</b> <b>Page 13</b>
5.	5.1	Urquhart	<b>Community television licence extension</b>	<p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> I'll try to get through them as quickly as I can. In the last year, has the minister received any correspondence or representations from the community television sector about a licence extension?</p> <p><b>Senator Reynolds:</b> Yes, we have.</p> <p><b>Mr Makin:</b> Yes, we have. I don't have the specific details of what and when, but we're in regular consultation.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> Are you able to get that information this morning?</p> <p><b>Mr Makin:</b> Yes.</p>	<b>03/03/2020</b> <b>Page 14</b>
6.	5.1	Urquhart	<b>Extension of broadcasting licences</b>	<p><b>Senator Reynolds:</b> Six years is a long time. The government has provided financial assistance and time for community TV to make that transition. The decision has been made that six years is a very generous period to allow community TV to transition.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> So, is that the reason the minister has decided not to extend the services?</p> <p><b>Senator Reynolds:</b> Beyond 30 June this year, absolutely.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> Is that the only reason?</p> <p><b>Senator Reynolds:</b> I'll have to take that on notice. It is a very generous period of time for that to occur.</p>	<b>03/03/2020</b> <b>Page 14</b>
7.	5.1	Urquhart	<b>Community TV broadcasting licences</b>	<p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> I understand that. I have one final question on this area. If the government won't extend or renew community TV broadcasting licences, will the government provide financial assistance to community TV broadcasters to transition to an online-only model?</p>	<b>03/03/2020</b> <b>Page 15</b>

				<p><b>Senator Reynolds:</b> I will take that on notice, but as I've already said we've already provided financial assistance.</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> We can give you the details on how much money has been provided over the past period of time. My understanding is there was \$450,000—</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> For online?</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> Broadly to assist the transition from the current platform to a more appropriate platform that's more fitting, and that is the online world. Funding has been provided.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> Has that been specifically for that purpose?</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> I'll check and we'll get those details. It might be later in the morning, but we'll certainly come back with the specific number. But there has been funding provided for that purpose.</p>	
8.	5.1	McMahon	Mobile Black Spot Program - market share in Northern Territory	<p><b>Senator McMAHON:</b> Can you tell me what the market share of each of the three major telcos is in the Northern Territory?</p> <p><b>Mr Paterson:</b> I don't have that number. I know it is predominantly Telstra, but there is Optus coverage up there and a little bit of Vodafone.</p> <p><b>Mr Windeyer:</b> We will see if we can come back with that later in the morning if we have the detail. Were you after market shares in terms of the percentage of the population they each have as subscribers?</p> <p><b>Senator McMAHON:</b> Yes, correct.</p> <p><b>Mr Windeyer:</b> Or the geographic coverage?</p> <p><b>Senator McMAHON:</b> Percentage of subscribers.</p> <p><b>Mr Windeyer:</b> We will see if we can find that on a state breakdown.</p> <p><b>Mr Paterson:</b> We will do what we can. We do have some national numbers, but I'm not sure we've got state numbers readily at hand. We will see what we can do for you.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 16
9.	5.1	Urquhart	NRS contract	<p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> Can you tell me on what dates was the NRS contract renewed and what was the term of renewal?</p> <p><b>Ms Silleri:</b> I would have to take that on notice. I think we provided that to you on notice at the last estimates, but I can get it for you shortly</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> When was the original contract due to expire?</p> <p><b>Ms Silleri:</b> I'll take that on notice for you and get it back to you within the hour.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 28
10.	5.1	Urquhart	NRS – ACE audit	<p><b>Ms Silleri:</b> There have been a number of audits over the years. I'd have to take on notice who the previous audits were conducted by. But the last audit was conducted by RSM.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> What's RSM?</p> <p><b>Ms Silleri:</b> It's an audit company. I'm not sure what RSM stands for, but I'll find that out for you.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 29
11.	5.1	Urquhart	Referral of ACE	<p><b>Senator Reynolds:</b> Sorry, just on that point, I've just got some more information about</p>	03/03/2020

			<b>to ACNC</b>	<p>the referral through to Minister Seselja and ACNC. His specific concerns were four, Senator Urquhart. The first is asking ACNC to consider whether ACE and their associated entities have used funds or assets for non-charitable purposes such as for the private benefit of the members, directors or staff; have not been transparent or accountable to its members; failed to ensure its responsible officers have complied with their duty to act in good faith with a reasonable degree of care and diligence and also in the charity's best interest in pursuing its purpose; and also whether or not it had failed to ensure its responsible officers had complied with the duty to disclose perceived or actual conflicts of interest and not to misuse their position or any information obtained in the performance of their duties.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> Can you tell me what evidence the minister has that the department doesn't?</p> <p><b>Senator Reynolds:</b> I cannot offhand, but I'll take that on notice, Senator Urquhart.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> Are you able to get back to me today?</p> <p><b>Senator Reynolds:</b> I'll take it on notice and if it's possible, yes, I will.</p>	<b>Page 30</b>
<b>12.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Urquhart</b>	<b>NRS contract – CapTel licence</b>	<p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> Okay. Can the department confirm that the original NRS contract included a mechanism for the Commonwealth to acquire the CapTel licence?</p> <p><b>Ms Silleri:</b> I think I'll take that on notice, Senator. I'll come back to you this afternoon.</p>	<b>03/03/2020 Page 31</b>
<b>13.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Urquhart</b>	<b>Ultratec</b>	<p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> Did the department ever reach out to Ultratec prior to 1 February 2020?</p> <p><b>Ms Silleri:</b> Yes, we have. Since 2018 we have communicated with them—</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> How did you communicate with them?</p> <p><b>Ms Silleri:</b> We communicate by email and mail.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> Did you receive a response?</p> <p><b>Ms Silleri:</b> We've received a response to some of our communications but not all.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> And what was the context of that reaching out—the discussions?</p> <p><b>Ms Silleri:</b> We've reached out initially to invite Ultratec to enter into discussions with Concentrix. We've reached out to ask them what their intentions are with the provision of CapTel. We've asked them what their intentions are with supporting users of CapTel and the CapTel handsets and we've continued to ask them about whether they have an interest in negotiating with Concentrix.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> Okay. Are you able to table the letters and responses that you've received?</p> <p><b>Ms Silleri:</b> I'll take that on notice, Senator.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> You'll take on notice that you will—</p> <p><b>Ms Silleri:</b> I'll take on notice our ability to table those communications.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> Can you tell me what the response has been?</p> <p><b>Ms Silleri:</b> Again, that's something I'd probably take on notice, but generally it's not</p>	<b>03/03/2020 Page 32</b>

				been specific—the responses have been quite unspecific.	
14.	5.1	Urquhart	Ultratec correspondence	<p><b>Senator Reynolds:</b> Senator Urquhart, I understand that the minister last month wrote to Ultratec, but he hasn't had a response back yet.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> Right. So is that the only occasion?</p> <p><b>Senator Reynolds:</b> I'll have to take that on notice. I just note that he has written formally to them last month.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> Are you able to table that letter?</p> <p><b>Senator Reynolds:</b> I'll absolutely take that on notice.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 32
15.	5.1	Urquhart	Ministerial media release	<p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> Ms Silleri, can you assist? Were those words were drafted by officials in the department?</p> <p><b>Ms Silleri:</b> As Mr Windeyer said, they are very similar to words we've used consistently across the transition process.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> But were they drafted by officials in the department? That's the question.</p> <p><b>Mr Windeyer:</b> We'd have to take it on notice and we can see if we've—</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Mr Paterson:</b> Quite often the media releases would come to the division head level, which is the level I am at at the moment, and sometimes to Mr Windeyer at the deputy secretary level. We clear a draft which we provide to the office and the minister, but sometimes they will change the media release.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> So, Mr Paterson, did you clear a media release that contained that paragraph that I read out earlier?</p> <p><b>Mr Paterson:</b> I don't recall clearing that, Senator, but I would have to check.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 33
16.	5.1	McMahon	Fraudulent number porting	<p><b>Senator McMAHON:</b> Could you comment on why fraudulent number porting is such a concern?</p> <p><b>Mr Windeyer:</b> I can offer some comments. I will tell you what I can, and if you want some more detail we can probably take it on notice. Fundamentally, the issue is that scammers had a way of taking advantage of the number porting rule—that is, the arrangements that allow you to move your phone number from, for example, Telstra to Optus. So, it is where you change provider but keep the same number. Scammers had a way of taking advantage of that in a form that allowed them to effectively steal a victim's mobile phone number and then get around verification processes, such as your bank might require of you, that used text messages sent to your phone number. It was taking advantage of a process that had been established, whereby the telco industry had a very quick and seamless number porting arrangement, but it was one that could be exploited. Because there are a significant number of customers and a significant number of services that use that text verification system it's the type of scam that is relatively prevalent, and, therefore, it was one we thought was absolutely worth focusing some attention on.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 38

17.	5.1	Urquhart	Konnekt default plan	<p><b>Ms Silleri:</b> With a My Aged Care package, it can be used as an accessible communications aid. It can be done through the NDIA if you have a disability and are under 65. You can also pursue it through My Aged Care, and there are also other ways of pursuing it for use in the workplace.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> I was referring to the default plan. My understanding is that's \$1,076 per year. Is that correct for the default plan?</p> <p><b>Ms Silleri:</b> I don't have that figure, but I'm happy to—</p> <p><b>Mr Paterson:</b> We're happy to take that on notice, but we don't have that number.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> Alright. Ms Silleri, you talked about different packages.</p> <p><b>Ms Silleri:</b> Yes.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> Can you provide some further information on that.</p> <p><b>Ms Silleri:</b> Yes.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 40
18.	5.1	Green	Email address on department website	<p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> Just to clear up—this one's really brief and it shouldn't take too long—I just noticed that, like all MPs and senators, Minister Fletcher has his email address on the APH website but, at the moment, there's no email contact on the department website. Is that a function of the new department or an issue—</p> <p><b>Mr Atkinson:</b> I'd have to take that on notice, but Minister Fletcher's email arrangements haven't changed.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> No, not what the email address is but the fact that it's not on the department website. Is there someone from Communications here who is in charge of the website?</p> <p><b>Mr Atkinson:</b> I will take it on notice and come back to you, I'll get our corporate people to have a look.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> I've got a screenshot of the website for you if that's a help. I can table that. I'm happy to do that.</p> <p><b>Mr Atkinson:</b> Certainly. Senator, are you talking about the fact that there should be an email address there?</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> Yes.</p> <p><b>Senator Reynolds:</b> So it's got postal and phone address but just not his email address?</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> There's no email address, and we can probably see that most people would be contacting the minister via email these days.</p> <p><b>Mr Atkinson:</b> Certainly.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> It would be a very common way to contact him.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> Given that he's the communications minister.</p> <p><b>Mr Atkinson:</b> So to my corporate people who look after IT who are listening: can you please put that email address on his site.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 41
19.	5.1	Marielle Smith	Infrastructure, Security and Resilience	<p><b>Senator MARIELLE SMITH:</b> The 2014-15 Department of Communications annual report org chart shows there was an Infrastructure, Security and Resilience Branch. For the benefit of this committee, could you please outline the functions</p>	03/03/2020 Page 48

			<b>Branch</b>	<p>and key outputs of that branch?</p> <p><b>Mr Atkinson:</b> You are talking about 2014-15?</p> <p><b>Mr Windeyer:</b> I don't think we've got anyone who was involved at the time that branch was existed. We're very happy to take it on notice and see what we can tell you.</p> <p><b>Senator MARIELLE SMITH:</b> That 2014-15 annual report notes that the department achieved its KPI by 'providing advice on, investment in and access to communications infrastructure and infrastructure resilience and security'. In the context of infrastructure resilience, I am interested in what practical areas of examination that text was referring to. Is there anyone in the department who has that corporate knowledge?</p> <p><b>Mr Windeyer:</b> Sorry, but we will have to take that one on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator MARIELLE SMITH:</b> In the 2015-16 infrastructure report the Infrastructure, Security and Resilience Branch was renamed as the Infrastructure Security Branch. In terms of 'resilience ' being dropped from the branch title, was this simply a change to the name or did it change the functions of the branch?</p> <p><b>Mr Windeyer:</b> Again, I would imagine it is really just a name change, but I would have to take it on notice and see what we can find out for you.</p>	
20.	5.1	Marielle Smith	<b>Communications Sector Group - bushfires</b>	<p><b>Senator MARIELLE SMITH:</b> Prior to the bushfires, what consideration has the Communications Sector Group specifically given to restoring power to critical communications infrastructure following natural disasters or an event like this?</p> <p><b>Mr Kathage:</b> It is a topic of conversation at the CSG, I would note, though, that carriers are largely responsible for their own networks and they put in place their own measures to restore power when sites go down. In particular, carriers have generators they can deploy and pre-deploy at times of crisis. Batteries can be deployed, as well as things like solar panels and so on.</p> <p><b>Senator MARIELLE SMITH:</b> You said it was a topic of discussion. Can you expand further on what was discussed?</p> <p><b>Mr Kathage:</b> I would need to take notice the specifics of discussions that occurred at the CSG.</p> <p><b>Senator MARIELLE SMITH:</b> I would appreciate it if you could take that on notice.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 49
21.	5.1	Marielle Smith	<b>Sections in newly merged department</b>	<p><b>Senator MARIELLE SMITH:</b> Can the department please provide on notice a breakdown of the sections that sit beneath each branch in the Communications division of the newly merged department?</p> <p><b>Mr Atkinson:</b> Certainly.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 50
22.	5.1	Hanson-Young	<b>Communications outages during</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Many of the coastal towns affected were already struggling before the fires hit. Yet, at the worst of the crisis, many locals found that mobile phone coverage was out</li> </ul>	06/03/2020

			<b>bushfires</b>	<p>when it was most needed. Will customers who experienced telecommunications outages during the fires be compensated?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There were rolling mobile phone outages throughout the season, including my own family being cut off in East Gippsland. Why is our national emergency telecommunications plan not up to scratch?</li> <li>• What work have you done to improve the reliability of the network?</li> <li>• It was reported that 100 mobile phone towers were down at the height of the fires. Why don't the towers have sufficient backup power to last more than just 10 hours?</li> </ul>	<b>Written</b>
<b>23.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Hanson-Young</b>	<b>ACCC Digital Platforms Inquiry</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What modelling has the department done in assessing the full extent of the resource deficit experienced by public broadcasters, as indicated in the report?</li> <li>• What consultation has the department taken with the ABC and SBS?</li> <li>• What's the status of the voluntary code of conduct for disinformation and news quality, as announced by the government in response to the review? What are the measures of effectiveness?</li> </ul>	<b>06/03/2020 Written</b>
<b>24.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Hanson-Young</b>	<b>Children's TV</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under the Broadcasting Services Act, commercial networks are required to provide at least 260 hours of children's programming and 130 hours of preschool programs annually. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What monitoring has the department done to ensure compliance with this requirement?</li> <li>○ What discussions have the department had with industry on this issue?</li> <li>○ What is the progress of the options paper from Screen Australia and ACMA?</li> <li>○ What assessment has been done on the economic impact and jobs created as a result of children's content production in Australia?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• When was the Australian Children's Screen Content Review completed? Why hasn't the report been released?</li> </ul>	<b>06/03/2020 Written</b>
<b>25.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Hanson-Young</b>	<b>Audit process for international productions under the Location Offset and Post, Digital and Visual Effects (PDV) Offset</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What audit process are in place for international productions that film in Australia?</li> <li>• How are employment figures and payments assessed?</li> <li>• What data is collected on the number of people employed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What is the proportion of industry that works only on international productions across the year?</li> <li>○ What data does the department have on the mix of proportion and value of Australian vs international production?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• How is eligibility for the Location Offset and PDV Offset determined? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Could you explain the offset determination in a common scenario where production work is completed in Australia for a few months of the year, but the worker is based overseas the remainder of the year?</li> <li>○ How is eligibility calculated if work is completed on a production but the</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<b>06/03/2020 Written</b>

				<p>worker doesn't work in Australia physically?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What's the extent of the subsidy? Is it 16.5% or 30% of a salary when the top up occurs?</li> </ul>	
26.	5.1	Hanson-Young	ABC bushfire emergency broadcasting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the total cost to the ABC of bushfire emergency broadcasting over the summer 2019-20 period? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Please specify a breakdown of this figure in terms of staff salaries, travel, equipment and related costs.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Has bushfire damage to ABC infrastructure been fully documented?</li> <li>• What is the estimated cost of repairs and essential upgrading of ABC infrastructure?</li> <li>• Is the Department investigating the need for a National Emergency Broadcasting Plan? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ If so, when will such a plan be available for public consultation?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Have any preliminary financial costings for its implementation been made for future budgetary consideration?</li> </ul>	06/03/2020 Written
27.	5.1	Griff	Communication with Telstra	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Has Telstra provided any information to the Department or portfolio agencies regarding damage to its copper network following the 2019/20 bushfires? If so, please table this information in full.</li> <li>2. Has Telstra approached the Department for any funding to repair or maintain the network beyond existing Universal Service Obligation payments?</li> </ol>	13/03/2020 Written
28.	5.1	Griff	Consumer safeguards review	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Part B (reliability of telecommunications services) of the <a href="#">Consumer Safeguards Review</a> was completed last year. Part C (choice and fairness) is yet to commence. The Department's website currently says that the consultation paper on Part C of the Review "will follow shortly", which has been the case for more than nine months. When will the Department begin consulting on the promised Consumer Safeguards Review Part C?</li> <li>2. When Part C of the Consumer Safeguards Review commences, what are the timeframes for the review and the anticipated date for public release of the report?</li> <li>3. What engagement is planned to ensure the voices of vulnerable and disadvantaged consumers are heard during the review (e.g. consumer roundtables, focus groups, surveys, etc)?</li> </ol>	13/03/2020 Written
29.	5.1	Griff	Age restrictions on purchasing alcohol online	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recently, Minister Fletcher and Minister Ruston made a reference to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs to inquire into and report on age verification for online wagering and online pornography.</li> <li>2. Given alcohol is another legal product that is restricted to those aged over 18 and there are currently no effective age gating restrictions on the purchase of alcohol online, why is alcohol not included in the scope of the inquiry?</li> <li>3. What steps has the Department taken, or considering taking, to introduce</li> </ol>	13/03/2020 Written

				<p>safeguards or mechanisms to ensure minors are not able to purchase alcohol online?</p> <p>4. What options are there currently for verifying age when purchasing alcohol online?</p>	
30.	5.1	Kitching	Executive Management	<p>1. In relation to executive management for the Department and its agencies, can the following be provided for financial year 2019-20 to date:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The total number of executive management positions</li> <li>The aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.</li> <li>The change in the number of executive manager positions.</li> <li>The change in aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.</li> </ol>	13/03/2020 Written
31.	5.1 [Minister]	Kitching	Ministerial functions	<p>1. In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio, can the following information be provided from the date of the last answer for Supplementary Estimates 2019-20:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>List of functions.</li> <li>List of all attendees.</li> <li>Function venue.</li> <li>Itemised list of costs (GST <b>inclusive</b>).</li> <li>Details of any food served.</li> <li>Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage.</li> <li>Any available photographs of the function.</li> <li>Details of any entertainment provided.</li> </ol>	13/03/2020 Written
32.	5.1	Kitching	Departmental functions	<p>1. In relation to expenditure on any functions or official receptions etc hosted by the Department or agencies within the portfolio, can the following information be provided from the date of the last answer for Supplementary Estimates 2019-20:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>List of functions.</li> <li>List of all attendees.</li> <li>Function venue.</li> <li>Itemised list of costs (GST <b>inclusive</b>).</li> <li>Details of any food served.</li> <li>Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage.</li> <li>Any available photographs of the function.</li> <li>Details of any entertainment provided.</li> </ol>	13/03/2020 Written
33.	5.1	Kitching	Executive office upgrades	<p>Have any furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Secretary's office, or the offices of any Deputy Secretaries been upgraded from the date of the last answer for Supplementary Estimates 2019-20. If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST <b>inclusive</b>).</p>	13/03/2020 Written

<b>34.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Kitching</b>	<b>Facilities upgrades</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Were there any upgrades to facility premises at any of the Departments or agencies subsequent to the date of the last answer for Supplementary Estimates 2019-20? This includes but is not limited to: staff room refurbishments, kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new fridges, coffee machines, or other kitchen equipment.</li> <li>2. If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrades be provided together with an itemised list of costs (GST <b>inclusive</b>)?</li> <li>3. If so, can any photographs of the upgraded facilities be provided?</li> </ol>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>35.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Kitching</b>	<b>Staff travel</b>	What is the total cost of staff travel for departmental/agency employees for FY 2019-20 to date.	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>36.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Kitching</b>	<b>Legal costs</b>	What are the total legal costs for the Department/agency for FY 2019-20 to date?	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>37.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Kitching</b>	<b>Secretarial travel</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Can an itemised list of the costs of all domestic and international travel undertaken by the Secretary of the Department be provided from the date of the last answer for Supplementary Estimates 2019-20, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Flights for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the airline and class of travel.</li> <li>b. Ground transport for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials.</li> <li>c. Accommodation for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed.</li> <li>d. Meals and other incidentals for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided.</li> <li>e. Any available photographs documenting the Secretary's travel should also be provided.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>38.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Kitching</b>	<b>FOI</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Please list the number of Freedom of Information Act requests ('FOI requests') received by the Department for financial year 2019-20 to date.</li> <li>2. For 2019-20 to date, please provide: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The number of FOI requests the Department granted in full;</li> <li>b. The number of FOI requests the Department granted in part;</li> <li>c. The number of FOI requests the Department refused in full; and</li> <li>d. The number of FOI requests the Department refused for practical reasons under the Freedom of Information Act.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. For 2019-20 to date, please provide: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The number of times the Department failed to make any decision on a FOI request within the 30 day statutory period; and</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>

				<p>b. The number of times a request to the Department resulted in a practical refusal (i.e. no decision was made on the request).</p> <p>4. For 2019-20 to date, please provide:</p> <p>a. The number of times the Department's FOI decisions have been appealed to the OAIC; and</p> <p>b. The number of times has the OAIC overturned – in whole or in part – the Department's decision to refuse access to material.</p> <p>5. Please provide the staffing (both ASL and headcount) of staff at the Department who work exclusively on FOI requests, broken down by APS level (e.g. three EL1s, four APS6s, one SES) for 2019-20 to date.</p> <p>6. Please also list the number of officers who are designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 within the Department.</p> <p>7. In the past 12 months, has the Department seconded additional resources to processing Freedom of Information requests? If so, please detail those resources by APS level.</p> <p>8. Please provide the number of officers who are currently designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 within the Minister's office.</p> <p>9. Please provide the number of FOI requests currently under consideration by the Department. Please also provide the number of these requests that are currently overdue in response.</p> <p>10. Does the department consult or inform the Minister when it receives Freedom of Information requests? If so:</p> <p>a. How many times has this occurred in the past twelve months; and</p> <p>b. Please outline the process by which the Department consults the Minister.</p> <p>11. Has the Department consulted or informed another Department or agency about any FOI request in the past twelve months. If so, please provide the legal basis on which that consultation occurred (e.g. third party consultation, transfer of request).</p>	
<b>39.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Kitching</b>	<b>Briefings</b>	<p>1. Has the Department/agency or the Minister's office provided briefings to independents/minor parties in the Senate or House of Representatives since the date of the last answer for Supplementary Estimates 2019-20?</p> <p>If so, can the following be provided:</p> <p>a. The subject matter of the briefing.</p> <p>b. The location and date of the briefing.</p> <p>c. Who proposed the briefing?</p> <p>d. Attendees of the briefing by level/position</p>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>40.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Kitching</b>	<b>Acting Minister</b>	<p>1. Can the Department provide all leave periods of the portfolio Minister since the</p>	<b>13/03/2020</b>

			<b>arrangements</b>	<p>date of the last answer for Supplementary Estimates 2019-20?</p> <p>2. Can the Department further provide acting Minister arrangements for each leave period?</p>	<b>Written</b>
<b>41.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Kitching</b>	<b>Market research</b>	<p>1. Does the Department/agency undertake any polling or market research in relation to government policies or proposed policies?</p> <p>2. If so, can the Department provide an itemised list for financial year 2019-20 to date:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subject matter</li> <li>Company</li> <li>Costs</li> <li>Contract date period</li> </ol> <p>3. Can the Department/agency advise what, if any, research was shared with the Minister or their office and the date and format in which this occurred.</p>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>42.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Kitching</b>	<b>Advertising and information campaigns</b>	<p>1. What is the Department/agency's total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns for the financial year 2019-20 to date?</p> <p>2. What advertising and information campaigns has the Department/agency run in this time? For each campaign, please provide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When approval was first sought.</li> <li>The date of approval, including whether the advertising went through the Independent Campaign Committee process.</li> <li>the timeline for each campaign, including any variation to the original proposed timeline.</li> </ol> <p>3. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in each period be provided?</p>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>43.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Kitching</b>	<b>Promotional merchandise</b>	<p>1. What is the Department/agency's total expenditure on promotional merchandise for the financial year 2019-20 to date?</p> <p>2. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all promotional merchandise contracts in that period please be provided?</p> <p>3. Can photographs or samples of relevant promotional merchandise please be provided?</p>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>44.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Kitching</b>	<b>Ministerial overseas travel</b>	<p>1. Can an itemised list of the costs met by the department or agency for all international travel undertaken by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio please be provided from the of date the last answer for the Supplementary Estimates 2019-20, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flights for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials, together with the airline and class of travel.</li> <li>Ground transport for the Minister and any accompanying members of</li> </ol>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>

				<p>the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials.</p> <p>c. Accommodation for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed.</p> <p>d. Meals and other incidentals for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided.</p> <p>e. Any available photographs documenting the Minister's travel should also be provided.</p>	
<b>45.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Kitching</b>	<b>Social media influencers</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on social media influencers for financial year 2019-20 to date?</li> <li>2. What advertising or information campaigns did the Department/agency use social media influencers to promote?</li> <li>3. Can a copy of all relevant social media influencer posts please be provided?</li> <li>4. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all relevant social media influencer contracts please be provided?</li> </ol>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>46.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Kitching</b>	<b>Commissioned Reports and Reviews</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Since the date of the last answer for Supplementary Estimates 2019-20, how many Reports or Reviews have been commissioned. Please provide details of each report including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Date commissioned.</li> <li>b. Date report handed to Government.</li> <li>c. Date of public release.</li> <li>d. Terms of Reference.</li> <li>e. Committee members and/or Reviewers.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost.</li> <li>3. The background and credentials of the Review personnel.</li> <li>4. The remuneration arrangements applicable to the Review personnel, including fees, disbursements and travel</li> <li>5. The cost of any travel attached to the conduct of the Review.</li> <li>6. How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?</li> <li>7. What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to each report if it has not already done so?</li> </ol>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>47.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Kitching</b>	<b>Board appointments</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide an update of portfolio boards, including board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members from the date of the last answer for Supplementary Estimates Round 2019-20.</li> <li>2. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio</li> </ol>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. What has been the total value of all Board Director fees and disbursements paid?</li> <li>4. What is the value of all domestic travel by Board Directors?</li> <li>5. What is the value of all international travel by Board Directors?</li> </ol>	
<b>48.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Kitching</b>	<b>Appointments – briefs prepared</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many times has the Department prepared a brief for statutory authorities, executive agencies, advisory boards, government business enterprises or any other Commonwealth body which includes a reference to a former Liberal or National member of parliament at a state, territory or federal level, since the answer was provided for Supplementary Estimates 2019-20?</li> <li>2. For each brief prepared, can the Department advise: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The former member.</li> <li>b. The board or entity.</li> <li>c. Whether the request originated from the Minister’s office.</li> <li>d. Whether the appointment was made.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>49.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Kitching</b>	<b>Stationery</b>	How much has been spent on ministerial stationery requirements in financial year 2019-20 to date.	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>50.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Kitching</b>	<b>Media monitoring</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the each Minister's office for financial year 2019-20 to date? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Which agency or agencies provided these services?</li> <li>b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided</li> <li>c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year FY 2019-20?</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for financial year 2019-20 to date? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Which agency or agencies provided these services?</li> <li>b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract Notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided</li> <li>c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year FY 2019-20?</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>51.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Kitching</b>	<b>Communications staff</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following:</li> <li>2. By Department or agency: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location.</li> <li>b. How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location?</li> <li>d. How many are graphic designers.</li> <li>e. How many are media managers.</li> <li>f. How many organise events.</li> </ul> <p>3. Do any departments/agencies have independent media studios?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. If yes, why.</li> <li>b. When was it established?</li> <li>c. What is the set up cost?</li> <li>d. What is the ongoing cost?</li> <li>e. How many staff work there and what are their classifications.</li> </ul>	
<b>52.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Kitching</b>	<b>Departmental staff in Minister's office</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Can the Department provide an update on the total number of departmental staff seconded to ministerial offices, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Duration of secondment.</li> <li>b. APS level.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Can the Department provide an update on the total number of DLOs/CLOs for ministerial offices including APS level?</li> </ol>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>53.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Kitching</b>	<b>CDDA Payments</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many claims have been received under the Compensation for Detriment caused by Defective Administration scheme (CDDA) by the Department for financial year 2019-20 to date?</li> <li>2. How many claims were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Accepted.</li> <li>b. Rejected.</li> <li>c. Under consideration.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Of the accepted claims, can the Department provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Details of the claim, subject to relevant privacy considerations</li> <li>b. The date payment was made</li> <li>c. The decision maker.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>54.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Kitching</b>	<b>Congestion busting</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Can the Department/agency provide an update on how it is "congestion busting" in relation to bureaucratic bottlenecks and regulatory bottlenecks.</li> <li>2. Have any additional resources been allocated within the Department to achieve "congestion busting" within the department since an answer was provided for the Supplementary Estimates round 2019-20.</li> </ol>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>55.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Kitching</b>	<b>Recruitment</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What amount has been expended by the department/agency on external recruitment or executive search services in financial year 2019-20 to date?</li> <li>2. Which services were utilised. Can an itemised list be provided?</li> </ol>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>56.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Kitching</b>	<b>Staffing</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many full-time equivalent staff are engaged at 1 March 2020? How does this differ from the figures presented in Budget Paper 4 in the 2019-20 Budget?</li> <li>2. How many of these positions are (a) on-going and (b) non-ongoing.</li> </ol>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>

				<p>3. How many redundancies have occurred in financial year 2019-20 to date? How many were:</p> <p>a. Voluntary</p> <p>b. involuntary.</p> <p>4. How many of those redundancies occurred as a result of departmental restructuring. What is the total cost of those redundancies?</p> <p>5. What was the total value in dollar terms of all termination payments paid to exiting staff?</p> <p>6. How much overtime or equivalent has been paid to staff in financial year 2019-20 to date?</p> <p>7. How many section 37 notices under the Public Service Act 1999 have been offered in financial year 2019-20 to date?</p>	
57.	5.1	Kitching	Comcare	<p>1. For financial year 2019-20 to date, can the Department advise whether it has been the subject of any investigations involving Comcare. If yes, please provide details of the circumstances and the status.</p> <p>2. Can the Department advise the number of sanctions it has received from Comcare in the FY2019-20 to date?</p>	13/03/2020 Written
58.	5.1	Kitching	Fair Work Commission	For financial year 2019-20 to date, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Commission within the Department or agency?	13/03/2020 Written
59.	5.1	Kitching	Fair Work Ombudsman	For financial year 2019-20 to date, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Ombudsman within the Department or agency?	13/03/2020 Written
60.	5.1	Kitching	Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner	For financial year 2019-20 to date, how many references have been made to the Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner within the Department or agency?	13/03/2020 Written
61.	5.1	Kitching	Public Interest Disclosures	For financial year 2019-20 to date, how many public interest disclosures have been received?	13/03/2020 Written
62.	5.1	Green	NRS – payments to ACE	<p>a. How much money has Australian Communications Exchange been paid to deliver the NRS since September 2013?</p> <p>b. Has the Department undertaken any inquiries into why media reports saying ACE’s liquidators have applied to ASIC to have their books destroyed? Why are they doing this?</p>	16/03/2020 Written
63.	5.1	Green	NRS – ACE contract renewal	<p>With reference to renew the contract with ACE on two separate occasions since 2017:</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> I take it the minister for communications was briefed on each renewal of the contract with ACE.</p> <p><b>Ms Silleri:</b> Yes, the minister was being kept up to date. The minister would be briefed at each occasion that the contract would be extended or renewed.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> What about the finance minister?</p> <p><b>Ms Silleri:</b> If there was a change required to the overall funding arrangements then I</p>	16/03/2020 Written

				<p>think we do need to consult with the finance minister, <b>but on each of the occasions of this particular contract extension it was within the initial funding proposal.</b></p> <p>a. Given annual NRS funding has increased beyond \$22 million, and the Department has previously claimed a \$22 million cap was set by Labor, please clarify how the Department reconciles this position with the quoted comment above that the particular contract extension was “within the initial funding proposal”?</p> <p>b. What is the initial funding proposal being referred to by the Departmental official? What is the amount? When was it set?</p>	
64.	5.1	Green	NRS – tender bid	<p>Will the Department rule out that it received a compliant NRS tender bid for \$22 million or less that included CapTel? Or did it in fact receive such a bid?</p>	16/03/2020 Written
65.	5.1	Green	NRS – conflicts of interest relating to ACE and AccessCom	<p>With reference to the passage below:  <b>Senator URQUHART:</b> In the lead-up to the previous Senate estimates hearings, a report appeared in the Australian Financial Review relating to conflicts of interest amongst the directors of the Australian Communication Exchange—ACE. We then subsequently put a question on notice, which the department responded to with a very cleverly worded non-answer. So we didn't actually get an answer. The committee was disappointed with that response and the secretariat wrote to the department requesting a proper answer. In the revised QON the department admitted that Mr Gilliland became a director of AccessCom on 11 April 2018 to 20 August 2018. So obviously the government and the department would have been aware of that. Furthermore, this clear conflict of interest was only detected in December 2018, when the department conducted an ASIC search. Is that a correct sort of view of what happened?  <b>Ms Silleri:</b> I don't think we had a view that there was a clear conflict of interest. How is this not a conflict of interest?</p>	16/03/2020 Written
66.	5.1	Green	NRS – payments to ACE II	<p>With reference to the below:  <b>Senator URQUHART:</b> Have all contract payments to ACE been made?  <b>Ms Silleri:</b> Yes, they have.  <b>Senator URQUHART:</b> So the department didn't draft the letter which went to the commission—or did they?  <b>Ms Silleri:</b> Could you repeat the question?  <b>Senator URQUHART:</b> Did the department draft the letter which went to the commission?  <b>Ms Silleri:</b> No, we did not.  <b>Senator URQUHART:</b> So that came out of the minister's office?  <b>Ms Silleri:</b> Correct.</p> <p>a. Did the Minister or his office ever convey to the Department, prior to writing to the ACNC, that they had concerns that ACE and their associated entities had</p>	16/03/2020 Written

				<p>potentially used funds or assets for non-charitable purposes? If yes, on what date was the Department advised?</p> <p>b. Why were all payments to ACE made if the Minister had concerns that ACE were not operating as a not for profit and appropriating money in accordance with the law?</p>	
67.	5.1	Green	NRS - Audits	<p>a. Please provide a link, or table a copy, of every audit received by the Department of Communications of the Australian Communications Exchange since June 2015.</p> <p>b. Please list the names of every auditor dating back to 2012, for each financial year.</p>	16/03/2020 Written
68.	5.1	Green	CAPTEL – payments to ACE	How much money has Australian Communications Exchange been paid to deliver the NRS since February 2018?	16/03/2020 Written
69.	5.1	Green	CAPTEL – CapTel call minutes	<p>a. When did the Department first develop concerns about the increase in CapTel call minutes?</p> <p>b. Were these concerns communicated in the NRS discussion paper issued by the Department? If yes, please provide all the relevant page references.</p> <p>c. Were these concerns communicated to ACE in writing? If yes, please provide the date and table the letter.</p> <p>d. Were these concerns communicated to AccessComm in writing? If yes, please provide the date and table the letter.</p> <p>e. Did the Department, at any point, formally request ACE or AccessComm cease the distribution of CapTel handsets until eligibility criteria could be tightened? If yes, what response did it receive?</p> <p>f. Did the Department ever have direct written communications with AccessComm? If yes, when did those communications commence?</p>	16/03/2020 Written
70.	5.1	Green	CAPTEL – distribution of handsets - audit	<p>Did the Department of Communications ever seek to undertake its own audit into the distribution of CapTel handsets and who they were going to?</p> <p>If yes, when did the Department do this? And what were the findings of the audit? If no, why not?</p>	16/03/2020 Written
71.	5.1	Green	CAPTEL – requesting data from the previous NRS provider	<p>a. When did it first occur to the Department that having information about CapTel users would be useful?</p> <p>b. Why did the Government wait until October 2019 to issue a determination to obtain information about CapTel users? Is there any legal reason this determination could not have been issued sooner?</p>	16/03/2020 Written
72.	5.1	Green	CAPTEL – distribution of handsets	<p>a. What concerns did the Department of Communications have about how CapTel handsets were distributed?</p> <p>b. On how many occasions was the NRS contracts renewed?</p> <p>c. Did the Department of Communications ever propose, or seek to negotiate,</p>	16/03/2020 Written

				eligibility criteria to ensure CapTel handsets were going to users who needed? If yes, please provide the details and dates	
73.	5.1	Green	CAPTEL – distribution of handsets eligibility criteria	a. What eligibility criteria applied to the distribution of CapTel handsets? b. Who developed this criteria? c. Who enforced the criteria? d. When was the criteria developed? e. Did the Department sign off on it? If yes, when?	16/03/2020 Written
74.	5.1	Green	NRS – funding	The Department of Communications has previously claimed the then Labor Government capped National Relay Service funding at \$22 million per annum. If this is the case, how did NRS funding go beyond \$22 million in later financial years? Did the current Finance Minister make a decision permitting this to occur?	16/03/2020 Written
75.	5.1	Green	NRS – funding II	The Department of Communications has previously claimed the then Labor Government capped National Relay Service funding at \$22 million per annum. If this is the case, how did NRS funding go beyond \$22 million in later financial years? Did the current Finance Minister make a decision permitting this to occur?	16/03/2020 Written
76.	5.1	Green	ABC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Following the unprecedented bushfire season, the Government is continuing with its indexation pause to the ABC, which amounts to a funding reduction of \$83.7 million. Is now the right time to cut ABC funding when climate change means there will be increasing need for emergency broadcasting by the ABC?</li> <li>2. The ABC provides trusted news to Australians at a time when public interest journalism is in decline. With the announced closure of the AAP newswire service, is now the right time to cut ABC funding when many areas of Australia are underserved when it comes to local news?</li> <li>3. On everything from elections to the bushfires and to COVID-19, misinformation and disinformation is on the rise around the globe. In an era of low trust, the ABC is a bastion of trust for the Australian people. Is now the right time to cut ABC funding when Australians need trusted sources of information now more than ever?</li> <li>4. The cost of producing Australian and children’s screen content is rising. Is now the right time to cut ABC funding when commercial broadcasters are threatening to halt production of kids TV?</li> <li>5. As part of Australia’s Pacific Step-Up, Australia has returned the Pacific to the front and centre of our strategic outlook, foreign policy and personal connections. The ABC provides international broadcasting, including in the region, and has deep connections in the Pacific. Is now the right time to cut ABC funding when should be ‘stepping up’ in the Pacific?</li> <li>6. The ABC is a platform that supports public interest journalism, local news, emergency broadcasting, trusted information, children’s content and international broadcasting. In view of the recent bushfires, the threatened halt</li> </ol>	16/03/2020 Written

				to children's television production, the announced closure of AAP and the COVID-19 pandemic, does the Government still maintain that now is the right time to cut ABC funding by \$83.7 million?	
77.	5.1	Green	Community television	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Has the Department provided any advice to the Minister for Communications on Community Television in Australia in the past 12 months? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. If so, when?</li> <li>b. If so, how?</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Does the Department have a Spectrum team?</li> <li>3. Is the Department aware of any alternative use for the spectrum currently being used by community television broadcasters Channel 31 Melbourne and Channel 44 Adelaide? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. If so, what use?</li> <li>b. If so, when will such use be in effect?</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Would a decision by the Minister to extend the licences for community television broadcasting services be consistent with the object of the <i>Radiocommunications Act 1992</i> to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. maximise the overall public benefit derived from using the radiofrequency spectrum?; and/or</li> <li>b. make adequate provision of the spectrum for use by community services?</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. Would a decision by the Minister to extend the licences for community television broadcasting services be consistent with the objects of the <i>Broadcasting Services Act 1992</i> to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. promote the availability to audiences throughout Australia of a diverse range of radio and television services offering entertainment, education and information?; and/or</li> <li>b. promote the role of broadcasting services in developing and reflecting a sense of Australian identity, character and cultural diversity?</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. In 2017, the Government announced a \$50 million fund to support innovation in the provision of public interest journalism by regional and small publishers, the majority of which remains unspent. Community television broadcasting supports local news and provides a training pathway for journalists and TV presenters as well as innovation in the provision of election coverage. Why is the government granting taxpayer money to regional and small publishers to support public interest journalism with one hand, while undermining the work community television broadcasters do to support public interest journalism, with the other?</li> <li>7. Will extending the broadcast licences for community television broadcasters cost the Government anything? If so, please specify.</li> </ol>	16/03/2020 Written

				8. How does sending community television broadcasting services to an online-only delivery model align with the objects of the <i>Radiocommunications Act 1992</i> and the <i>Broadcasting Services Act 1992</i> ?	
78.	5.1	Green	VAST	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What, if anything, has the Government done to extend Viewer Access Satellite Television beyond June 2020?</li> <li>2. What, if anything, has the Government done to extend Viewer Access Satellite Television beyond 2021?</li> <li>3. How long does the Government plan to extend the program for and how will this be done?</li> </ol>	16/03/2020 Written
79.	5.1	Green	Government response and implementation roadmap for the digital platforms inquiry	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Does the roadmap have a clear destination? If so, what is it?</li> <li>2. Is a platform-neutral regulatory framework the destination of the roadmap, or is the roadmap a series of steps to explore a potential platform-neutral regulatory framework?</li> <li>3. At the recent March 2020 Senate Estimates hearing a Department official stated that “the government announced the intention to move towards a platform neutral regulatory framework covering online and offline delivery of media content” and also that “it’s to look at the extent to which a platform-neutral or regulatory equivalent across platforms is possible”. What are the challenges in moving towards a platform neutral regulatory framework?</li> <li>4. At the recent March 2020 Senate Estimates hearing the Minister stated of the roadmap that “part of this is preparing a detailed road map”. Is the current roadmap a roadmap for preparing a detailed road map? If so, when will work on the detailed roadmap be done and when will the detailed roadmap be ready?</li> <li>5. At the Additional Estimates 2019-20 hearing the Minister stated that “extensive work” has gone on to get to the three destinations: to promote competition, to enhance consumer protection and to support a sustainable Australian media landscape in the digital age. Please outline what work has gone in to identifying those destinations/objectives, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. What Department resources / teams have been involved, and over what timeframe;</li> <li>b. What external resources / consultants have been involved, and over what timeframe;</li> <li>c. What program/project management methodology, if any, has been used, and over what timeframe.</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. The current regulatory policy of the Broadcasting Services Act 1992 is that different levels of regulatory control be applied across the range of broadcasting services, datacasting services, internet services and online content services according to the degree of influence that different types of those services are able to exert in shaping community views in Australia. What</li> </ol>	16/03/2020 Written

				<p>evidence does the Department have about the “degree of influence” exerted by the range of services available to Australians today, including SVOD services and commercial television broadcasting services?</p> <p>7. How does the “degree of influence” regulatory policy under the Broadcasting Services Act 1992 inform the review processes underway as part of the roadmap?</p> <p>8. Does the roadmap include consideration of anti-siphoning rules? If not, why not?</p>	
<b>80.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Consultation</b>	<p>Please provide details of every formal consultation process conducted by the Department of Communications in the last 18 months, specifying:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>topic/issue;</li> <li>whether consultation was open (i.e. to the public at large) or closed (i.e. to a select group of stakeholders);</li> <li>date of consultation;</li> <li>consultation period;</li> <li>consultation documents supplied;</li> <li>number of submissions received.</li> </ol>	<b>16/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>81.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Screen industry</b>	<p>At the Additional Estimates 2019-20 hearing, a Department official stated that “certainly the department has the Bureau of Communications and Arts Research...that looks at the contribution of the creative industries to the economy”.</p> <p>Please specify the work that has been done concerning the potential growth in the future for the screen industry, including economic and employment benefits.</p>	<b>16/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>82.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Public interest journalism/news</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What work, if any, is the Department’s Regional Communications Team doing to address the decline in local news provision in regional Australia? Please specify.</li> <li>What work, if any, is the Department’s News &amp; Media Industry Team doing to address the decline in local news provision in regional Australia? Please specify.</li> <li>Has the Government obtained costings for the replacement of an AAP-style newswire service?</li> <li>Has the Department consulted with the ACCC and/or the ACMA on the announced closure of the AAP newswire service? If so, when?</li> <li>Does the Department regard there to be market failure in the provision of local news or public interest journalism in any part of Australia? If so, which parts (please specify)?</li> </ol>	<b>16/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>83.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>\$17m for Free TV</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is the status of the contract between the Department and Free TV to administer \$17million for programming in the Pacific? Please provide: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contract signed date</li> <li>Contract parties</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<b>16/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. Contract term</li> <li>d. Contract milestones</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. What programming has or will be provided to Pacific broadcasters, and who are the relevant rights holder of each program?</li> <li>3. To which Pacific broadcasters has or will the programming be provided?</li> <li>4. How has or will programming be selected for supply? Please specify the selection process and steps.</li> <li>5. How has or will the programming be supplied?</li> <li>6. Does the Department or DFAT have any oversight role in relation to the contract or the provision of programs to Pacific broadcasters? If so, please specify.</li> <li>7. To date, what engagement has the Department had with the following in relation to this initiative, and when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. with Pacific broadcasters</li> <li>b. with Free TV</li> <li>c. with DFAT</li> <li>d. with PMO</li> <li>e. with DHA.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	
<b>84.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>ABC National Emergency Broadcasting Plan</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is the Department investigating the need for a National Emergency Broadcasting Plan, as proposed by the Friends of the ABC? (information is available on ABC Friends website: <a href="http://abcfriends.org.au">abcfriends.org.au</a>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. If so, when will such a plan be available for public consultation?</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Have any preliminary financial costings for the implementation of a National Emergency Broadcasting Plan been made for future budgetary consideration?</li> </ol>	<b>16/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>85.</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Travel</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, can you identify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The strategy for international travel for staff that the Department has; and</li> <li>b. The governance processes for signing off on each international trip throughout the organisation.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. For financial years ending 30 June 2019, 30 June 2018, 30 June 2017, 30 June 2016 and 30 June 2015, please provide details of the budget and expenditure for international travel for the following areas of the Department: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. total Department;</li> <li>b. the Secretary;</li> <li>c. the CEO;</li> <li>d. each Division;</li> <li>e. each Branch;</li> <li>f. each Section.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. For financial years ending 30 June 2019, 30 June 2018, 30 June 2017, 30 June</li> </ol>	<b>16/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>

				2016 and 30 June 2015, please provide details of individuals who travelled overseas on behalf of the department, and the related total number of days spent overseas by each individual on behalf of the department.	
86.	5.1	Carr	A4 photocopy paper	<p>From which country does the department and its agencies source A4 photo copy paper?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If from multiple countries please provide a breakdown of country of origin in percentage terms.</li> </ul> <p>From which country does the Minister's Office source A4 photo copy paper?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If from multiple countries please provide a breakdown of country of origin in percentage terms.</li> </ul>	16/03/2020 Written
87.	6.1	Green	Announcement of departmental merger	<p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> When were staff told about the decision to not have a specific reference to arts in the department name?</p> <p><b>Mr Atkinson:</b> I suspect the staff found out at the same time as everybody else: when the announcement was made of the merger of the two departments.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> Through news outlets or an email to staff? Could you be a bit more specific?</p> <p><b>Mr Atkinson:</b> The machinery-of-government changes were announced by the Prime Minister in December.</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> 5 December.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> That wasn't my question. I asked: were they notified in a meeting or by email, or did they find out on Sky News? How did they find out?</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> I can't remember. I think it was by email from the secretary of the department.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> Do you want to take that on notice to make sure?</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> Yes. It was after the Prime Minister's announcement. The secretary of the department forwarded to all staff the details of the administrative changes, and that was on the 5th.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 87
88.	6.1	Marielle Smith	APY Lands	<p><b>Senator MARIELLE SMITH:</b> I appreciate, Minister, that you referenced a media release made today or yesterday about the roundtable. Can you point me to any other public comments Minister Fletcher has made on the issue concerning reports of Indigenous artist exploitation in the APY Lands?</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> In the APY Lands—there have been speeches made and other references. We'd need to take it on notice. I'm not sure exactly whether it relates specifically to the APY Lands issue, but certainly we know that the minister has visited a number of Indigenous art centres, and central to his purpose for being there was not only to show support but to better understand some of the on-the-ground experiences of Indigenous artists and how they can best commercially exploit their talents and works. At each of</p>	03/03/2020 Page 94

				<p>those, he has made statements or speeches in support of the sector. But specifically around the APY Lands matter, we'd need to check on that.</p> <p><b>Senator MARIELLE SMITH:</b> Can you take that on notice, specifically around APY Lands and artist exploitation.</p> <p><b>Senator Reynolds:</b> I'll take that on notice on behalf of the minister. My understanding, specifically in relation to APY Lands, is that he has, yes.</p>	
89.	6.1	Marielle Smith	Indigenous arts exploitation	<p><b>Senator MARIELLE SMITH:</b> And how significant a problem would you say Indigenous artist exploitation is not just in the APY lands but across Australia?</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> It's a problem worthy of significant attention.</p> <p><b>Senator MARIELLE SMITH:</b> How many people in the department are dedicated to working on this issue?</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> It's hard to say, because they work across a whole lot of things, like Indigenous languages—and the connection to Indigenous languages and Indigenous arts is quite close. It would be two sections, you'd think.</p> <p><b>Dr Arnott:</b> Yes. It's hard to say precisely, because people work on multiple parts, and there's a visual arts section that works across the visual arts area.</p> <p><b>Senator MARIELLE SMITH:</b> Can you take on notice for me how many people specifically have been working on this issue and are working on it in an ongoing way?</p> <p><b>Dr Arnott:</b> Sure.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 95
90.	6.1	Green	ANMM – Endeavour replica's circumnavigation of Australia	<p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> I know we are running out of time. I just want to ask a few questions on an issue that is supposedly going to occur before our next estimates, so we won't have a chance to ask you next time. It's just on the Endeavour circumnavigation. Hopefully the right people are around to answer questions about that. Very briefly, it's a planned circumnavigation of the Endeavour replica run by the Australian National Maritime Museum. It's part of the arts portfolio, as I understand it. It was announced by the Prime Minister up my way in Far North Queensland in January 2019. In the press release which announced the funding, former arts minister Fifield was quoted as saying that the Endeavour replica will set sail from Sydney in March 2020 and head south to Hobart before turning north to commence a full circumnavigation of mainland Australia. There was a map that was included to illustrate the route that the ship would take. But, according to the Maritime Museum website now, that particular leg has been cancelled, and the journey now begins in May, from Sydney to Newcastle. Can you explain what's happened and why there's been a change from when the Prime Minister made this announcement in January 2019?</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> We'll take it on notice. The Maritime Museum is best placed to provide the technical details, but the circumnavigation will commence in April from Kurnell, from the Kamay site, and proceed anticlockwise around Australia, with what was going to be the first bit now the end bit.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> The website says it will start in May. There is no April on there.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 96

				<p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> It's 29 April, so it might be 1 May.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> It says 6 May.</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> We'll come back to you with the specifics. They've got 6 May against which location?</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> Sydney.</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> Okay. Before that there will be an event at Kamay.</p> <p><b>Senator Reynolds:</b> Senator Green, just on that, my understanding is that nothing's been cancelled; it's just that, as has been identified, that leg has now been switched around to better coordinate with other activities.</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> Exactly.</p> <p><b>Senator Reynolds:</b> My understanding is that it's a scheduling issue.</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> It is a scheduling issue, exactly.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> Are tickets that are being sold to passengers to go on the various legs of the journey helping to fund any of the costs of the circumnavigation?</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> The answer is yes, but the details would need to go to the National Maritime Museum. It's a small part of the contribution to the broader cost of the circumnavigation.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> Some of the tickets are \$10,000 each, so it's a pretty big contribution.</p> <p><b>Mr Atkinson:</b> We can take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator Reynolds: Take it on notice for the Maritime Museum.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> I will also ask you to take on notice how many tickets have been sold compared to how many are available. Are there any concerns about the viability of the journey, given that quite a number of the tickets remain available till now?</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> No. The circumnavigation will take place.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> It starts in April, and there are still tickets available, and they cost up to \$10,000.</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> It's a minor part of it. We're speaking with the Maritime Museum. The ticket sales won't jeopardise the voyage.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> Has there been any problem attracting appropriate crew for the ship?</p> <p><b>Mr Eccles:</b> I'd need to check with the Maritime Museum.</p>	
91.	6.1	Hanson-Young	Arts and tourism	It was recently reported that arts tourism could be major factor in rebuilding communities devastated by bushfires, with 25.7 million arts trips taken domestically in 2018 alone. What is the department doing to track the benefit of the arts to tourism and bushfire recovery in communities?	06/03/2020 Written
92.	6.1	McKim	Australian music industry	1. Music Tasmania has recently been informed that they will not receive funding from Arts Tasmania's Organisations Grants (2019-20) which will force them to cease operations. In 2020, Tasmania is the only music industry nationally	13/03/2020 Written

				<p>without State-supported representation. Considering the arts industry contributed \$66 million to Tasmania’s economy in the past financial year, why has there been no intervention to save Music Tasmania?</p> <p>2. Will, or could the Government’s commitment of \$30.9 million in new funding for The Australian Music Industry provide any support for Music Tasmania and other music industry peak bodies?</p> <p>a. If not, why not?</p> <p>b. If so, how?</p> <p>3. On a per capita basis, how much money did the government provide to each state and territory’s peak music peak bodies in the last financial year?</p> <p>a. Please provide a state-by-state breakdown.</p>	
93.	Australia Post	Green	Australia Post insurance operations	<p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> I want to begin by raising what is actually a pretty specific issue that's been raised by a constituent. We'll forward the personal details of this information to you, but the reason for raising it is to understand whether it's a more widespread issue, whether it's come up before and what Australia Post is doing. Bear with me while I explain the circumstances. This is in relation to Australia Post's insurance operations. This particular gentleman—we'll call him James—had home insurance from Australia Post last year for around \$4,500 and this year was sent an automatic renewal notice for \$4,400. However, when James went on the comparison site for that insurance policy he found there were many quotes for the same policy at around half the cost, and that actually one of the providers on the comparison website was Australia Post. He was able to go on to a comparison website and find the same policy for half the price of the renewal notice for that policy. What I'm interested in understanding initially is whether that is a broader issue in terms of sending out renewal notices. I'd also like to raise that he did make a complaint to Australia Post and was advised that ahead of the renewal of the policy it would be sent to an underwriting team that would let him know there had been an error and it would be calculated appropriately. Despite making that complaint and then receiving assurances, he was sent a notice from Australia Post stating the policy had in fact been renewed for the \$4,400 amount. Even though he made a complaint and there was an assurance given, that complaint and the assurance wasn't followed through. Firstly, is this a broader issue? How can someone be given a renewal notice for \$4,000 when you can get the same policy online for \$2,000? Is there a valid explanation? Without seeing the personal circumstances, I appreciate you won't be able to comment on that. Secondly, what are the processes in terms of customers making complaints and how does Australia Post capture these complaints and feed them back to ensure that, when someone is given an assurance like that, it is actually acted upon?</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Mr McNamara:</b> I'm not aware of this, but I'm happy to take that and come back to you around what that is. Through our complaints process that normally would go through</p>	03/03/2020 Page 17

				either online or through to our call centre. We would always refer that back and come back to the customer. I'm very comfortable in taking that on to come back to you with the information on notice.	
94.	Australia Post	Dean Smith	Revenue growth	<p><b>Senator DEAN SMITH:</b> Mr McNamara, you will probably be familiar with my line of questioning, because I want to talk about the offloading of mail and parcels destined for the Kimberley region. Australia Post was able to give me some responses to some of the questions I asked previously. Before we do that, Ms Holgate, in your remarks you talked about revenue growth having been four per cent for retail stores and six per cent for LPOs over the last six months. Do you have a metropolitan and regional breakdown for that revenue growth?</p> <p><b>Ms Holgate:</b> Mr McNamara would have that figure.</p> <p><b>Mr McNamara:</b> I can get that for you. We'll take that on notice and bring it back to you.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 20
95.	Australia Post	Dean Smith	Deliveries in the Kimberley	<p><b>Senator DEAN SMITH:</b> My questions go to the offloading of parcels and mail on the Qantas air route from Perth to the Kimberley. In response to some questions that I asked last time, in the period between June and October 2019, there were 14 instances of offloading. In the evidence you provided to me on notice, you mentioned that this resulted in a delay of just one day. You also mentioned to me how this was considered normal relative to the schedule. Can you explain to me what 'considered relative to the schedule' means and what would not be normal?</p> <p><b>Mr Barnes:</b> You may be aware that the Kimberley is an air sector that's very reliant on weather conditions and loads from aircraft. Often we lodge our mail for those flights and there are changes due to fuel requirements from the captain, passenger requirements and so forth. As to your question about what would constitute normal versus not normal—we normally see anywhere from about a 10 per cent change in flight schedule in relation to the weights we lodge. It's no different than if you were boarding a passenger flight. We all experience those changes from time to time. The Kimberley has also been impacted, as you may know, with the bus service through Greyhound. We had a few challenges there with security and safety. I'm pleased to say that's largely been addressed and it's on the improve. If there have been any changes, I'm happy to take that on notice and do a review for you.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 20-21
96.	Australia Post	Dean Smith	Incidence of offloading	<p><b>Senator DEAN SMITH:</b> What has been the incidence of offloading in the period October 2019 to this current period? You also mentioned that you have started supplementary uplifts on Sundays as a way of reducing the risks of delays on Monday. In how many instances have you utilised a supplementary uplift on Sundays and how successful has that been?</p> <p><b>Mr Barnes:</b> I will need to take that on notice, but we have opened up the facility for Sunday processing to take advantage of that weekend lodgement also to put that uplift through. I will come back to you on that.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 21

97.	Australia Post	Dean Smith	Late mail services in the Kimberley region	<p><b>Senator DEAN SMITH:</b> Explain to me what that means when the mail service arrives late in Broome. What does that mean for Fitzroy, Halls Creek et cetera?</p> <p><b>Mr Barnes:</b> I'll need to give you specifics on each location, but we do get advice on whether we've had, for example, aircraft delay or line haul delay or a specific offload for a reason. On that advice, we'll be notified of the volume of mail or parcels that we'll have coming through, and we'll make arrangements either through our StarTrack business, through our courier fleet, through our contractors or through our posties. One of the things we're doing now is bringing those fleets together to better allow for those eventualities.</p> <p><b>Senator DEAN SMITH:</b> I'm not quite sure what that means on the ground, but maybe you can provide me with some more written information about the practical consequence of that on the ground in the Kimberley region, including Halls Creek, Fitzroy Crossing, Derby.</p> <p><b>Mr Barnes:</b> Certainly.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 21
98.	Australia Post	Roberts	LPO representation allowance	<p><b>Senator ROBERTS:</b> As an aside, it seems that there are many complexities here and many unique individual circumstances. I understand that it is difficult to get around that. Perhaps we could deal with that more later.</p> <p>My second question is to the Minister. In 1993 a representation allowance was implemented to pay licensees for delivering the government's legislated community service obligations. These are important for Australia Post, I get that. Everyone here has acknowledged that Australia Post has a wonderful reputation in the bush, yet no-one knows what it really includes in that representation allowance or how it was formulated. This is from an LPO. This task now consumes more than four hours of a licensee's time and hundreds of dollars in salaries and cost each day. The meagre allowance doesn't cover the costs incurred for supporting local communities and customers who need support. At the 2014 Senate enquiry, Senator O'Sullivan said, 'Either get rid of the community service obligations or pay licensees fairly for the services they provide. They are not there to subsidise Australia Post or the nation.' Rural and regional communities need the support. We can see that. The LPOs are providing a very valuable service. Will the government now as a matter of urgency pledge an immediate review and increase in this grossly inadequate payment?</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Mr McNamara:</b> The rep allowance covers a number of different areas. I'm happy to send that to you to give you further information on that. Also, what sits inside a number of our payments, a lot of that customer service sits inside also the payments we pay in mail management and those other areas. It is complex in where it sits in multiple areas. Really we're looking at the services that Australia Post provide. As Ms Holgate said, there are many things that people come in for that are not inside what Australia Post operates.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 23

99.	Australia Post	Green	Revenue – assets	<p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> Okay. With the sale in Karratha that was referred to, what was the value of that?</p> <p><b>Ms Holgate:</b> The net result was a couple of hundred thousand, but we will take it on notice and clarify exactly—so less than a million dollars.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> So you'll take on notice what the value of the asset was?</p> <p><b>Ms Holgate:</b> Absolutely.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 25
100.	Australia Post	Green	Meetings with Minister Cormann	<p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> In terms of the report back to shareholding ministers, have you ever physically met with Minister Cormann to formally brief him on Australia Post?</p> <p><b>Ms Holgate:</b> I have previously met with Minister Cormann, yes.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> In regards to the review or just in general?</p> <p><b>Ms Holgate:</b> I've been here for 2½ years. That was something that happened very early on in my tenure. I've met with him about very many different things in this period.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> When was the most recent time?</p> <p><b>Ms Holgate:</b> The most recent time was probably, formally in my role in Australia Post—</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> This is a big place and people walk past each other a lot, especially during estimates, so not in the corridors or in the elevators but a formal meeting to discuss Australia Post?</p> <p><b>Ms Holgate:</b> If I recall correctly, and I will have to take it on notice in case I have forgotten something, I last formally met with him around the period of time when we were seeking support for the BPR, which would have been about six months ago.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 26
101.	Australia Post	Green	Deterioration in results	<p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> Can I come back to get some clarity on the letter business figures that you gave earlier. We went through the losses and then the profit from 2014 through to 2018, and then I asked you what was different about the 2018-2019 year, when the \$40 million loss was reported. In the years 2014 to 2018, volumes of letters declined, I'm assuming. I think it was actually 700 million letters, to be exact. We had that same increase of new points of delivery, new houses being built. I assume that the EBA throughout that time also included an increase in wages, as it should, to keep up with the cost of living. That doesn't explain what was different about the 2018-2019 period, so why did it deteriorate so quickly over that period compared to the previous years?</p> <p><b>Ms Holgate:</b> I'm more than happy to give to all the people in the Senate a more detailed breakdown with actual numbers, but actually several things did happen in that period of time. In your own comments, you remarked that on 1 January 2016 a very large increase went through the price of stamps. That took place over six months of that financial year. It didn't have a total benefit into that year to the following years. The second thing that happened, as I said to you, was the impact of the UPU—the benefit of our posties increasingly carrying parcels, which has helped subsidise the letter business and the volume changes. If it would help, I'm happy to give you the waterfall of what's happened up and down so you can have the clarity of that position.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 24 and 27

				<p>...</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> I've got some very important questions to ask, unfortunately. I've got one last question, Ms Holgate. You offered to put some detailed information about the \$200 million deterioration in the 2018 and 2019 period on notice. Can you just explain the detail and what you're intending to put on notice? I'd like to formally request that, thank you.</p> <p><b>Ms Holgate:</b> No problem.</p>	
102.	Australia Post	Urquhart	Price increases to business mail products	<p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> Thank you. I just want to talk about the mail that comes out of—the business mail products. The price on the basic postage rate in stamps recently has been increased by 10 per cent—the first in I think four years. But the bulk of the mail being processed comes out of that business mail products as I understand it. Have these prices been held for four years? If they haven't, by what percentage have they increased in that business mail area?</p> <p><b>Ms Holgate:</b> I am going to pass to Mr McNamara, because he will be able to give you a much clearer and more accurate answer than myself.</p> <p><b>Mr McNamara:</b> Senator, yes, they've increased over the four years. I will take on notice and get you the breakup of what those changes are. We do have increases that happen annually over the different categories of mail that we have.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> In each of the four years there has been an increase?</p> <p><b>Mr McNamara:</b> There will be a different increase depending on different products, but I can get that breakdown.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> Okay. So each product has a different percentage increase?</p> <p><b>Mr McNamara:</b> Depending on the price and where it sits, so it's very different.</p> <p><b>Ms Holgate:</b> Senator, we will definitely give you that detail. The BPR is a rate that's set and depending on where that rate is set the other products actually work as a percentage to it. So you can't like just have a BPR over here and then change rates differently over here. And it is really important to us not only here domestically. This is addressing one of the issues I was raising with your colleague, which was about inbound terminal due payments. If our BPR is set too low relative to other countries in the world, actually they set our terminal due too low.</p> <p><b>Senator URQUHART:</b> If you can provide that, that would be great. Thank you.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 27
103.	Australia Post	Roberts	LPO revenue and business	<p>1. I refer to my question: “1. I hear that Australia Post is poaching business from its own licensees. Private senders of parcels are being approached directly by Australia Post and being offered a discounted rate. Australia Post are undercutting their own licensees and this is clearly poaching. The losses for just one licensee are estimated at \$20,000-\$30,000 p.a., and many more licensees have similar complaints. This would appear to be a blatant and wilful breach of the Licenced Post Office Agreement and it may well constitute a breach of contract and allow rescission of the LPO agreement and/or damages. If I</p>	13/03/2020 Written

				<p>average the poaching losses across 2,900 LPO's then Australia Post is liable for \$87,000,000 p.a. Will Australia Post compensate the LPO's for these losses? What will you do to about this now?"</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Please provide a detailed response including but not limited to - have agents/officers of Australia Post been directly approaching private senders of parcels to negotiate/ take this business from LPO's and what impacts will this have on Licensed Post Office revenues?</li> <li>3. LPO Licensees are asserting that it is Australia Post Corporate themselves, who have access to their client list, transactions and other data, who poach LPO business; is this data used to approach LPO clients, please comment?</li> </ol>	
<b>104.</b>	<b>Australia Post</b>	<b>Roberts</b>	<b>Greenethorpe LPO</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I refer to my question: "3. Last year I drew your attention to the plight of the many Licensees who are doing it tough. When I subsequently drew your attention to the distress and mental health of one licensee, instead of offering mental health support, you sent an investigator - why?"</li> <li>2. Please advise who was this person who went to Greenethorpe LPO NSW, are they an employee or contractor, and what was the scope of their work, under whose instructions did they attend, at what total cost and please provide a copy of their report?</li> </ol>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>105.</b>	<b>Australia Post</b>	<b>Roberts</b>	<b>Licence agreements with LPOs</b>	What have you done to improve communications and engagement with LPO licensees and what have you done to explain in detail the license agreement you have with LPO's and what have you told them regarding improving the remuneration and conditions for all Australia Post Licensees since last estimates?	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>106.</b>	<b>Australia Post</b>	<b>Roberts</b>	<b>Manual handling surcharge</b>	<p>Australia Post has introduced a "Manual Handling Surcharge" for eParcels weighing over 22kg or exceeding 100cm in length. The fee to the customer will be \$10.45 (incl GST). Licensees will be paid a meagre 43 cents (incl GST). To quote a licensee: "that's what AP thinks your back is worth." Was this negotiated with the LPO's and is it fair payment for the component of the work they do?</p> <p>What analysis was done to determine this payment?</p> <p>Will you improve their payment to reflect their role?</p>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>107.</b>	<b>Australia Post</b>	<b>Roberts</b>	<b>LPO payments and revenue</b>	Please provide both a summary and a detailed report on the actual elements and payments that make up a LPO's payments/revenues and known expenses. How and where is this explained to LPO Licensees?	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>108.</b>	<b>Australia Post</b>	<b>Roberts</b>	<b>eParcel handling payment</b>	<p>I understand that when the Post Office Agents Association pushed for a fairer eParcel handling payment that Australia Post's response was: "We haven't had to pay Licensees to do this in the past, why should we pay them now?"</p> <p>Was this the response? Is this your response and please provide a copy of all communications in regard to the eParcel handling payment for LPO's?</p>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>109.</b>	<b>Australia Post</b>	<b>Roberts</b>	<b>Mail management fee</b>	A constituent has stated that: "Another gripe of mine is the primary sort for contractors and transit mail. They REDUCED our Mail Management Fee to cover the loss on	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>

				decline in letters and say we make it up with the extra parcel payment. Well, all the parcels for contractors and transit mail do NOT get scanned by us, although we still handle and sort them all, so NO extra payment to us for this and yet our MMF reduced.” Please confirm this, and advise specifically in relation to the issue raised, whether the parcel handling should attract a fee for LPO’s?	
110.	Australia Post	Green	Staff numbers	How many staff do Australia Post currently employ? Please provide a breakdown for temporary staff (contractors)	16/03/2020 Written
111.	Australia Post	Green	Parcel earnings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. What were parcel earnings in 2018-19?</li> <li>b. How much are parcel pricing changes expected to benefit earnings in FY2019-20?</li> <li>c. What were retail store earnings in 2018-18 and 2018-19?</li> </ul>	16/03/2020 Written
112.	Australia Post	Green	Cape Schanck	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Did Australia Post recently hold an executive getaway in Cape Schanck?</li> <li>b. If yes, who attended?</li> <li>c. What did it cost? Please include travel, accommodation, catering and other expenses</li> <li>d. Who was the guest speaker?</li> <li>e. Where was the equivalent executive getaway held last year?</li> <li>f. Who was the guest speaker at that getaway?</li> </ul>	16/03/2020 Written
113.	Australia Post	Green	Mail pricing and volumes	<p>Noting the recent media release from Australia Post – <a href="https://newsroom.auspost.com.au/article/australia-post-secures-strong-revenue-growth-whilest-letter-losses-continue">https://newsroom.auspost.com.au/article/australia-post-secures-strong-revenue-growth-whilest-letter-losses-continue</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Despite the Basic Postage Rate or Stamp price seeing a recent increase of 10c, the first in four years, the bulk of mail being processed comes from Business Mail products. Have these prices been held for four years? And if not, by what percentage have these prices increased?</li> <li>b. Some members or industry are concerned price increases do not stabilise mail volumes, in fact they reduce the mail volumes. What programs are Australia Post working with industry on to steady the volume declines, maintain delivery timeframes and points for all Australians whilst also operating a commercial pricing solution?</li> </ul>	16/03/2020 Written
114.	Australia Post	Green	Mail research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The Keep Me Posted campaign has called for banks and telecommunications companies to ban charges for paper bills and statements. Does Australia Post consider potential initiatives such as these will steady the organic, rather than accelerated, transition of mail to digital for transactional mail?</li> <li>b. What consultation measures does Australia Post have to seek input from the printing and mail industry on the market research they undertake?</li> <li>c. Are industry being included in the scoping or development phase of mail promotions and research exercises? If yes, please provide specific examples.</li> </ul>	16/03/2020 Written

115.	SBS	Antic	Mardi Gras float	<p><b>Senator ANTIC:</b> I have a few questions in relation to two separate topics. The first one relates to the weekend's Mardi Gras. I believe that the SBS had a float in the Mardi Gras.</p> <p><b>Mr Taylor:</b> Yes, that's correct.</p> <p><b>Senator ANTIC:</b> I'm interested to know a little bit about the decision to put that float in there, how that was made and the reasons why.</p> <p><b>Mr Taylor:</b> I'm happy to take the question on notice to give you a full response but, firstly, we are the host broadcaster of the Mardi Gras and have been for a number of years. We think it's a really great demonstration of inclusion in society and so we are proudly a broadcast partner of the event. In relation to the float, as you would have seen, there are many organisations that have floats in the parade. Our view is that we have a large contingent of staff who are either allies to or members of the LGBTQI+ community and we think it's important to demonstrate our support for that community and our staff given that SBS believes in the power and benefits of social inclusion.</p> <p><b>Senator ANTIC:</b> Tell me a little bit about how it was funded and whether staff time was used in terms of putting the float together and those sorts of things.</p> <p><b>Mr Taylor:</b> I will have to take that on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator ANTIC:</b> I'm just interested. You obviously have people there who are interested in it but can you tell me whether or not the broadcaster has an involvement or marches or has floats in any other community parades of note? Are there any others that you enter a float into? I'll give you an example of a few. There is the Tamworth Country Music Cavalcade, the Adelaide Fringe Parade in my home state, Sydney's St Patrick's Day parade. Are any of those on SBS's list?</p> <p><b>Mr Taylor:</b> I'm happy to take it on notice. We are represented at dozens of dozens of parades for all different sorts of different communities right around the country. We are very actively involved in community events, and I'm happy to give you a list of all the events that we attend and participate actively in throughout the course of any year.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 53
116.	SBS	Antic	Attendance of SBS reporters at the Garma Festival	<p><b>Mr Taylor:</b> NITV is part of SBS, so the NITV crew is a number—I would say 10 or 12 individuals go up. I attended last year's event as well. It was in August if I recall correctly. To give you a sense of the work they do on the ground, they originated about 20 hours of the new content from the event, which would've been published out on our linear NITV service and also on digital platforms: think Facebook Live, think Instagram, think Twitter.</p> <p><b>Senator ANTIC:</b> How many of them were SBS reporters by comparison to how many were NITV reporters?</p> <p><b>Mr Taylor:</b> I will check, but I'm pretty sure the only crew on the ground were NITV crew.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 53
117.	SBS	Marielle Smith	Natural program breaks	<p><b>Senator MARIELLE SMITH:</b> How would you operationalise the words 'during natural program breaks'? How do you put them into practice?</p>	03/03/2020 Page 55

				<b>Mr Taylor:</b> We have some internal guidelines, which I can provide you notice if that would assist.	
<b>118.</b>	<b>SBS</b>	<b>Canavan</b>	<b>Removal of SBS News article</b>	<p><b>Mr Taylor:</b> ...There was some other reporting in The Sydney Morning Herald by Jennifer Duke which also spoke to our decision to republish the article. It was characterised as a demonstration of responsible journalism to make sure that we were considering the context in which the article was being consumed as well as the content of the article itself.</p> <p><b>Senator CANAVAN:</b> My understanding is that this article was removed within an hour of the tweet occurring, and you're saying that, within that hour, SBS experts concluded that the article was confusing?</p> <p><b>Mr Taylor:</b> I don't think the article was confusing; I think the context in which—</p> <p><b>Senator CANAVAN:</b> Okay. I'm not going to dispute that, but you said that the discussion around the article led to a level of confusion. That was determined within an hour of the tweet going up. Is that correct?</p> <p><b>Mr Taylor:</b> Again, Senator, I'm not aware of the tweet to which you're referring, so I can't speak to the time line.</p> <p><b>Senator CANAVAN:</b> Can you take on notice when the article was removed from the SBS website—</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator CANAVAN:</b> Are you aware of other articles being removed from the SBS website?</p> <p><b>Mr Taylor:</b> I'm happy to take that on notice. It's worth noting that the article—</p> <p><b>Senator CANAVAN:</b> I'm happy for you to take that generally on notice but in particular if there have been other new articles removed from the SBS website because of a confusing discussion around the context of an article.</p>	<b>03/03/2020</b> <b>Page 56</b>
<b>119.</b>	<b>SBS</b>	<b>Antic</b>	<b>2020 Sydney Mardi Gras</b>	<p>In addition to the questions put on notice during the hearing on 3 March 2020, I put the following questions on notice to SBS.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What was the total cost of entering the SBS float in the 2020 Sydney Mardi Gras (“Mardi Gras”)?</li> <li>2. How much funding was raised by SBS and/or its staff with respect to entering the SBS float in the Mardi Gras?</li> <li>3. How many SBS staff took part in the SBS float and/or marched in the Mardi Gras with the SBS float?</li> <li>4. Were SBS staff involved, during work hours, in the planning, organisation, rehearsal or otherwise involved in the process of creating or entering the SBS float in the Mardi Gras?</li> <li>5. If the answer to Question 4 is yes:- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. How many staff were involved in that process?</li> <li>b. How many staff working hours were expended in that process? And</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<b>04/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>

				<p>c. In terms of staff working hours expended in that process, what was the total cost to taxpayers to pay staff during those hours in order to facilitate entry of the SBS float in the Mardi Gras?</p> <p>6. In the past five years has SBS, or SBS staff in the name of SBS, entered floats into any other community events?</p> <p>7. If the answer to Question 6 is yes:</p> <p>a. In which other community events has the SBS, or SBS staff in the name of SBS, entered floats?</p> <p>b. How were each of those floats funded?</p> <p>c. Was SBS involved in the broadcasting, reporting of, or production of content for broadcast, of or from each of those community events?</p> <p>8. If the answer to 7(c) is yes, with respect to each relevant community event, please provide a brief description of the broadcast, report or content produced of or from each of those community events.</p>	
120.	SBS	McGrath	SBS Website Article ' <i>Fires not due to climate change</i> '	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I refer to an article on the SBS website titled, 'Fires not due to climate change: expert'. Why was the article removed?</li> <li>2. Given the experts' views have not changed, why was the article taken down?</li> <li>3. How many other articles on the SBS website have been updated in the last 10 years?</li> </ol>	05/03/2020 Written
121.	SBS	Hanson-Young	Gambling advertising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does SBS still have a policy to take betting and gambling advertisements on free-to-air and digital online services?</li> <li>• Does SBS acknowledge that betting and gambling may lead to anti-social behaviour?</li> <li>• How can SBS justify promoting betting and gambling, given that at page 21 in the SBS Corporate Plan 2019-20, under the heading: Delivery strategy, the Plan states that: "SBS will look to... invest in enriching content that is purposefully provocative and promotes social cohesion"?</li> <li>• Considering the evidence that betting and gambling may cause social distress and put at risk vulnerable people, including migrant communities for whom social cohesion is critically important, will SBS abandon the policy to transmit betting and gambling advertisements on free-to-air and digital online services?</li> <li>• Does SBS take into account what its viewers want or don't want?</li> <li>• A survey of 1,176 SBS viewers from every State and Territory in 2017 found that 91.06% of participants 'want SBS to cease betting and gambling advertisements'. As SBS has not acted on those findings, does SBS have any data to show that viewers support betting and gambling advertisements?</li> </ul>	06/03/2020 Written
122.	SBS	Chandler	Television content	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Does SBS set any targets or KPIs for the amount of content produced in different states and territories of Australia?</li> <li>2. How many programs aired on SBS Television channels are produced or filmed</li> </ol>	10/03/2020 Written

				<p>in Tasmania?</p> <p>3. How does this compare to the percentage of SBS Television programming produced or filmed in other Australian states and territories?</p> <p>4. What percentage of content on SBS television channels is produced in Australia?</p>	
123.	ABC	Green	Letter sent to the Minister on 24 January	<p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> Great. I'm not sure if you're aware of this, but this morning I asked the minister some questions about a letter sent from the minister to yourself on 2 March. It was a letter that detailed suggestions around what the ABC should do in delivering its strategic report. I assume you have a copy of that letter, but I can provide one to you if needed.</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> I've read the letter. I received it yesterday at about 11 am. What would you like me to respond to?</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> The letter begins by thanking you for your letter of 24 January. Are you able to table that letter or explain to the committee what issues were raised and the purpose of writing to the minister?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> I'm happy to table that on notice.</p>	04/03/2020 Page 57
124.	ABC	Green	Bushfire costs	<p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> I imagine there will be a few journos in the room after you give out that information. Has the ABC had an opportunity to cost what the impact of the unprecedented bushfire season has been on the ABC?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> Yes. Of course, we're not through to the end of the financial yet, but we do see an incremental increase in cost. I will comment on some of those statistics around emergency broadcasting—for people who haven't seen what we've published. For this financial year, we had 935 emergency broadcasting events. In the previous financial year it was 371 and in the financial year before that it was 256. So there was an exponential increase in what we see as emergency broadcasting requirements. All up, we think that, year to date, that has put an incremental cost on what we would have covered anyway of approximately \$3 million.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> Do you have a breakdown of those costs that you can give to us on notice?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> We can provide that on notice for you.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 58
125.	ABC	Van	Employing people in rural and regional areas	<p><b>Senator VAN:</b> In the last estimates, you appeared and I asked some questions about enhanced newsgathering funding. The current funding is, I think, about \$14.5 million per annum.</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> That's correct.</p> <p><b>Senator VAN:</b> The questions you took on notice, if my maths is right—and I was asking about employing people in rural and regional areas, which the funding is meant to enable—you came back with effectively that there were 11 positions funded out of that \$14 million. Is that correct?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> I'd have to check what we provided you are notice. My information is</p>	03/03/2020 Page 59

				<p>that the fund is about 80 people. You are possibly counting the locations—it is not necessarily one person per location.</p> <p><b>Senator VAN:</b> So it's fair to say then that it's not going overwhelmingly, or even near that, towards rural and regional areas?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> No, the areas that it goes to include—well, one of those areas quoted was Geelong, Ipswich, Parramatta, Bunbury. This is off the top of my head. So, there are 80 positions that sit in outer metro areas as well as in regional Australia.</p> <p><b>Senator VAN:</b> Could you take on notice to come back with a real breakdown of what that money covers and where?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> Yes, I will.</p>	
126.	ABC	Van	Language services	<p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> Senator, we have always had in-language services and we are required to have international broadcasting. The Asia-Pacific newsroom, largely based in Melbourne, does in-language services. Yes, we have had them for some time.</p> <p><b>Senator VAN:</b> Just to be clear, it's only for Pacific languages?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> No, we also take that material and broadcast it domestically to audiences here where English is not their first language, when it comes to news services. I'm talking about Pacific Beat and some other content. Specific to new services, out of that newsroom we have some services where we have translated some of our stories into—certainly into Mandarin, which we have provided online, which has been successful.</p> <p><b>Senator VAN:</b> Only Mandarin and Pacific languages?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> I can get that back to you on notice—</p>	03/03/2020 Page 60
127.	ABC	Van	Audio description	<p><b>Senator VAN:</b> No. I'm just trying to get a handle on what you're doing and what SBS does and where there is crossover. I have one last question and it relates to that. Late last year the government announced one-off grant funding of \$2 million each to the ABC and SBS to introduce audio description. Can you provide a quick update—or if you are happy to take it on notice—on the progress of implementing audio description.</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> I can provide a quick update and provide more information on notice. That is welcome funding. What we are looking at is working with SBS on what could be a joint-venture. We're going to market with that very soon. We are looking to meet the requirements of having audio description available on broadcast for up to 14 hours per week as of July of this year. That's what we're working towards. I don't want to set expectations. I don't know that it will be broadcast and digital. I think we'll get to first base with broadcast first because I think digital is more complicated with regard to having to change what are digital products. We're aiming for broadcast for July. My information is that we're on track to be able to do that, given the timing of what we need to go through.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 60

				<b>Senator VAN:</b> You can take this on notice: provide some more details on what you're putting to market with SBS and how the two organisations are cooperating and looking for efficiencies out of that funding.	
128.	ABC	Green	Recent editorial decisions	<p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> I was going to ask you whether the ABC be heading to Darwin, and you are! That's very good news for the people of Darwin. My next set of questions I wanted to address to you is about some recent editorial decisions. I'm aware of the ABC's independence and code of practice but I did want to ask you questions in relation to a couple of recent editorial decisions by the ABC that give rise to some concerns that have been raised around self-censorship. On Monday 24 February, Media Watch ran a story about why the ABC—this is not my term, this is theirs—'spiked' an exclusive interview with the volunteer firefighter who had some very choice words about the PM on national TV. Media Watch noted that the story of the firefighter from Nelligen was big international and national news at the time. While the ABC had an exclusive on how he had been stood down for his comments, the ABC chose not to run the story, despite twice slating it to run. Why would the ABC drop an exclusive like that?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> We did look into this. I might defer to my colleague Mr McMurtrie to give you more detail on it.</p> <p><b>Mr McMurtrie:</b> The New South Wales newsroom did have the interview with Mr Parker. There was some confusion though around whether he had been stood down or whether he had been sacked. The newsroom weren't sure for the first deadline, so they chose not to publish. Then it did become clear, but they were in the middle of covering the ongoing bushfire emergency. The news editor simply made the call that the news cycle had moved on, so the interview was not put to air. There was certainly no question of any outside pressure. It was a news call made for operational reasons in the newsroom.</p> <p>Senator GREEN: I'm not sure whether you would have that information there, but do you have a time line?</p> <p><b>Mr McMurtrie:</b> I don't have a detailed time line with me. I can get that for you.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 60-61
129.	ABC	Green	Complaints by the Prime Minister	<p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> Does Prime Minister Morrison ever complain directly to the ABC about ABC content? Has that ever occurred?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> I will confirm that on notice, but I don't believe I have ever had a letter directly from the Prime Minister complaining about content. I have had a complaint from the Prime Minister's Office but, to my knowledge, not directly from the Prime Minister.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 62
130.	ABC	Chandler	Radio National segment	<p><b>Senator CHANDLER:</b> Are you aware of a segment on Radio National Breakfast originally broadcast on Tuesday 25 February—it is still accessible online—which stated that more than 20 per cent of Australian forests burned in the bushfires?</p> <p><b>Mr McMurtrie:</b> We publish thousands of stories. I can get you some information on notice. I couldn't give you the specifics of that.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 62

				<b>Senator CHANDLER:</b> That would be great.	
131.	ABC	Chandler	ABC Life	<p><b>Senator CHANDLER:</b> ... The next question is about ABC Life. How much does the ABC spend each year on the ABC Life website?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> I can get you that on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator CHANDLER:</b> Could you tell me how many staff members are employed by ABC Life?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> There's a group of staff that started off specifically working on ABC Life. I know that their work requirements include ABC Life and some other things, so I'll need to confirm that to you on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator CHANDLER:</b> Would it be possible for you to roughly apportion out how much time and resources are being spent on ABC Life versus other content?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> I can do that on notice—</p> <p><b>Senator CHANDLER:</b> Of course.</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> but my rough estimate would be: there were about 20 people, I think, in that group.</p> <p><b>Senator CHANDLER:</b> Twenty people; fantastic.</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> Again, I'll confirm that on notice for you.</p> <p><b>Senator CHANDLER:</b> Was ABC Life recently reviewed?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> We did look at the editorial content of ABC Life and how it related to audience and what audience was coming to ABC Life and how that was assisting with new audience coming in to the ABC, and, as I quickly flick to something that gives me that information, I want to say that I think ABC Life has 1.2 million people coming to it each month, and I think the majority of that audience is weighted towards women, and I think there is a large proportion that is younger, but I will confirm that on notice for you.</p> <p><b>Senator CHANDLER:</b> Thank you. For those listening along at home, is the ABC Life website in effect a lifestyle blog? It has articles on it—I'm just looking at the coverage on it today: 'The 9 things to consider before dieting'; '10 healthy lunchbox swaps (and getting your kids to eat them)'. When was that review undertaken into ABC Life?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> I'm going to have to get back to you. It was last year some time that it was completed.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 63
132.	ABC	Chandler	50:50 Project	<p><b>Mr McMurtrie:</b> I can get you more information, but the 50:50 Project was designed to address an issue where we had, in some segments, a male-skewed audience and the need to provide content that was more relevant to women. So, in line with other broadcasters and media organisations around the world, we decided to take a more programmatic approach to it and actually track and measure what our content was doing, how it was performing, and the audiences it was reaching.</p> <p><b>Senator CHANDLER:</b> What was the basis upon which you determined that the way to get more women watching the ABC was to put more women on the ABC in newsreader</p>	03/03/2020 Page 63-64

				<p>positions covering female-relevant stories?</p> <p><b>Mr McMurtrie:</b> We'd need to come back to you with more detail, but it was a multitiered approach. So it was around the sorts of stories we were commissioning and the sorts of angles we were developing. We've always been mindful to ensure that, on air, we reflect the diverse nature of Australia—men, women, et cetera—but it wasn't a one-size-fits-all approach; it was a multitiered approach.</p> <p><b>Senator CHANDLER:</b> Did you consult with the viewing public in terms of that decision? When I say 'consult', I mean more broadly than just looking at sheer viewer numbers?</p> <p><b>Mr McMurtrie:</b> It certainly wasn't just viewer numbers, but I would have to come back to you with a more thorough response.</p>	
133.	ABC	Green	Sports grant article complaint	<p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> We asked for some information about complaints made by the Prime Minister and the PMO, and you referred to an article about a sports grant made to the Lilli Pilli Football Club. Can I double-check a couple of things with you in regard to that? Was the article changed after the PM's office complained about this sports grant article?</p> <p><b>Mr McMurtrie:</b> I'm afraid I will need to come back to you specifically on that. I know there was a conversation going on in the newsroom at the time, because there were concerns around the veracity of aspects of the story. But it is also true that a complaint was received. As to precisely whether the conversations in the newsroom were taking place before we received that complaint or not, I'd need to come back to you.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Mr McMurtrie:</b> I know it was in January. I don't have the precise date in front of me. When the original story was published I don't know. We're talking around 28 January, but I'll come back to you with the details.</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> We'll provide you with the detail on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> We have quite a wide window for notice. Are you able to go and check those details in the next hour and come back to the committee? I know you've only got a little while.</p> <p><b>Senator Reynolds:</b> They have taken the question on notice, and already today we've made every endeavour and got a lot of material back.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 64-65
134.	ABC	Abetz	Jon Stephens case	<p><b>Senator ABETZ:</b> Can I take you to the Jon Stephens case, which I have canvassed on previous occasions. I asked whether the ABC was aware of other cases of historic child abuse concerning this particular individual, and I was told no. Can I specifically ask—and I assume you'll have to take this on notice—whether investigating police Cassandra Bailey and/or Justin Taylor, together with another person, Joan Gibson, made any approaches to the ABC about Mr Stephens's alleged criminal activities in relation to other alleged victims. We now have specific names—people who have come forward to me indicating that they had made complaints to the police, which they believe were</p>	03/03/2020 Page 66

				followed up with the ABC. <b>Mr Anderson:</b> As I sit here, no, I don't know that, but I will take that on notice.	
135.	ABC	Abetz	Underpayment of staff	<b>Senator ABETZ:</b> Thank you very much. The ABC acknowledges that it underpaid a number of its staff. Do we have a final total amount as yet? <b>Mr Anderson:</b> We don't have a final total amount, but I can— <b>Senator ABETZ:</b> To date, the amount is? <b>Mr Anderson:</b> The amount is that we've actually paid to staff. To recap— <b>Senator ABETZ:</b> Identified and paid, if you could. Time is of the essence, so, if you don't have the exact figures, just take it on notice, please. <b>Mr Anderson:</b> I'll take it on notice for you. We've made payments to 96 per cent of those people identified as being underpaid. We're still working that through. <b>Senator ABETZ:</b> Do we know what that sum is? <b>Mr Anderson:</b> I'll provide that to you on notice. I will note that we still don't have an enforceable undertaking from the Fair Work Ombudsman as yet, so to provide a figure ahead of that—we expect we are close. <b>Senator ABETZ:</b> Can you take on notice the number of people involved? Given you are still working through it, you wouldn't be confident that all have been discovered as yet.	03/03/2020 Page 66
136.	ABC	Abetz	ABC HR department	<b>Senator ABETZ:</b> How many are employed in the ABC in the human resources/wages department? Can you take that on notice for us? <b>Mr Anderson:</b> There are two things I will provide on notice: the whole size of the team in people and culture, and the amount of people employed in payroll services.	03/03/2020 Page 66
137.	ABC	Abetz	Insiders program – Gerard Henderson	<b>Senator ABETZ:</b> Thank you. Now, I am told Gerard Henderson no longer going to be on Insiders. Can you give me a reason on notice as to that, if that's correct? <b>Mr Anderson:</b> There's more to it than that, but I can— <b>Senator ABETZ:</b> Gerard Henderson will no longer be on Insiders; is that correct? <b>Mr Anderson:</b> I don't know that that's a statement I can make. The EP of Insiders had not confirmed any dates with Gerard Henderson; Gerard Henderson wrote a piece about that. I think Gerard has been on the program since it launched, which was some 11 years ago. <b>Senator ABETZ:</b> Some other people were there for quite a while as well, but they were of a different persuasion so the timing doesn't come into it. If no final decision has been made in relation to Mr Henderson, I will move on. <b>Mr Anderson:</b> Not that I know of, but I will confirm on notice for you. <b>Senator ABETZ:</b> I would be interested on who the one possible conservative might be in the event that Mr Henderson doesn't continue, but you've taken that on notice.	03/03/2020 Page 66-67
138.	ABC	Kitching	Southbank building	<b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Mr Anderson, can I ask you a question, and I'm happy for you to take this on notice: there's recently been an upgrade in the Southbank buildings—is that correct?	03/03/2020 Page 68

				<p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> Yes. We bought a car park next door and redeveloped it. It was a \$180 million project to sell Selwyn Street and Gordon Street and co-locate—</p> <p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> So that's Ripponlea?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> That's Ripponlea. So there were two sites out there. One was for our OB garage and production offices. The other one was our studios that originally had Countdown there. The idea was to consolidate those. Everyone's moved. It's been fitted out. It's been done.</p> <p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Could I ask you to take on notice the spend—I won't say over the last two financial years, but maybe four. I just can't remember when that corner of Southbank, at Sturt Street, started having works done. Could you just take on notice the spend on modernising and refitting, perhaps, Ultimo and Southbank.</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> Certainly. We can provide that on notice. The Southbank project was longer than four years. It's been a long time in the making.</p> <p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Well, whenever you started that for Southbank. Then, for Ultimo, have you done any modernising at Ultimo?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> Yes. At Ultimo, there was one building that was originally there that consolidated where we were for radio—this is my understanding. That opened—I can't remember when. I'll provide that on notice. Then we added to it to consolidate what was out at Gore Hill, which was the television arm that sat out there, and we built Tower B. Tower A is seven floors. Tower B is 14 floors. So we added to what was our footprint there.</p>	
139.	ABC	Green	Complaint by the Prime Minister	<p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> I appreciate you're not trying to be difficult, but there is a difference between receiving a complaint from a community member and having the Prime Minister's office call the ABC about the content of an article that refers to the Prime Minister. So I would have imagined that you would have, if not a recollection, at least some details on hand that you could get quite quickly for us.</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> It was my response to you earlier that raised it, in that I have not received anything directly from the Prime Minister, but my memory is that it was an email that came; I think it came to me, and I think it was from a media liaison officer within the Prime Minister's office. That's my recollection of it. But we will confirm that on notice to you.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> Just one last question on this and then I'm happy to hand over after that. Can you provide the email that you received to the committee on notice?</p>	03/03/2020 Page 69
140.	ABC	McGrath	Value/occupancy of capital city offices	<p><b>Senator McGRATH:</b> I have some property questions. Last time you were here at estimates you told us the book value of the Ultimo site was \$330 million. Can you remember who valued the site?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> I might defer to Ms Kleyn, who—</p> <p><b>Senator McGRATH:</b> If you don't have it, I'm happy for you to take that on notice.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 69-70

				<p>Can you give us an updated value of the Ultimo site, and also the value of all offices in the capital cities. In relation to the capital city offices, are they at capacity?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> To varying degrees. I could say that in, for instance, Adelaide, we've done a property project to move the people we have in Adelaide down to the bottom level—so, ground, 1 and 2, I believe—such that we can commercially let out those other floors. There is little interest in that, I have to say; there has been limited success. Melbourne is very full. I could go through them all. But, rather than take up the committee's time, I can give you my estimation and what we believe to be occupancy rates in each of those cities, if you like.</p> <p><b>Senator McGRATH:</b> That would be good. On notice, what is the floor-space-to-worker ratio for each of those capital city offices, in terms of what we've just discussed?</p>	
141.	ABC	McGrath	Polling/surveys	<p><b>Senator McGrath:</b>...I've got your opening statement here. You mentioned there's some polling at the back or some questions with some percentages. I may have missed it, but where did those questions come from? Is that your own internal research?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> It's a mix of both. Some of it is our research; some of it is where we go outside to agencies that will do this for us. I can give you, on notice, which surveys provide what information and where they come from—whether they come from the ABC or whether they come from an external agency that does them for us.</p> <p><b>Senator McGRATH:</b> And how much it costs, too. Do you have a top-of-line figure in terms of how much you spend on—</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> I can't give you that at the moment. It depends on which one it is. Some of that's commercial in confidence with regard to which agencies we provide for that. I can give you a whole figure on notice, which would provide our external spend for our surveys.</p> <p><b>Senator McGRATH:</b> I've got some other polling here from another company called Dynata. I notice you've got some very positive remarks here, but I'm sure you might be aware of this. There was a question that was put: 'The ABC does not represent the views of ordinary Australians.' Essentially, only a third thought that the ABC spoke for them or represented their views. I'd be interested to see, in terms of the polling, what questions were used and at what frequency that polling was being conducted by the ABC. You should take that on notice.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 70
142.	ABC	McGrath	Review of the ABC Act and charter	<p><b>Senator McGRATH:</b> I'm devastated to hear that. I know you're doing a five-year strategic plan, but, considering the changing media environment, and there's a growing pluralism in the private sector, would you welcome a review into the ABC Act and the charter, which I know is part of the act, to ensure that the ABC is fit for purpose in these changing times?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> It won't surprise you that I would suggest that it is sufficient and do I think we are fit for purpose in these changing times. In fact, I think the ABC is more important than ever for some of the things we do. We'll still be telling Australian stories</p>	03/03/2020 Page 70-71

				<p>where others will find it hard to make a business model out of it—children's content and regional Australia.</p> <p><b>Senator McGRATH:</b> But you wouldn't be opposed to a review, though, would you? It's like a health check. No-one's opposed to a health check.</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> I'm not sure a review requires my input; I think that that's for others to decide. We operate under the ABC Act, which includes the charter—we obviously have to adhere to the PGPA Act as well. We think that that is certainly sufficient for the activities we have. There are some other bits of legislation that we have asked to be changed and I've written to the minister about. One of those things was with regard to parliamentary broadcasting. We think that it's a bit restricted to say that it needs to be on AM. We think that that precludes us from finding other opportunities in some of the major cities. I can go into that more on notice for you, in that we think that should be broader.</p> <p><b>Senator McGRATH:</b> If you could.</p>	
143.	ABC	Kitching	Australia Talks data	<p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> I agree they have certainty. AAP announced today they're closing. It's a wire service that many people have utilised. I want to go on to Australia Talks. When you did Australia Talks last year, there were a range of questions that you asked about 50,000 Australians, and they were societal questions et cetera. What did you do with the data?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> We still have that data.</p> <p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Is the data vested entirely in the ABC? No-one else has any ownership of that data?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> We had assistance from an organisation, a company, that we've used before. They helped us with this data.</p> <p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Who? What company?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> I'll provide that to you on notice. I can't remember off the top of my head. The name escapes me.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> You're going to take it on notice and give us the name of the data analytics company.</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> Yes.</p> <p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Is that information sequestered from other clients of that data analytics company?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> Yes.</p> <p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> So they can't use it for other clients to inform themselves about the Australian—</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> That is my understanding. I will absolutely confirm that on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> It's your understanding, or that is the case?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> I believe that to be the case.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 71-72

				<p><b>Senator KITCHING:</b> Could you confirm that absolutely? I'm happy for you to take it on notice. You might have to look through the contract.</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> We did that at the time. I haven't revisited it lately, hence I will confirm it with you on notice, absolutely.</p>	
144.	ABC	Canavan	ABC employees	<p><b>Senator CANAVAN:</b> I won't be long. I want to try to get a breakdown of how many employees the ABC has based outside of capital cities. Do you have that data?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> I can provide that to you on notice. I think there are around 400 or 500 people outside of capital cities.</p> <p><b>Senator CANAVAN:</b> How many have you got in total?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> There are over 4,000 people at the ABC.</p> <p><b>Senator CANAVAN:</b> That's what it was a few years ago. So only 10 per cent of your employees based outside of capital cities?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> I'll confirm that on notice, but that's about right.</p> <p><b>Senator CANAVAN:</b> On notice—that would be great. Could I have the journalists as well—so, by staff? I believe, previously, that you've been able to break it down to, I think you call them, 'content producers' or some such? Is that still a relevant term?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> Sure, I can certainly give you how we classify them with regard to other content makers.</p> <p><b>Senator CANAVAN:</b> Yes, content makers. So all staff and content makers in regional or capital cities and non-capital cities. Then, if you can, also broken down by city—where they're based across the country in those two categories.</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> Still outside of metro, Senator?</p> <p><b>Senator CANAVAN:</b> I'm happy for you to classify greater Sydney or greater Brisbane as one region, but, outside those, just the individual city that they're based in, if that's OK.</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> Yes.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 72
145.	ABC	Antic	ABC participation in community events/parades	<p><b>Senator ANTIC:</b> There are other community events and parades that might well be equally important. Does the ABC put float into any other events—for example, the Tamworth Country Music Cavalcade and the Sydney St Patrick's Day Parade? Are there any further plans?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> I'll have to check for you. But I will say this: having our staff located in all the places we are, we are involved in many community events—sometimes hosting them. There would be literally hundreds of events that our staff would participate in. I can attempt to provide some information for you on notice, but it will be quite a lot.</p> <p><b>Senator ANTIC:</b> Yes. I'm interested in marches and parades.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 73
146.	ABC	Antic	Garma Festival	<p><b>Senator ANTIC:</b> Yes. I'm interested in marches and parades. I want to quickly turn to the subject of the Garma Festival. My understanding is that NITV is run by SBS and it covers the Garma Festival. But I think the ABC also covers the festival and sends some staff. If it is the case that the SBS covers it through their Indigenous broadcasting</p>	03/03/2020 Page 73

				<p>channel, why is it that the ABC also covers it?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> There's coverage and there's coverage. I did not go last year, but I was lucky enough to attend the year prior. We had people up there who were filing radio stories and television stories—different people doing both. I think The Drum attended just before I got there—I missed that—and they did an episode from Garma. And in previous years we did an episode of Q+A from Garma. It's horses for courses. I don't see it as a double-up, that the SBS crew that was there could have done something for us; I think that it is specific. We scale our coverage to be different every time. We think through what we want to contribute to our coverage from Garma from within.</p> <p><b>Senator ANTIC:</b> How many personnel were sent to Garma by the ABC?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> For the last one, I can't remember. I will provide that to you on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator ANTIC:</b> Any idea for the previous year?</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> For the previous year, when I was there, it was about 25 all up. But not all 25 were present for the whole period; some people came and left, and some people came from Darwin. We will provide that to you on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator ANTIC:</b> I am interested in the cost per person to send ABC staff to Garma.</p> <p><b>Mr Anderson:</b> I will need to provide that to you on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator ANTIC:</b> Thank you.</p>	
147.	ABC	Rennick	BOM data sets	<p><b>Senator RENNICK:</b> Mr McMurtrie, I'd like to put a question to you. I'd like to refer to an online article that the ABC posted on 14 January. In that article there was a reference to the temperature increase in the last century being greater than one degree, as reported by the BOM. The BOM has three datasets: the raw data, the adjusted data from 2011, and the adjusted data from 2018. The adjusted data from 2018 shows an increase in 1.23 degrees, so I suspect that's the dataset that was used for this particular article. My question is: given that there are no confidence levels on this particular dataset, why would you use the dataset rather than the actual data, which is the real data that's been verified in the field and is reported with a margin of error of plus or minus half a degree?</p> <p><b>Mr McMurtrie:</b> I didn't come prepared for that particular question. I'll need to take it on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator RENNICK:</b> Sure. Thank you.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 75
148.	ABC	Roberts	Tweet by Ita Buttrose	<p><b>Senator ROBERTS:</b> Thank you all for coming today. I think you'll have to take this one on notice too, Mr McMurtrie and Mr Anderson. On 5 January 2020 Ita Buttrose, your chairman, tweeted: Australia Is Committing Climate Suicide Could you please tell me what scientific evidence she is basing this claim on? I'd like the specific location, meaning the document title and the specific page numbers on which the empirical evidence is appearing and in the structure that proves causation. That's my only question. I'd like that on notice, please.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 75

149.	ABC	Antic	2020 Sydney Mardi Gras	<p>In addition to the questions put on notice during the hearing on 3 March 2020, I put the following questions on notice to ABC.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What was the total cost of entering the ABC Pride float in the 2020 Sydney Mardi Gras (“Mardi Gras”)?</li> <li>2. How much funding was raised by the ABC, its staff and/or the ABC Pride group with respect to entering the ABC Pride float in the Mardi Gras?</li> <li>3. How many ABC staff took part in the ABC Pride float and/or marched in the Mardi Gras with the ABC Pride float?</li> <li>4. Were ABC staff involved, during work hours, in the planning, organisation, rehearsal or otherwise involved in the process of creating or entering the ABC Pride float in the Mardi Gras?</li> <li>5. If the answer to Question 4 is yes:- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. How many staff were involved in that process?</li> <li>b. How many staff working hours were expended in that process? And</li> <li>c. In terms of staff working hours expended in that process, what was the total cost to taxpayers to pay staff during those hours in order to facilitate entry of the ABC Pride float in the Mardi Gras?</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. In the past five years has the ABC, or ABC staff in the name of ABC, entered floats into any other community events?</li> <li>7. If the answer to Question 6 is yes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. In which other community events has the ABC, or ABC staff in the name of ABC, entered floats?</li> <li>b. How were each of those floats funded?</li> <li>c. Was the ABC involved in the broadcasting, reporting of, or production of content for broadcast, of or from each of those community events?</li> </ol> </li> <li>8. If the answer to 7(c) is yes, with respect to each relevant community event, please provide a brief description of the broadcast, report or content produced of or from each of those community events.</li> </ol>	04/03/2020 Written
150.	ABC	Rennick	BOM climate change article	<p>As per the attached link the ABC said that “Australia’s climate has warmed by more than a degree since 1910” quoting a source from the BOM.  <a href="https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-01-14/bureau-of-meteorology-chart-shows-how-temperatures-soared/11857404">https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-01-14/bureau-of-meteorology-chart-shows-how-temperatures-soared/11857404</a> (Also see p. 29, Trewin 2018:  <a href="http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/change/acorn-sat/documents/BRR-032.pdf">http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/change/acorn-sat/documents/BRR-032.pdf</a>)  Why did the ABC not disclose the dataset it was using to state the amount of warming and why did it not disclose that the dataset being used had no confidence intervals?  Given the difference between the first and third dataset was so large, it was incumbent upon the ABC to report the variance between the two datasets. The ABC should adhere to the highest levels of quality assurance should it not?</p>	05/03/2020 Written
151.	ABC	Hanson-	Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In relation to the ABC’s current Budget:</li> </ul>	06/03/2020

		<b>Young</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o What is the annual cost to the ABC of transmission?</li> <li>• What is the total cost of maintaining ABC offices in capital cities and regional areas?</li> <li>• In view of ongoing budget cutbacks, how many of these could be forced to close in the future?</li> <li>• What is the total cost of ABC permanent staff salaries?</li> <li>• In view of past redundancies, how many permanent staff could be made redundant as a result of the \$84 million so called “efficiency” dividend?</li> <li>• Is it efficient to lose professional staff and re-employ casual staff to replace them?</li> <li>• How much would it cost the ABC to make redundancy payments to 200 staff?</li> <li>• What is the total cost of ABC casual staff?</li> <li>• What is the total cost of consultants?</li> </ul>	<b>Written</b>
<b>152.</b>	<b>ABC</b>	<b>Chandler</b>	<b>ABC Radio National</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In regard to the ABC Radio National segment and online article headlined “More than 20pc of Australian forests burned in bushfires: analysis”: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Does the ABC accept that the headline and statement repeated in the radio segment that “more than 20 per cent of Australian forests burned in bushfires” is inaccurate and misleading?</li> <li>b. Does the ABC accept that this published statement is a breach of the ABC Editorial Standards that stipulate that reasonable efforts will be made to ensure that material facts are accurate and presented in context, and that the ABC will not present factual content in a way that will materially mislead your audience?</li> <li>c. Will the ABC issue a correction and change the misleading headline in the online article?</li> <li>d. What fact-checking was carried out before airing the interview and publishing the segment online? Did the ABC check basic facts related to the claim that more than 20 per cent of Australian forests had burned, such as the total area of forest in Australia and the total area of land burnt in the summer bushfires?</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<b>10/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>153.</b>	<b>ABC</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Staff underpayment</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Please provide an update on the status of work to remedy the underpayment of ABC staff.</li> <li>2. Please provide an update on the status of governance improvements to improve oversight and avoid underpayment of ABC staff occurring in future.</li> </ol>	<b>16/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>154.</b>	<b>ABC</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Budget II</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In relation to the ABCs current budget what is the annual cost to the ABC of transmission?</li> <li>2. What is the total cost of maintaining ABC offices in capital cities and regional areas?</li> <li>3. In view of ongoing budget cutbacks how many of these offices could be forced</li> </ol>	<b>16/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>

				<p>to close in the future?</p> <p>4. What is the total cost of ABC casual staff?</p> <p>5. What is the total cost of consultants?</p>	
155.	ACMA	Green	Hate speech	<p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> The speech itself spoke more broadly about hate speech, particularly around right-wing extremism. I just wanted to know whether ACMA had engaged in any cross-portfolio consultation or collaboration to consider the implications of Mr Burgess's address and the work of ACMA going forward.</p> <p><b>Ms O'Loughlin:</b> I don't believe we have at this stage, but we're certainly happy take that on notice and speak to those agencies to see if there's anything that's showing up in their world which we should address.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> What mechanisms and tools does ACMA have at the moment that may assist in addressing the rise of right-wing extremism in Australia?</p> <p><b>Ms O'Loughlin:</b> As I said, we have particular powers—although I am reminded of one another—in the broadcasting space, but most of what we see in that space and the results of our investigation into the broadcast of material from the Christchurch terrorism attack show that broadcasters were compliant with their codes of practice, so we did look at that. We do have some responsibilities under the Telecommunications Act to assist, through some of our law, law enforcement and other agencies to both access information from telecommunications companies and seek take-down notices from them. But I'm happy to take it on notice and explore that further with ASIO if there are particular things we need to turn our mind to to support them.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 78
156.	ACMA	Green	Investigations under the broadcast code of conduct	<p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> You might also have the answer to this question: how many investigations has ACMA conducted under the broadcast code of practice in relation to race or religious based discrimination or vilification in the last two years?</p> <p><b>Ms O'Loughlin:</b> We would be happy to take that on notice for you. I don't think we'd have that information with us today.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> Can I just ask—you're going to take on notice in terms of the amount—is it none?</p> <p><b>Ms O'Loughlin:</b> I would not say it was significant. That's a double negative. It's not significant.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> So there may be a number, but you're going to take it on notice to tell us how many. Could you also take on notice the type of investigation—I asked for investigations in relation to race or religious based discrimination or vilification in the last two years. I just want to know what the investigation related to.</p> <p><b>Ms O'Loughlin:</b> We can certainly provide that. The codes of practice for the broadcasters do have specific provisions in those areas, so if there are complaints that have come to us, or investigations, we can certainly provide that for you on notice.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 78-79
157.	ACMA	Griff	Telecommunications Consumer	<p>From 1 August 2019, the Telecommunications Consumer Protections (TCP) Code credit assessment provisions were updated to meet the stated intention “to prevent</p>	13/03/2020 Written

			<b>Protections Code</b>	Consumer over-commitment and to enable a Supplier to recover the Charges”. What data will the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) use to evaluate whether the TCP Code credit assessment provisions are improving sales practices and credit assessments? In particular, what steps are being taken to ensure the experiences of vulnerable and disadvantaged consumers are being considered?	
<b>158.</b>	<b>ACMA</b>	<b>Griff</b>	<b>Do Not Call Register</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Please provide the total number of complaints in relation to the Do Not Call Register for 2018-19 and for the financial year to date. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Please include a breakdown of the number and proportion of complaints regarding calls by registered charities, Government bodies, political parties and candidates, educational institutions and others as appropriate.</li> <li>b. Please advise whether any of the complaints against registered charities, political parties, government bodies and educational institutions were upheld.</li> <li>c. Has ACMA taken any action in relation to any of the complaints against registered charities, Government bodies, political parties, candidates and educational institutions?</li> <li>d. Please provide a further breakdown of the type of complaint/ reason for the complaint for each of these categories</li> <li>e. Please provide a breakdown of informal compliance warnings sent to charities, political parties, government bodies and educational institutions and the reasons for these warnings. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. In answer to Question No 54 (Additional Estimates 2019) charities were given 124 informal warnings – can ACMA please detail what the informal warnings related to and whether any recipients were the subject of repeated/continued complaints.</li> </ol> </li> <li>f. How many Australian numbers are now on the Do Not Call Register?</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>159.</b>	<b>ACMA</b>	<b>Griff</b>	<b>Process to implement harmonised media framework</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Guardian published an article on 10 October 2019 titled <i>Children ‘interested in’ gambling and alcohol, according to Facebook</i>. The article shows that Facebook is tracking children online, many of them in the UK, and flagging them as “interested” in gambling and alcohol products. Is the ACMA aware of this article? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Is the ACMA aware of instances where children in Australia have been similarly tracked and identified as interested in products not permitted for sale to minors?</li> <li>b. What protections currently exist to ensure this does not happen in Australia?</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. The recent ACCC Digital Platforms Inquiry Report identified children as a vulnerable group online. Academic evidence also shows that children are vulnerable to alcohol and gambling harm, and that children’s exposure to alcohol and gambling advertising is inextricably linked with adverse outcomes</li> </ol>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>

				<p>- such as drinking alcohol at a younger age, and positive intentions to gamble. In light of the ACCC's conclusions, what actions are being taken to protect children?</p> <p>a. Are there plans in place to prohibit the collection, use and disclosure of children's and young people's data for profiling and targeted marketing purposes?</p> <p>3. I understand the 14-day age verification period for online wagering which recently came into effect is being reviewed through the 'Inquiry into age verification for online wagering and online pornography' being conducted by the Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs. What safeguards are currently in place to ensure that children under 18 are not able to purchase alcohol online?</p>	
<b>160.</b>	<b>ACMA</b>	<b>Griff</b>	<b>Breach of complaints handling standard</b>	In December 2018, ACMA issued formal warnings to 27 telecommunications companies and remedial directions to four telecommunications companies for breaching the Complaints Handling Standard. What steps has ACMA taken to measure the effectiveness of those enforcement measures?	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>161.</b>	<b>ACMA</b>	<b>McKenzie</b>	<b>Locally produced outdoor programs</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is ACMA aware of any legislative or regulatory provisions that would preclude the award-winning, locally produced, outdoor hunting programme, "Beyond the Divide", from appearing on commercial free to air television? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. If so, what are these provisions?</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Does ACMA consider "Beyond the Divide" an appropriate programme for free to air television?</li> <li>3. What local content requirements are commercial free to air channels bound by?</li> <li>4. Is ACMA aware of any internal policies by commercial television stations that would preclude an award-winning, locally produced, outdoors hunting programme, like "Beyond the Divide" from appearing on their channel? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. If there are internal policies, which would preclude a programme like "Beyond the Divide" from appearing on their channel, are these the same policies which allow other programmes featuring violence, for example NCIS or Criminal Minds, or other outdoor programmes featuring fishing or four-wheel driving, to be programmed?</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>162.</b>	<b>ACMA</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Regional Broadband Levy</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What preparatory work has the ACMA done on the regional broadband levy?</li> <li>2. Has the ACMA engaged with any carriers with regards to how the regional broadband levy might be implemented in the enterprise footprint? If yes, when?</li> </ol>	<b>16/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>163.</b>	<b>ACMA</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Screen content</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What FTE resources does the ACMA have working on the Options Paper for Australian and Children's Screen Content?</li> <li>2. Please identify which countries have introduced regulation of SVOD services, on what dates and the nature of that regulation.</li> </ol>	<b>16/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>164.</b>	<b>ACMA</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Captioning</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Have there been any captioning exemptions granted in the last two years? If so,</li> </ol>	<b>16/03/2020</b>

			<b>quotas</b>	<p>please specify.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Why have any exemptions been granted, over the past two years?</li> <li>2. What is the ACMA doing to ensure legislated standards for live captioning meets requirements for readability, accuracy and comprehensibility?</li> <li>3. Were standards of captioning during the Black Summer bushfire season appropriate?</li> <li>4. Are standards of captioning around the COVID-19 pandemic appropriate?</li> </ol>	<b>Written</b>
<b>165.</b>	<b>ACMA</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Disinformation</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Has the ACMA been given any additional resources or funding to oversee the development of a code for disinformation?</li> <li>2. Has the ACMA been given any additional resources or funding to develop resources to combat specific instances of disinformation in the Australian community?</li> </ol>	<b>16/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>166.</b>	<b>ACMA</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Impartiality and commercial influence in broadcast news</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What resources has the ACMA expended on the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Review of literature and research: News in Australia – Impartiality and commercial influence</li> <li>b. Qualitative research: Australians and news – Impartiality and commercial influence</li> <li>c. Quantitative research: Attitudes to news today – Impartiality and commercial influence.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<b>16/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>167.</b>	<b>ACMA</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Travel</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, can you identify: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The strategy for international travel for staff that the agency has; and</li> <li>b. The governance processes for signing off on each international trip throughout the organisation.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. For financial years ending 30 June 2019, 30 June 2018, 30 June 2017, 30 June 2016 and 30 June 2015, please provide details of the budget and expenditure for international travel for the following areas of the organisation: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. total Agency;</li> <li>b. the Authority;</li> <li>c. the CEO;</li> <li>d. each Division;</li> <li>e. each Branch;</li> <li>f. each Section.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. For financial years ending 30 June 2019, 30 June 2018, 30 June 2017, 30 June 2016 and 30 June 2015, please provide details of individuals who travelled overseas on behalf of the agency, and the related total number of days spent overseas by each individual on behalf of the agency.</li> </ol>	<b>16/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>168.</b>	<b>ACMA</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Community television</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Has the ACMA provided any advice to the Minister for Communications on Community Television in Australia in the past 12 months? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. If so, when?</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<b>16/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. If so, how?</li> <li>2. Does the ACMA have a Spectrum team?</li> <li>3. Is the ACMA aware of any alternative use for the spectrum currently being used by community television broadcasters Channel 31 Melbourne and Channel 44 Adelaide? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. If so, what use?</li> <li>b. If so, when will such use be in effect?</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Would a decision by the Minister to extend the licences for community television broadcasting services be consistent with the object of the <i>Radiocommunications Act 1992</i> to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. maximise the overall public benefit derived from using the radiofrequency spectrum?; and/or</li> <li>b. make adequate provision of the spectrum for use by community services?</li> </ul> </li> <li>5. Would a decision by the Minister to extend the licences for community television broadcasting services be consistent with the objects of the Broadcasting Services Act 1992 to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. promote the availability to audiences throughout Australia of a diverse range of radio and television services offering entertainment, education and information?; and/or</li> <li>b. promote the role of broadcasting services in developing and reflecting a sense of Australian identity, character and cultural diversity?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>169.</b>	<b>ACMA</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Regional and Small Publishers Innovation Fund</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many complaints has the ACMA received about delays to the payment of grants under the Regional and Small Publishers Innovation Fund / Regional Grant Opportunity?</li> <li>2. Did issues around the payment of GST occasion any delay to the payment of funds announced in October 2019? If so, please specify what the problem was and how it was resolved.</li> </ul>	<b>16/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>170.</b>	<b>ACMA</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>TV reception problems in Robertstown, SA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Has the ACMA received complaints about TV reception in Robertstown, SA? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. If so, what has the ACMA done to address the reception problems?</li> <li>b. What options are there for addressing the reception problems?</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Is it possible to upgrade the Effective Radiated Power (ERP) and Antennas at the Eudunda Tower with the view to improving reception at Robertstown, SA?</li> <li>3. Is it possible to upgrade the Burra Transmission Tower?</li> <li>4. Is it possible to erect a repeater on top of the range of hills west of Robertstown to improve reception? If so, what would this cost?</li> </ul>	<b>16/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
<b>171.</b>	<b>ACMA</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Pay TV services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What consumer safeguards are there, if any, for subscription television customers who sign up and pay for the service on the basis of an advertised channel offering but no longer receive all those channels?</li> </ul>	<b>16/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>

				2. Is there a licensing requirement under the Broadcasting Services Act 1992 that requires subscription television broadcasters to offer the advertised service? a. Has the ACMA consulted the ACCC about this issue?	
172.	ACMA	Green	National Self Exclusion Register (NSER)	1. Please provide an update on progress to implement the national self-exclusion register under the National Consumer Protection Framework, including procurement outcomes, if any. 2. What steps are required to establish, trial and test the NSER, and what are the target timeframes for doing so? 3. Will the NSER be implemented by May 2020? 4. When is the NSER expected to be implemented and operational for users to begin to self-exclude? 5. Has funding for this work been rephrased? If so, how is it being phased now?	16/03/2020 Written
173.	Screen Australia	Green	Contribution of creative industries to the economy	<b>Senator GREEN:</b> You might not have an answer to this, but has Screen Australia done any work on the potential of the industry, from an economic-benefit point of view, if we were to expand our studio space? <b>Mr G Mason:</b> There is some work that we have fed into. I think, again, the department has done quite a lot of this over time. <b>Mr Eccles:</b> Certainly the department has the Bureau of Communications and Arts Research undertaking significant amounts of research—and we can provide that to you—that looks at the contribution of the creative industries to the economy, and that includes the significant contribution of the screen production sector.	03/03/2020 Page 103
174.	Screen Australia	Van	Funding applications	<b>Mr G Mason:</b> We do have a corporate plan, which is put out every year, and it sets a whole lot of agendas that we do try to make for. <b>Senator VAN:</b> So, other than a range, are there any other criteria for this funding? <b>Mr G Mason:</b> Well, as I said, it's normally meant to be of quality. It's meant to have a connection to an audience. And it's also—you're aiming for several of these, and some sort of career- and capability-building for the sector. The big thing, Senator, I guess, is a range. <b>Senator VAN:</b> Yes. How many applications do you receive each year? <b>Mr G Mason:</b> It would be several thousand. <b>Senator VAN:</b> And how many projects get funded? <b>Mr G Mason:</b> I will take that on notice to give you the specific number, but I want to say it was just shy of 140 productions—it was about 130-something—that we actually put money into. On top of that, we also do development, we run schemes and we do business and individual practitioner support as well.	03/03/2020 Page 105
175.	Screen Australia	Green	Australian involvement in productions	1. At the recent March 2020 Senate Estimates hearing, Screen Australia mentioned a number of productions underway at Fox Studios, Docklands Studios and in South Australia as having an enormous amount of Australian involvement. Please identify which roles, in each of the productions mentioned,	16/03/2020 Written

				<p>are filled by Australians and which are filled by non-Australians:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Marvel Film 1</li> <li>b. Marvel Film 2</li> <li>c. Shantaram</li> <li>d. Clickbait</li> <li>e. Mortal Combat.</li> </ol> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Please identify the total number of people employed on each film, and what the average amount of Government subsidy is for each role (based on the amount invested by Government):             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Marvel Film 1</li> <li>b. Marvel Film 2</li> <li>c. Shantaram</li> <li>d. Clickbait</li> <li>e. Mortal Combat.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. In terms of the amount of production occurring across Australia, described as a “potential boom”, to what extent does this increase opportunity for employment on:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. international productions, and</li> <li>b. local productions?</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. What impact is the amount of international production occurring in Australian studios having on local Australian production?</li> <li>5. Please explain the difference between what Screen Australia, Ausfilm and Austrade do when it comes to international work for the Australian screen industry.</li> <li>6. Please specify the work that has been done concerning the potential growth in the future for the screen industry, including economic and employment benefits.</li> <li>7. Is there a documented strategy about the investments that Screen Australia makes? If so, please detail.</li> <li>8. What are the different ways that Screen Australia measures success and how does it assign proportion and value to each of those measurements?</li> <li>9. What FTE resources does Screen Australia have working on the Options Paper for Australian and Children’s Screen Content?</li> <li>10. What is the impact on employment and the number of Australian screen businesses should the commercial broadcasters halt production of children’s television?</li> <li>11. Which children’s productions have already been halted by the commercial broadcasters, and what is the impact on businesses, their revenue and employment of these decisions?</li> </ol>	
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				<p>12. Please identify which countries have introduced regulation of SVOD services, on what dates and the nature of that regulation.</p> <p>13. At the recent March 2020 Senate Estimates hearing, a Screen Australia representative mentioned “a group of all the big funding agencies from around the world” at the Berlin Film Festival. Please provide details of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the date/s of any meeting/s of this group;</li> <li>the name of personnel/agencies who attended any meeting;</li> <li>the agenda of any meeting;</li> <li>the outcomes of any meeting.</li> </ol> <p>14. Please identify which countries have introduced regulation of SVOD services, on what dates and the nature of that regulation.</p> <p>15. In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, is it the case that our local onshore industry is totally fine or are there now foreseen disruptions and costs and unemployment associated with the pandemic? What will Screen Australia be doing to assist the industry and how is it working with industry bodies to address the impact of the pandemic?</p>	
176.	Screen Australia	Green	Travel	<p>1. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, can you identify:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The strategy for international travel for staff that the agency has; and</li> <li>The governance processes for signing off on each international trip throughout the organisation.</li> </ol> <p>2. For financial years ending 30 June 2019, 30 June 2018, 30 June 2017, 30 June 2016 and 30 June 2015, please provide details of the budget and expenditure for international travel for the following areas of the organisation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>total agency;</li> <li>the Board;</li> <li>the CEO;</li> <li>Strategy and Operations;</li> <li>Indigenous;</li> <li>Content;</li> <li>Business Affairs and Offset; and</li> <li>Any others.</li> </ol> <p>3. For financial years ending 30 June 2019, 30 June 2018, 30 June 2017, 30 June 2016 and 30 June 2015, please provide details of individuals who travelled overseas on behalf of the agency, and the related total number of days spent overseas by each individual on behalf of the agency.</p>	16/03/2020 Written
177.	Australia Council	Green	Investment in regional areas	<p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> You've mentioned a few times the investment in regional areas. Do you have a breakdown with you or that you can provide on notice of funding recipients for programs you deliver that shows the difference between regional and metropolitan areas?</p>	03/03/2020 Page 107

				<p><b>Mr Collette:</b> Yes, we do have that breakdown and we'll certainly supply it on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> Do you have the numbers or the percentages?</p> <p><b>Mr Collette:</b> I'm looking at my colleague, Mr Blackwell. He may have the numbers.</p> <p><b>Mr Blackwell:</b> We could certainly give you a breakdown tonight of the \$29.3 million between the major components of investment. In terms of all of the programs, obviously, that detail is quite extensive and we would need to take that on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator GREEN:</b> As part of that, could you provide a breakdown by electorate as well? That will allow us to see geographically where some of the funding is going.</p> <p><b>Mr Collette:</b> I think we should be able to give you an idea of the geographic spread on notice. Interestingly, about three years ago we first published the electoral map of Australia that shows the extent of art and creative activity, ticket sales and, importantly, employment in every electorate in Australia. But, with some work, we should be able to help you with information about how regional investment specifically falls around the nation.</p>	
178.	Australia Council	Davey	Regional arts funding	<p><b>Senator DAVEY:</b> I would love to see analysis of how regional they go. When I read the criteria, it says 'three stops outside of your home state, including regional areas', which could be very loosely interpreted. I haven't done that analysis, so I'm not disparaging you at all. You mention the four-year funding program. I asked about that at the last estimates and it was taken on notice. The answer was that of the 121 organisations currently receiving four funding for 2017-20—I acknowledge that the latest rounds are being assessed now—but at that point in time 29 per cent were located in regional or remote areas. Is that reflective of the applications you had, as in pro rata, or is that only 29 per cent met the criteria? Twenty-nine per cent seems rather low when there is no possibility for regional arts organisations to apply for major performing arts funding, and a lot of the other funding is for touring shows—admittedly a lot of regional arts organisations cannot fit the bill; they can't dream of taking anything touring—and our regional arts funding stream goes through state organisations. We want to tick a regional box, but how are we ticking it?</p> <p><b>Mr Collette:</b> That 29 per cent of four-year funded companies feels about right to me. To give you a really helpful answer we would have to take this on notice and do some real analysis.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 108
179.	National Library of Australia	Marielle Smith	Restructure - efficiencies	<p><b>Senator MARIELLE SMITH:</b> You don't have that figure or an estimate?</p> <p><b>Dr Ayres:</b> I can certainly provide it to you on notice. The efficiencies we were putting—we ended up with a determination that means that our people will get pay rises for the next three years. Actually, there were a series of efficiencies, from the restructure and other purposes. We'll take that question on notice.</p>	03/03/2020 Page 111
180.	Classification Board	Griff	Anime and manga	<p>1. In 2018-19 there were only 28 publications submitted for review compared with 225 publications in 2009-10; 204 in 2010-11; 198 in 2011-12; 203 in 2012-13; 195 in 2013-14; 173 in 2014-15, before a significant drop in</p>	13/03/2020 Written

				<p>publications being submitted for classification. Why has there been a large decrease in publications being submitted for review?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. What percentages of titles being published are currently being submitted for classification?</li> <li>3. What initiatives has the Director undertaken or supported which have ensured that publishers and distributors are familiar with their obligations to submit certain publications for classification?</li> <li>4. Does the Director stand by her remark in a <a href="#">September 2019 interview</a> that she is ‘proud’ the Classification Board has not had to refuse classification to a publication since she joined the Board?</li> <li>5. Does the Director believe her personal view has the potential to influence or prejudice members of the Classification Board?</li> <li>6. Has the Director (including her time as Acting Director) intervened or influenced any decisions that might have otherwise led to a Refused Classification (‘RC’) decision?</li> <li>7. There has been a marked decrease in the number of films refused classification from 2014-15 onwards to zero for the past three years. Can the Board explain the significant decrease in films refused classification?</li> <li>8. Has there been any changes to internal benchmarks used by the Board to assess such content?</li> <li>9. In Australia Section 5 of the <i>Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995</i> (‘the Act’) defines what a submittable publication is - including a publication that contains depictions or descriptions which are unsuitable for a minor to see or read and which are likely to result in the publication being refused classification. Quoting from the Guidelines for the Classification of Publications 2005, publications will be classified as Refused Classification:   <p style="text-align: center;">“if they contain descriptions of child sexual abuse or any other exploitative or offensive descriptions or depictions involving a person who is, or appears to be, a child under 18”.</p> <p>Does the Board concede that placing the onus on distributors or publishers to make the assessment as to what is a submittable publication has resulted in publications, that include what that the Board’s own guidelines would define as child exploitation material, not being submitted for classification and going straight to the Australian market for sale?</p> </li> <li>10. Does the Board consider that placing the onus on distributors or a publisher to</li> </ol>	
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				<p>make an assessment as to what is a 'submittable publication' is working in the public interest?</p> <p>11. The Classification Board has the ability to call in submittable publications under section 23 of the Act. On which occasions has the Board called in submittable publications over the last five years?</p> <p>12. Australia has laws against the depiction of children as sexual objects in any form, including cartoons. During Senate estimates the Director stated:      "...[I]t is not uncommon in some Japanese anime for children to be sexualised or for there to be story lines about the sexualisation of children".</p> <p>Has the Director sought advice from the Minister for Communications or the Attorney-General in relation such anime, as described by her, being submitted for classification potentially falling foul of child exploitation material laws contained in the Commonwealth Criminal Code?</p> <p>13. Since the Classification Board has become aware of the issue of child exploitation manga what actions has the Board taken in relation to the issue?</p> <p>14. What actions will the Classification Board take to deal with the issue of child exploitation manga?</p> <p>15. In 2015 an Adelaide man was convicted of possessing 361 of anime classed as child pornography. The judge held that the anime images were not a big leap to viewing child abuse material of actual children. Did the police at the time submit the anime images for classification by the Board? If so, what was the outcome?</p> <p>16. What is the duration of training for a person classifying content?</p> <p>17. Are Decision Reports ever audited? If so, how often?</p> <p>18. In the Guidelines for the Classification of Films it states:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">"Films will be refused classification ('RC') if they include or contain any of the following:      ...      Descriptions or depictions of child sexual abuse or any other exploitative or offensive descriptions involving a person who is, or appears to be, a child under 18 years"      and / or features:      "gratuitous, exploitative or offensive depictions of...incest fantasies or other fantasies which are offensive or abhorrent".</p> <p>Has the Board ever applied the RC category to films containing exploitative</p>	
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				<p>depictions of children? If not, why not?</p> <p>19. Can the Board specify why considerations of storyline and context override the prohibitions in the RC category?</p> <p>20. <i>Eromanga Sensei</i> is an anime movie series about a 12-year-old girl who draws pornography for her stepbrother’s pornographic books and which features incest themes and regular sexualisation of child characters. The Board’s Decision Report dated 18 May 2018 for <i>Eromanga Sensei: Volume 1</i> states that “the film contains strong themes that are justified by context”.</p> <p>The Board Decision Report describes the following scene as follows:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“Masamune reacts in shock and a (sic) image drawn by Sagiri depicting a young girl with rabbit ears crouched over a giant carrot and her skirt lowered to reveal her G-string underwear appears on screen. Sagiri is depicted putting on a pair of similar underwear and crouching as she turns her head to view herself in a mirror”.</p> <p>Can the Board specify why considerations of storyline and context overrode the prohibitions in the RC category in this example?</p> <p>21. Given that one of the aims of the classification system is to provide protection from harm for children, what role does the Board see for knowledge of child development to inform the system and its categories?</p> <p>22. The Director responded to a question in Senate estimates that the role of the Board is to provide information and for parents to be best judge of what might suit their child. This seems to put the onus on parents to know what will and will not impact children at different stages of development and not all will.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Would it not provide more effective protection for all children if that information was an integral part of the classification system?</li> <li>b) The Classification Board, in its submission to the Classification Review, indicated its support for inclusion of a PG13 or YP category in the classification system and removing the age of 15 years from the definitions. How does removing the age of 15 years help?</li> <li>c) How does just adding the ‘YP’ category help parents of young children left without the information they need about suitability?</li> <li>d) And doesn’t that leave the public with ongoing confusion about the differences between M and MA15+? Would an age based system be a better solution all round?</li> </ol>	
<b>181.</b>	<b>ANMM</b>	<b>Gallagher</b>	<b>External contractors</b>	I refer to Question on Notice No. 64 from Supplementary Budget Estimates 2019 on external contractors:	<b>13/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Are the figures provided for management and business professionals and administrative services the same as the figures for all external contractors?</li> <li>2. If no to (1), please provide the figures for all external contractors for each of the financial years from 2013-14 to 2018-19.</li> </ol>	
182.	NMA	Gallagher	External contractors	<p>I refer to Question on Notice No. 64 from Supplementary Budget Estimates 2019 on external contractors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Are the figures provided for management and business professionals and administrative services the same as the figures for all external contractors?</li> <li>2. If no to (1), please provide the figures for all external contractors for each of the financial years from 2013-14 to 2018-19.</li> </ol>	13/03/2020 Written
183.	NBN Co	Griff	ADSL connections and NBN obligations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Where customers have decided to remain on ADSL connections, does NBN Co accept it has an obligation to ensure those services are not adversely affected by interference or other impacts from NBN infrastructure at exchanges/nodes? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. How does it comply with this obligation?</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	13/03/2020 Written
184.	NBN Co	Griff	NBN connections in Boothby and Mayo	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many premises in the electorates of Boothby and Mayo were mapped for fixed line or fixed wireless in 2016 and have been subsequently mapped for satellite? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. What were the reasons for this change?</li> <li>b. Why was fixed wireless not chosen instead of satellite?</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	13/03/2020 Written
185.	NBN Co	Griff	NBN employment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many contractors does NBN currently employ? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. How many does it intend to employ following the completion of the rollout?</li> <li>b. Does NBN have any plans for transition or retraining of these contractors?</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Have any NBN executives received an increase in remuneration owing to the revised 2019 or 2020 targets? If so, please provide the additional remuneration for each employee and each revision to the annual target.</li> </ol>	13/03/2020 Written
186.	NBN Co	Kitching	Functions and events	<p><b>Entertainment spend – 1 July 2018-31 October 2019</b></p> <p>With reference to Supplementary Budget Estimates 2019-20 question on notice number 31 and noting the principle, repeatedly affirmed by the Senate, that there are no areas in connection with the expenditure of public funds where there is a discretion to withhold details or explanations from the Parliament unless the Parliament has expressly provided, can the National Broadband Network Co Limited complete the table below in chronological order for functions and events for the period 1 July 2018 to 31 October 2019 which totalled \$874,000 (incl GST), including, but not limited to, those held for external stakeholder and community groups.</p>	13/03/2020 Written

				Date of event	Time	Location (including venue name and full address)	Purpose of event	Minister in attendance? Yes or No	Number of attendees from NBN Co	Number of departmental officers	Number of other attendees	Total cost \$
				<p><b>Entertainment spend – 1 November 2019-31 January 2020</b></p> <p>Noting the principle, repeatedly affirmed by the Senate, that there are no areas in connection with the expenditure of public funds where there is a discretion to withhold details or explanations from the Parliament unless the Parliament has expressly provided, can the National Broadband Network Co Limited complete the table below in chronological order for functions and events for the period 1 November 2019 to 31 January 2020, including, but not limited to, those held for external stakeholder and community groups.</p>								
				Date of event	Time	Location (including venue name and full address)	Purpose of event	Minister in attendance? Yes or No	Number of attendees from NBN Co	Number of departmental officers	Number of other attendees	Total cost \$
187.	NBN Co	Green	The NBN multi-technology mix – over budget	<p>a. In 2013, the Coalition promised to deliver the NBN for peak funding of \$29.5 billion. How much peak-funding is the Government’s multi-technology mix now expected to require – can you confirm it is \$51 billion?</p> <p>b. Why is the Coalition’s NBN costing \$21.5 billion more than originally promised? What can these cost increases be primarily attributed to?</p>								16/03/2020 Written
188.	NBN Co	Green	The NBN multi-technology mix – behind schedule	<p>a. In 2013, the Coalition promised every Australian would have access to minimum speeds of 25 Mbps by the end of 2016. Can you confirm this target was missed up by up to 7 million premises?</p> <p>b. Why is the rollout four years behind what the Government promised?</p>								16/03/2020 Written
189.	NBN Co	Green	HFC cost per premise	What costs associated with HFC are not included in the cost per premise?								16/03/2020 Written
190.	NBN Co	Green	Network reliability HFC	<p>a. Please provide a breakdown of HFC network reliability for each month of 2020 to date.</p> <p>b. What types of network outages are not captured in the HFC reliability figures which NBN has been supplying to the Senate?</p>								16/03/2020 Written
191.	NBN Co	Green	Network reliability all access technologies	Please provide a breakdown of network reliability for the months of December 2019 and January 2020 across each technology footprint deployed by NBN Co.								16/03/2020 Written
192.	NBN Co	Green	Technology choice - FTTC	<p>a. Does FTTN to FTTC technology choice exist yet? If no why not?</p> <p>b. Does FTTC to FTTP technology choice exist?</p>								16/03/2020 Written

193.	NBN Co	Green	Technology choice - HFC	Is HFC to FTTP technology choice now available to the public? If yes, how many individual switch quotes have been received to date?	16/03/2020 Written
194.	NBN Co	Green	Technology choice - FTTP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. How many FTTN to FTTP individual switch technology choice quotes has NBN received to date?</li> <li>b. How many Fixed Wireless to FTTP individual switch technology choice quotes has NBN received to date?</li> </ul>	16/03/2020 Written
195.	NBN Co	Green	Interest cost - \$2 billion peak funding increase	What is the rough annual interest cost (\$m/year) on the \$2 billion increase in peak funding first revealed in the 2020 Corporate Plan?	16/03/2020 Written
196.	NBN Co	Green	Cumulative Capex – fixed wireless	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. What was the cumulative CAPEX for the fixed-wireless network as of 1 March 2020?</li> <li>b. How many NBN fixed wireless towers have been built? How many fixed wireless cells have been deployed?</li> </ul>	16/03/2020 Written
197.	NBN Co	Green	Fixed wireless	What costs associated with fixed wireless are not included in the published cost per premise (CPP)?	16/03/2020 Written
198.	NBN Co	Green	Revenue trajectory	What revenue and/or ARPU trajectory assumptions does NBN assume in the 2020 Corporate Plan as part of the long term projections beyond FY23? Does it continue to assume 2.5 per cent ARPU growth year on year?	16/03/2020 Written
199.	NBN Co	Green	Customer Experience Metric (CEM)	What was the score for the RSP benchmark survey in February 2020? This was referred to in QON149 from Supplementary Estimates 2019-20.	16/03/2020 Written
200.	NBN Co	Green	Lowest take-up by FSA	Please list 10 Fibre Serving Areas by lowest level of take-up in areas where migration period is complete.	16/03/2020 Written
201.	NBN Co	Green	FTTC by state	Please provide the number of premises in each state and territory due to receive FTTC	16/03/2020 Written
202.	NBN Co	Green	HFC by state	Please provide the number of premises in each state and territory due to receive HFC	16/03/2020 Written
203.	NBN Co	Green	Future CAPEX	What type of fixed-line footprint is expected to have higher future capital expenditure requirements – an MTM consisting of fibre, copper and HFC — or an FTTP network?	16/03/2020 Written
204.	NBN Co	Green	Satellite	How many satellite premises have been impacted by outages over the past six months?	16/03/2020 Written
205.	NBN Co	Green	Advocacy metric	<p>Regarding the answer to QON 153 from Supplementary Estimates 2019-20:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. If NBN no longer uses ‘advocacy’ as a metric what does it use? When did the new metric come into effect?</li> <li>b. What was the customer experience metric in the first month when it came into effect?</li> <li>c. What was the customer experience metric in January 2020?</li> </ul>	16/03/2020 Written

206.	NBN Co	Green	Bushfire impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. What proportion of services impacted by outages during the recent bushfires were on fixed wireless?</li> <li>b. What proportion were on FTTN?</li> <li>c. How many services were impacted during peak impact?</li> <li>d. How many services overall were impacted over the duration of the bushfires?</li> <li>e. What proportion of service impact was due to fire?</li> </ul>	16/03/2020 Written														
207.	NBN Co	Green	Median usage FFTP	What is the median amount of monthly usage on FFTP?	16/03/2020 Written														
208.	NBN Co	Green	Service faults – total	Please provide <u>the total number</u> of service faults lodged with NBN in FY19-20 to date	16/03/2020 Written														
209.	NBN Co	Green	Service Faults – breakdown by access technology	Please provide <u>the total number</u> of service faults lodged with NBN in FY19-20 to date, broken down by access technology.	16/03/2020 Written														
210.	NBN Co	Green	Missed appointments	Please provide <u>the number</u> of missed technician appointments in FY19-20 to date	16/03/2020 Written														
211.	NBN Co	Green	SAMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. How many FTTN SAMS/Nodes (whichever is more appropriate) had co-existence switched off as of March 2019?</li> <li>b. How many FTTN SAMS/Nodes (whichever is more appropriate) were no longer subject to co-existence as of March 2020?</li> </ul>	16/03/2020 Written														
212.	NBN Co	Green	Cumulative Capex - satellite	Do the cumulative capex figures for Satellite include costs associated with the interim satellite service (ISS)?	16/03/2020 Written														
213.	NBN Co	Green	Cumulative revenue	What is cumulative NBN revenue from FY11-FY21	16/03/2020 Written														
214.	NBN Co	Green	Cumulative opex	What is cumulative NBN opex (including subscriber payments) from FY11-FY21?	16/03/2020 Written														
215.	NBN Co	Green	Cumulative interest	What are the cumulative interest costs incurred by NBNC Co from FY11-FY21?	16/03/2020 Written														
216.	NBN Co	Green	HFC RFS	<p>Please provide a breakdown of HFC RFS at the following intervals:</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Period</th> <th>HFC RFS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Q2-2014</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q3-2014</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q4-2014</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q1-2015</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q2-2015</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q3-2015</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Period	HFC RFS	Q2-2014		Q3-2014		Q4-2014		Q1-2015		Q2-2015		Q3-2015		16/03/2020 Written
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<b>217.</b>	<b>NBN Co</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>HFC RTC</b>	<p>Please provide a breakdown of HFC RTC at the following intervals where RTC data is available:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><b>Period</b></th> <th><b>HFC RFS</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Q2-2014</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q3-2014</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q4-2014</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q1-2015</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q2-2015</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q3-2015</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q4-2015</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q1-2016</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q2-2016</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q3-2016</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q4-2016</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q1-2017</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q2-2017</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q3-2017</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q4-2018</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q1 - 2019</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q2 - 2019</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q3 - 2019</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q4 - 2019</td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Period</b>	<b>HFC RFS</b>	Q2-2014		Q3-2014		Q4-2014		Q1-2015		Q2-2015		Q3-2015		Q4-2015		Q1-2016		Q2-2016		Q3-2016		Q4-2016		Q1-2017		Q2-2017		Q3-2017		Q4-2018		Q1 - 2019		Q2 - 2019		Q3 - 2019		Q4 - 2019		<b>16/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
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<b>218.</b>	<b>NBN Co</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Activations by technology</b>	<p>Please provide the number of cumulative premises activated for each technology, to at least two decimal points, for each of the following technologies.</p>	<b>16/03/2020</b>																																								

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Fixed wireless																											
<b>219.</b>	<b>NBN Co</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>FTTP overbuild</b>	To how many premises has NBN overbuilt FTTN with FTTP?	<b>16/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>																						
<b>220.</b>	<b>NBN Co</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Fixed-wireless congestion</b>	<p>Please complete the following table:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Average busy hour speed</th> <th>% of total cells</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>&lt;3mbps</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>3-6 mbps</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>6~12mbps</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>12~25mbps</td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Average busy hour speed	% of total cells	<3mbps		3-6 mbps		6~12mbps		12~25mbps		<b>16/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>												
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<b>221.</b>	<b>NBN Co</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>FTTC distribution units</b>	<p>How many NBN FTTC distribution units (DPUs) have been replaced since July 2019? Can NBN confirm up to 400 or more are being replaced every month?</p>	<b>16/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>																						
<b>222.</b>	<b>NBN Co</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>FTTC RFS</b>	<p>Please provide a breakdown of FTTC RFS at the following intervals:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Period</th> <th>FTTC RFS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Q1-2016</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q2-2016</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q3-2016</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q4-2016</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q1-2017</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q2-2017</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q3-2017</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q4-2018</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q1 - 2019</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q2 - 2019</td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Period	FTTC RFS	Q1-2016		Q2-2016		Q3-2016		Q4-2016		Q1-2017		Q2-2017		Q3-2017		Q4-2018		Q1 - 2019		Q2 - 2019		<b>16/03/2020</b> <b>Written</b>
Period	FTTC RFS																										
Q1-2016																											
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Q4-2018																											
Q1 - 2019																											
Q2 - 2019																											

				Q3 - 2019			
				Q4 - 2019			
223.	NBN Co	Green	Fixed wireless RFS	Please provide a breakdown of Fixed Wireless RFS:			16/03/2020 Written
				<b>Period</b>	<b>HFC RFS</b>		
				Q1-2013			
				Q2-2013			
				Q3-2013			
				Q4-2013			
				Q1-2014			
				Q2-2014			
				Q3-2014			
				Q4-2014			
				Q1-2015			
				Q2-2015			
				Q3-2015			
				Q4-2015			
				Q1-2016			
				Q2-2016			
				Q3-2016			
				Q4-2016			
				Q1-2017			
				Q2-2017			
				Q3-2017			
				Q4-2018			
				Q1-2019			
				Q2-2019			
				Q3-2019			
				Q4-2019			
224.	NBN Co	Green	Not Ready to Connect/Service Class Zero	Please provide a breakdown of premises not ready to connect by technology type. Provide the number of premises for each technology.			16/03/2020 Written
				<b>Technology</b>	<b>Number of SCO premises</b>	<b>% of RFS</b>	
				FTTP			
				FTTC			
				FTTN			

				FTTB			
				HFC			
225.	NBN Co	Green	Copper purchases	How many metres of new copper has NBN purchased to date?			16/03/2020 Written
226.	NBN Co	Green	FTTC lead-ins	Are NBN Co having to replace entire copper-leads on FTTC? If yes, what proportion?			16/03/2020 Written
227.	NBN Co	Green	HFC lead-ins	What proportion of HFC lead-ins have had to be replaced?			16/03/2020 Written
228.	NBN Co	Green	Cycle time - FTTC	Regarding the response to QON 147 of Supplementary Estimates 2019-20 a. Is the cycle time for an entire FTTC SAM? What does it actually refer to? b. What activities are included in the 'once in construction' phase? For example, does that include pit remediation for FTTC deployment? c. What activities are not included in the construction phase? d. What is the overall average cycle type for an FTTC SAM?			16/03/2020 Written
229.	NBN Co	Green	Subscriber payments	Have total subscriber payments to Telstra been revised downwards since 2016?			16/03/2020 Written
230.	NBN Co	Green	Fixed-wireless revenue forecasts	Regarding the response to QON 166 of Supplementary Estimates 2019-20: a. Why did NBN reduce the forecast number of fixed wireless activations by 20,000 premises? b. Does this mean the underlying NBN forecast is 0.34 million premises?			16/03/2020 Written
231.	NBN Co	Green	HFC pause in November 2017	Is it true that some NBN retail service providers threatened to stop selling HFC prior to November 2017, as the HFC service was producing too many faults?			16/03/2020 Written
232.	NBN Co	Green	FTTP – design phase	What is the average design phase contribution (in \$) to the published FTTP Cost per Premises?			16/03/2020 Written
233.	NBN Co	Green	FTTN – lead ins	a. How many FTTN lead-ins has NBN had to replace or remediate to date? b. Is it true NBN is refusing to do these despite repeated requests from retail providers? And delaying them by up to three years?			16/03/2020 Written
234.	NBN Co	Green	Staff numbers	a. How many staff do NBN currently employ? Please provide a breakdown for temporary staff (contractors) b. How many staff work in the companies IT department? How many staff have been temporarily contracted into the IT department? c. What is the current head count for NBN's corporate affairs and public relations functions? Please break down by employment band.			16/03/2020 Written
235.	NBN Co	Green	CAPEX to sales	What long-term capex to sales ratio is assumed in the 2020 NBN Corporate Plan			16/03/2020

			<b>ratio</b>	forecasts beyond FY23?	<b>Written</b>
<b>236.</b>	<b>NBN Co</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Cumulative common and other CAPEX</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. What is cumulative Common and Other CAPEX as of FY19? I.e. CAPEX not tied to the network build.</li> <li>b. What is cumulative Common and Other CAPEX forecast to be as of FY2020 based on the 2020 Corporate Plan?</li> <li>c. What is cumulative Common and Other CAPEX forecast to be as of FY2021 based on the 2020 Corporate Plan?</li> <li>d. What is cumulative Common and Other CAPEX forecast to be as of FY2022 based on the 2020 Corporate Plan?</li> <li>e. Please provide a description of what Common and Other Capex typically includes.</li> </ul>	<b>16/03/2020 Written</b>
<b>237.</b>	<b>NBN Co</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Cumulative network build CAPEX</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. What is cumulative network build CAPEX forecast to be as of FY2020 based on the 2020 Corporate Plan?</li> <li>b. What is cumulative network build CAPEX forecast to be as of FY2021 based on the 2020 Corporate Plan?</li> <li>c. What is cumulative network build CAPEX forecast to be as of FY2022 based on the 2020 Corporate Plan?</li> <li>d. Do the figures above include or exclude Transit capex?</li> </ul>	<b>16/03/2020 Written</b>
<b>238.</b>	<b>NBN Co</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Cumulative transit CAPEX</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. What is cumulative transit CAPEX to FY2020 based on the 2020 Corporate Plan?</li> <li>b. What is cumulative transit CAPEX to FY2021 based on the 2020 Corporate Plan?</li> <li>c. What is cumulative transit CAPEX to FY2022 based on the 2020 Corporate Plan?</li> </ul>	<b>16/03/2020 Written</b>
<b>239.</b>	<b>NBN Co</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Fixed-Wireless – abandoned plans for 100 mbps product</b>	<p>On 30 May 2017 Bill Morrow said:  “NBN has announced this new, ultra-fast Fixed Wireless NBN 100 speed tier in response to demand in regional Australia where Fixed Wireless services are available or planned”.  “The NBN Fixed Wireless network is a genuine world leader. It’s really exciting to be launching this game changing product for our Fixed Wireless customers across rural and regional Australia”.  “This is just one more example of NBN’s flexibility to introduce technology advancements without slowing down the rollout. It fits neatly into the upgrade path for Fixed Wireless and ensures we meet our commitment to provide a network for the future regardless of technology”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. What was average data usage on the NBN fixed wireless network when Mr Morrow made this announcement?</li> <li>b. What was average data usage on the NBN fixed wireless network when NBN Co subsequently abandoned this announcement?</li> </ul>	<b>16/03/2020 Written</b>

240.	NBN Co	Green	Samford NBN rollout	<p>During the Additional Estimates 2019-20 hearing, an update was provided on NBN's progress of the technology review in response to the Senate petition across the Samford and Districts suburbs of 4520.</p> <p>Ms Katherine Dyer (NBN Co) responded stating that NBN have "completed the review and approximately 95% of the area will move to fixed line technology, dependant on the passive network that's available, being a combination of FTTC, FTTP or FTTN" and "we are in the process of updating the community and that has happened over the past week or so".</p> <p>Please note: As per the petition criteria, "the community" (the "area" identified by Ms Dyer) consists of <u>all</u> suburbs with a 4520 postcode.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Can NBN co. define the "passive network" mentioned by Ms Dyer and provide the current capacity and availability of the "passive network" coverage in the 4520 postcode area? Specifically, detailing the number of premises to be supported on the passive network? As a follow-up, where the "passive network" doesn't exist or is in an unusable condition, will NBN Co. provide a fixed line service? There may be a vast numerical discrepancy between 95% of all premises with a 4520 postcode and 95% of premises where the "passive network" is "available".</li> <li>b. Can NBN confirm that the stated 95% of the community allocated to FTTC, FTTP or FTTN will be across all suburbs with a 4520 postcode?</li> <li>c. Can NBN provide detailed information on who, how, and the date on which the community engagement took place "over the past week or so"?</li> <li>d. What are the proposed time frames for the planned 95% fixed line technology rollout – ideally on a suburb by suburb basis - and what form will community engagement and notification take?</li> <li>e. Please explain why suburbs with a 4520 postcode were identified as "priority locations" and subsequently removed (2015), despite the clear SOE direction to service such locations earlier than areas that were already well-served with ADSL technologies?</li> <li>f. Many 4520 residents cannot get ADSL and the local copper network is deteriorating rapidly. As a consequence, 4G take-up has been exceptionally high in the area which has already resulted in 4G congestion issues. The Samford community have nowhere left to go if NBN Co. fail to meet their SOE objective of "providing services that meet the needs of end users". Prioritisation certainly hasn't happened in 4520 per the SOE. Has NBN Co. run out of funds, and are 4520 residents the unlucky ones who NBN Co. and the</li> </ol>	16/03/2020 Written
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government will fail to service adequately – thereby not fulfilling the SOE requirement to meet the needs of end users?

The table below is a dataset of copper distribution areas falling within the 4520 postcode with technology allocations pre and post the 2019 election and the community expectation of technology outcomes, as per the April 2019 Senate petition for suburbs with a 4520 postcode, to a minimum of FTTC.

As per 03rd March 2020 Senate estimates hearing, NBN Co (Katherine Dyer) announced that the technology had been completed and that 95% of the community will move to a fixed line outcome.

g. Can NBN please provide a DA by DA detailed update as to each area being reviewed and the technology allocation outcome?

Copper Distribution Area (DA)	Suburb (4520)	Premises Count (as at 2014)	Pre-Election	Post-Election	Community Advocacy	NBN Infrastructure Build Complete / Underway	NBN Technology Review (Yes/No)	NBN Technology Review Outcome
MNBO:1	Mt Nebo	140	Satellite	Satellite	FTTC			
MNBO:2	Mt Nebo	54	Satellite	Satellite	FTTC			
MTGS:1	Mt Glorious	32	Satellite	Satellite	FTTC			
MTGS:2	Mt Glorious	33	Satellite	Satellite	FTTC			
MTGS:3	Mt Glorious	39	Satellite	Satellite	FTTC			
MTGS:4	Mt Glorious	57	Satellite	Satellite	FTTC			
HGLE:1	Highvale	79	FTTC	FW	FTTC			
HGLE:2	Highvale	118	FTTC	FW	FTTC			
HGLE:3	Highvale	86	FTTC	FW	FTTC			
HGLE:500	Highvale	75	FTTC	FW	FTTC			
SAOD:1	Wights Mountain	153				Complete: FTTC		
SAOD:2	Samford	122				Complete: FTTC		
SAOD:3	Yugar	142	FW	FW	FTTC			
SAOD:4	Camp Mountain	107	Forgotten	Forgotten	FTTC			
SAOD:5	Samford	60				Complete: FTTC		
SAOD:6	Wights Mountain	245	FTTC	FW	FTTC			
SAOD:7	Camp Mountain	132	Forgotten	Forgotten	FTTC			
SAOD:8	Samford	134	FTTC	FW	FTTC			
SAOD:9	Samford	52	FW	FW	FTTC			
SAOD:10	Samford	65				Completed: FTTN		
SAOD:11	Samford	131				Completed: FTTN		
SAOD:12	Camp Mountain	139	FTTC	FW	FTTC			
SAOD:13	Samford	193				Completed: FTTN		

				SAOD:14									
				SAOD:15	Draper	96	FW	FW	FTTC				
				SAOD:16	Samford	178				Completed: FTTC			
				SAOD:17									
				SAOD:18	Wights Mountain	46	FTTC	FW	FTTC				
				SAOD:19	Bunya	67	FTTC	FW	FTTC				
				SAOD:20	Samford	55	FTTC	FW	FTTC				
				SAOD:21									
				SAOD:22									
				SAOD:23	Samford	152				Completed: FTTC			
				SAOD:24	Samford	93				Completed: FTTC			
				SAOD:25									
				SAOD:26	Samford	99				Completed: FTTC			
				SAOD:27									
				SAOD:28	Samford	38				Completed: FTTC			
				SAOD:29	Samford	52				Completed: FTTC			
				SAOD:30	Samford	99				Completed: FTTC			
				SAOD:31	Bunya	57	FTTC	FW	FTTC				
				SAOD:801	Samford	1				Completed: FTTC			
				CLRN:1	Closeburn	120	FW	FW	FTTC	Build: Commenced			
				CLRN:2	Closeburn	46	FW	FW	FTTC	Build: Commenced			
				CLRN:3	Mt Samson	88	FW	FW	FTTC	Build: Commenced			
				CLRN:4	Cedar Creek	145	Satellite	Satellite	FTTC				
				CLRN:5	Closeburn	62	FW	FW	FTTC				
				CLRN:6	Cedar Creek	64	Satellite	Satellite	FTTC				
				CLRN:7	Clear Mountain	132	Satellite	Satellite	FTTC				
				SVLE:1	Kobble Creek	113	FW	FW	FTTC	Completed: FW			
				SVLE:2	Samsonvale	140	FW	FW	FTTC	Build: Commenced			
				SVLE:3	Kobble Creek	47	FW	FW	FTTC				
				SVLE:501	Samsonvale	5	FW	FW	FTTC				
				DAYB:7	Armstrong Creek	47	FW	FW	FTTC	Completed: FW			
				DAYB:9	Dayboro	81	Satellite	Satellite	FTTC				
241.	NBN Co	Green	Samford NBN rollout with reference to Senate question on notice	<p><b><u>With reference to Senate question on notice Q941, submitted by Senator Chisholm on 12 November 2019:</u></b></p> <p>a. NBN Co’s response to question 1a indicated that 857 premises were “ready for service” on satellite within the 4520 area - and were not within the scope of the promised technology review.</p> <p>In February 2020, NBN Co. released the number of active (103) / inactive (545) satellite services within the Brisbane GPO “metro” area – a 25 km radius. A significant number of the 857 premises in the 4520 area fall within 25 km of the Brisbane GPO. The Samford community note the discrepancy in the number provided to Senate (857) and the number presented to the public (648). We also note that the majority, if not all, of the “metro” premises allocated to satellite within 25km of the Brisbane GPO would be</p>									16/03/2020 Written

concentrated in the 4520 area.

General Post Office (GPO) (*)	Active nbn satellite services within 25km of GPO at 12 Nov/2019	Potential, inactive nbn satellite services (**) within 25km of GPO at 12 Nov/2019
Adelaide GPO	462	1917
Brisbane GPO	103	545
Hobart GPO	264	777
Melbourne GPO	61	802
Perth GPO	115	492
Sydney GPO	28	111
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1033</b>	<b>4644</b>

Community feedback, especially from residents residing within the suburbs of Mt Nebo and Mt Glorious, has clearly indicated that NBN Co. SkyMuster services are untenable, with many cancelling SkyMuster services to move to competing 4G telecommunications services – if they can receive a telco signal.

Please confirm that the 857 “ready for service” satellite designated premises are within the scope of the technology review? If not, why – when they are within the 25 km “metro” radius?

- b. There has been no update to the NBN Co. website across 4520 suburbs since December 2019. How will residents receive confirmation of a technology change for their premises? When is NBN Co’s expected date to release this information?
- c. The Samford community understands that technology decisions are made on several criteria, and NBN Co’s response states that fixed wireless, FTTC and FTTN are less viable technologies for the community. The suburbs of Highvale, Wights Mountain, Samford Valley, Bunya and Draper moved from fibre to the curb to fixed wireless post the July Federal election. The community have details on numerous properties from these suburbs, clearly showing that FTTC was allocated prior to the election, then revoked after the election. Will the technology allocations for these suburbs be reverted to their original designation pre-election, or better?
- d. The suburbs of Mt Nebo and Mt Glorious have been satellite “ready for service” since 2016 and are not low premise density. Many premises in these areas cannot meet line of sight requirements due to being within a National Park under heritage and conservation protection, like the suburb of Belgrave – see NBN Co. Blog – nbn in pole position.

				<p>Note: Belgrave is 35km's from the Melbourne GPO, whereas Mt Nebo &amp; Mt Glorious are within 25kms of the Brisbane GPO.</p> <p>These suburbs have electricity and town water, yet NBN Co. has designated them as "too hard", with no regard to environmental protections and technical limitations that preclude residents from clearing trees (or moving mountains) to get line of sight to NBN Co. satellite or fixed wireless services.</p> <p>Please confirm that NBN Co is considering these two suburbs within the scope of the technology review? Why hasn't NBN Co taken the same approach in these instances, as it has with other suburbs (e.g. Belgrave)?</p> <p>e. Moreton Bay Regional Council cites an exceptionally high percentage of small businesses operating within 4520 postcode suburbs. It is, nationally, one of the highest resident/SME areas. Has NBN taken into consideration the high proportion of SME business users who operate from home offices in the recent technology review – particularly with regard to the SOE requirement of providing services that "meet the needs" of end users?</p> <p>f. What was the outcome of the technology review for the suburbs of Draper, Closeburn, Cedar Creek, Yugar and Clear Mountain?</p> <p>g. There is little discernible difference between premises in Camp Mountain, Samford Valley, Wights Mountain, and Highvale – and other 4520 premises where NBN Co. has already deployed fixed line services (FTTC). The same is true of other areas locally such as Mt Crosby, Brookfield, and Pullenvale. Interstate, are areas such as Dural in Sydney or Belgrave at the foot of the Dandenongs. Why is NBN Co taking different rollout approaches for suburbs with similar characteristics across the nation – or across the street (Mount Glorious Road), as is the case for the 4520 suburbs listed above?</p> <p>h. Aerial fibre has been implemented in portions of the active 4520 fixed line deployment. Does NBN Co. anticipate that the amended rollout schedule to 95% of the remaining properties in the district will also be (primarily) aerially deployed?</p>	
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