

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2019-20

Communications and the Arts portfolio – Tuesday, 22 October 2019

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
1.	1.1 [Minister]	Green	Institute of Public Affairs	<p>Senator GREEN: On a different topic, if I may: Minister, are you a member of the Institute of Public Affairs?</p> <p>Senator Reynolds: No.</p> <p>Senator GREEN: Have you ever been a member of the IPA?</p> <p>Senator Reynolds: I don't believe so. I'd have to take that on notice and check, but how is this relevant to communications?</p> <p>CHAIR: Order! Senator Green, how does that relate to this portfolio?</p> <p>Senator GREEN: I'm happy to ask these questions and I'm sure that it will become apparent.</p> <p>CHAIR: You will have the call if you're asking questions related to the portfolio. I'm not sure that the minister's private memberships—or, in this case, lack thereof—of external organisations relate to the portfolio. But you have the call.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 6
2.	1.1	Hanson- Young	Government responses to reports	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: What about this committee's report into Australian content on broadcast radio and streaming services? You'd remember your department appeared in front of that a couple of times. We handed down our report in March this year. Have you had to prepare a brief or a response yet to that for the minister?</p> <p>Mr Mrdak: Yes, an advice has been provided by the department to the minister and a draft response for the minister's consideration.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Do you have any idea when we should be getting a response for that?</p> <p>Mr Mrdak: Not that I'm aware at this time. I think the minister is still considering it. Obviously a number of the issues raised in the committee's report were also flagged in the ACCC report. I anticipate that a number of those matters will be brought together in the government's response to the ACCC; hence I</p>	22/10/2019 Page 7-8

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				<p>would expect that it would be unlikely that the government would respond to the committee prior to taking a position on the ACCC report. But those decisions are yet to be taken.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Does the same go for the House of Representatives report from the inquiry into the Australian film and television industry from 2017?</p> <p>Mr Mrdak: Yes, I'd expect so. A number of those matters, particularly in relation to the provision of Australian content on the new platforms and those issues that were raised in the ACCC report, I expect, will all factor into the government's response to both of those inquiries.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: I assume that the answer to this question is going to be the same but, just to be clear and so that it's on the record, does that include the government's own commissioned content review?</p> <p>Mr Mrdak: That's feeding into our advice to government, yes.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: We still haven't had that released at all and I think I've asked several times in this committee if it's ever going to see the light of day. Have you been given direction not to release it or has there been a decision made that it'll never be seen by the public?</p> <p>Mr Mrdak: Not to my knowledge. The matter remains under consideration by the government. It remains a matter for government as to whether they wish to release that report. It is now somewhat dated and a number of the key areas that are canvassed in that report have been canvassed, including by this committee, in subsequent reports.</p> <p>Senator Reynolds: Senator Hanson-Young, I'm happy to take specific questions on timing on notice in order to get you the precise information.</p>	
3.	1.1	Green	ABC budget	<p>Senator GREEN: You don't want to answer the question about why the government is using the words 'additional funding' when actually they're cutting the funding to the ABC?</p> <p>Senator Reynolds: I dispute what you're saying. Again, as part of good</p>	22/10/2019 Page 10

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				government, every agency and every government department from time to time has efficiency dividends to produce and the ABC, with its \$1 billion budget, is not exempt from that. That is a longstanding government practice by many governments of many different colours. It's good government; it's good management. I don't have the detail of the ABC budget in front of me because it's not in the ABC item. If you want to get into the minutiae of the ABC budget, I would have to take such questions on notice perhaps until the ABC comes.	
4.	1.1	Marielle Smith	Online safety awareness campaign	<p>Senator MARIELLE SMITH: In that coordination did the minister or the minister's office have any role in developing or overseeing the campaign?</p> <p>Mr Mrdak: As with all government campaigns, the minister approved various stages of the campaign, as did the ministerial committee that oversees government communications.</p> <p>Senator MARIELLE SMITH: And were there any ministers or ministers' offices who had input to the campaign other than the communications minister?</p> <p>Mr Mrdak: It went through the ministerial committee—</p> <p>Senator MARIELLE SMITH: Sorry, who is on that?</p> <p>Mr Mrdak: I will get that detail for you. I don't think I have got the full list with us but I will get that for you through the course of today.</p> <p>Senator MARIELLE SMITH: That would be great.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 29
5.	1.1	Marielle Smith	Online safety campaign – post- evaluation review	<p>Senator MARIELLE SMITH: Mr Penprase, are you able to table those details or is the report available publicly, for us to access?</p> <p>Mr Penprase: It is not available publicly. We can certainly provide some details about that evaluation campaign.</p> <p>Senator MARIELLE SMITH: If you could provide that to the committee, that would be helpful.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 31
6.	1.1	Hanson- Young	Reports being released to the	Senator Reynolds: Senator Hanson-Young, I can confirm that the minister is working with both the ABC and the SBS on the issues raised in the efficiency	22/10/2019 Page 41-42

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
			public	<p>review.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Yes, but the review and the reports were written a long time ago. They have been kept secret. I am trying to ascertain when the public will have the right to know.</p> <p>Senator Reynolds: Given this is not my portfolio, I don't have that information on hand, so I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Mr Mrdak, have you ever had a sense that that would be released, or was a decision made long ago that it would be kept secret?</p> <p>Senator Reynolds: Senator Hanson-Young, I have taken that on notice—it is an important question.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: But you are not the actual minister. The secretary is right here. I am sure he will be able to give me an answer.</p> <p>Senator Reynolds: The question you asked was one of government, as I understood, and government policy, so I have taken it on notice. I will seek information from the minister and get back to you.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Let me ask a question of the secretary in a way that he might be able to give an indication. Mr Mrdak, are you of the understanding that this report into the efficiency of both the ABC and the SBS would remain confidential?</p> <p>Mr Mrdak: Consideration has been given to releasing a public version of that report, which would deal with some of the sensitivities Mr Taylor has mentioned. That is a matter still before government.</p>	
7.	1.1	Kitching	Department expenditure on media monitoring & information campaigns	<p>Senator KITCHING: Do you use media monitoring?</p> <p>Mr Galdys: We do.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Can you give me the department's expenditure commencing—for the last financial year, 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019?</p> <p>Mr Galdys: I can give you an approximate. If you would like a more definitive figure I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Just the approximate and then if you could on notice give</p>	22/10/2019 Page 58-59

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>me the exact figure.</p> <p>Mr Galdys: That is paid on a monthly basis with a provider and it's about \$30,000 per month.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: And is the provider—which one do you use?</p> <p>Mr Galdys: It is Accenture.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: If you're going to take the exact figure on notice, could you also take on notice and give me an itemised list of all AusTender contract notice numbers for all media monitoring contracts? Is that possible?</p> <p>Mr Galdys: Yes.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: When you run information campaigns—can you give me a total expenditure figure on the information campaigns?</p> <p>Mr Galdys: The online safety campaign?</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Yes, I will take that.</p> <p>Mr Galdys: That is the only campaign that we've run, so—</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Yes, that'll be the one. Can you also give me the AusTender contract notice numbers for that as well?</p> <p>Mr Galdys: Yes.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Was there any promotional—did you do any promotional merchandise or anything?</p> <p>Mr Galdys: As part of that campaign?</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Just generally firstly. Do you do any—</p> <p>Mr Galdys: It's not something that we commonly do. There was a small element as part of the online safety campaign as part of the PR activity.</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: Just on the e-safety campaign, who won that? Who was awarded that tender?</p> <p>Mr Galdys: There were a number of vendors associated with that. Is there any specific aspect that you're looking at?</p> <p>Senator KITCHING: I'd like all of them, but I'm happy for you to take it on notice and then come back to me.</p> <p>Mr Galdys: Because there is obviously a creative agency, a PR agency and a</p>	

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				non-English-speaking background vendor.	
8.	1.1	Green	Report – Australia's regional television broadcasting industry	<p>Senator GREEN: Will that report be made available—the report on Australia's regional television broadcasting—after it's been considered?</p> <p>Mr Mrdak: I'd have to take that on notice, Senator. As I said, at the moment it's forming part of the consideration by government. I will take on notice whether that report will be made publicly available.</p> <p>Senator GREEN: I assume that also means that you'll be putting on notice what the key findings of that report are?</p> <p>Mr Mrdak: Yes, I will.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 62
9.	1.1	Urquhart	Mobile Black Spot program - timelines	<p>Senator URQUHART: In April we established that 167 mobile base stations promised by the Mobile Black Spot program had yet to be switched on. Can you tell me how many towers from round 1 are still not operational?</p> <p>Mr Paterson: Yes, Senator. These numbers are from a couple of weeks ago. Based on the numbers I have at the moment, out of the 499 round 1 base stations, there are 28 that are still to be constructed.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Still to be constructed. So how many from round 2 are still not operational?</p> <p>Mr Paterson: We funded 266 under round 2. There are 232 that have been constructed, which means we have 34 base stations still to be constructed under round 2.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: And how many from round 3?</p> <p>Mr Paterson: You are testing my maths, Senator, but okay. For round 3 there are 102 base stations and 43 are on air, which means we've got 59 still to be constructed.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Okay. And do you have time frames for the 28, 34 and 59—when they will be operational?</p> <p>Mr Paterson: I would prefer to take that on notice because, as I said, it's on a</p>	22/10/2019 Page 64

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>base station by base station basis.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: That's fine—if you could take that on notice. Just finally on the black spots—and I'm happy for you to take this on notice—on 30 September the minister, Minister Fletcher, along with Minister Coulton and Tasmanian Mr Gavin Pearce, put out a media release about Tasmania's west coast. Can you give me some timelines for that project in terms of the increased coverage or the improved coverage?</p> <p>Mr Paterson: As you would be aware, Senator, that project involves backhaul upgrades and then the backhaul upgrades then enable a new base station to be delivered at Tullah and 4GX upgrades to occur at Savage River, Strachan, Zeehan and Waratah—excuse my pronunciation.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: That is exactly perfect.</p> <p>Mr Paterson: Thank you. So obviously you need to do the backhaul component first. I am just checking my timing. I've got 12 months from now—that is the time frame I've been given for all of that. I do know we're in discussions with Telstra at the moment about whether the Tullah base station can be done earlier than that, but I don't have a conclusion on that.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Can you take that on notice and provide a bit more detail?</p> <p>Mr Paterson: I'm happy to, Senator.</p>	
10.	1.1	Urquhart	National Relay Service (NRS) – help desk staff	<p>Senator URQUHART: Alright. That's all I have on black spots. I've got some on the National Relay Service. Can you tell me where the National Relay Service help desk is operated and who it is staffed by?</p> <p>Ms Silleri: The National Relay Service help desk is staffed by—it's run under contract by WestWood Spice and they subcontract to Concentrix. It's currently run out of Ballarat.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Okay, so it's not departmental staff?</p> <p>Ms Silleri: No, it's not.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: How many staff does the help desk have?</p>	22/10/2019 Page 65

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>Ms Silleri: I'd have to take that on notice, Senator.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Any idea?</p> <p>Ms Silleri: Half a dozen.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: If you can clarify that on notice.</p> <p>Ms Silleri: I'll confirm that.</p>	
11.	1.1	Urquhart	NRS consultation – CapTel	<p>Senator URQUHART: Thank you. The 25-page NRS consultation outcomes paper—the one that I referred to from September 2018—does not appear to make any mention of removing access to CapTel. Why is that?</p> <p>Ms Silleri: I'd have to revisit that document, but primarily it would be around the fact that we weren't focused on any particular technology at that time. But I'm happy to take that more detailed response on notice.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 66
12.	1.1	Urquhart	NRS – tender outcome	<p>Senator URQUHART: Was a recommendation to the government on the tender outcome made before the commencement of the caretaker period or after the election?</p> <p>Mr Mrdak: No, we provided advice to the incoming government when the incoming government was formed on the results of the tender process and the contract that we entered into.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: So after the election. When was the decision on the tender outcome made?</p> <p>Mrs McNeill: It was publicly communicated on 12 June and it was made shortly preceding that.</p> <p>Mr Mrdak: We can take that on notice.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 68
13.	1.1	Urquhart	CapTel - service	<p>Senator URQUHART: The words 'captioning rate' reflect the pace at which spoken communication is captioned over a text relay service. A faster rate provides for a better experience and more natural conversation. Can you tell me what the typical word-per-minute captioning rate is on a CapTel device; and then</p>	22/10/2019 Page 69

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>what is it on a TTY?</p> <p>Ms Silleri: I'll check whether I have that information with me—I do have it, and I can get it to you on notice. I'm not sure if I have it with me.</p> <p>Mrs McNeill: From memory, the CapTel caption speed is up to around 130 words a minute; and the word speed on a TTY unit is around half that. That reflects, as I indicated earlier, the use of the respelling technology as opposed to the typing that is involved when the Relay Service operator is affording a service through the TTY unit.</p> <p>Ms Silleri: And the caption relay that is provided over a computer, a smartphone or a tablet is equal to that of a CapTel handset.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: So the CapTel device is almost twice as fast as TTY?</p> <p>Ms Silleri: Yes.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: What's the average length of a CapTel call versus a TTY call?</p> <p>Ms Silleri: I'd have to take that on notice—I may not be able to get that information, but I will endeavour to get that for you.</p>	
14.	1.1	Urquhart	NRS contract	<p>Senator URQUHART: On how many occasions has the government extended the contract?</p> <p>Ms Silleri: I think three, but I will take that on notice for you.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: So, three, but you will correct that if that is not right?</p> <p>Ms Silleri: Yes.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Given that a demand driven funding contract was in place, how was it envisaged funding requirements beyond \$22 million that were a result of increased demand for NRS services would be funded?</p> <p>Ms Silleri: Technically speaking—and I will take that on notice as well—it wasn't classified as a demand driven contract. It was a funding allocation of \$22 million for the delivery of the National Relay Service. The provider was expected to remain within those costs. However, when they exceeded them, the shortfall was met through the levy.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 71 and 74

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				... Senator URQUHART: Can you tell me on what dates that was extended? Ms Silleri: I will get that for you.	
15.	1.1	Urquhart	TTY –voicemails	Senator URQUHART: Can you confirm it is not possible to have voicemail messages captioned with the Uniphone TTY? Ms Silleri: I will take that on notice for you.	22/10/2019 Page 71
16.	1.1	Urquhart	TTY handsets	Senator URQUHART: Do these TTY handsets have to be manufactured or are they reconditioned units being imported from overseas? Ms Silleri: I don't think they are being manufactured, and I am not sure they are reconditioned. I understand they are new units, but I will take that on notice for you.	22/10/2019 Page 72
17.	1.1	Urquhart	NRS providers – potential conflict of interest	Senator URQUHART: I refer to an article in the <i>Australian Financial Review</i> which revealed the CEO of the current NRS provider is also a director of CapTel, which distributes the CapTel handsets. According to ASIC registries, the CEO became a director of AccessComm on 11 April 2018. Does that accord with the department's understanding? Ms Silleri: I think that the CEO of ACE is actually a director of another company, DFL, which has ownership/oversight of AccessComm, which is the distributor of the handset. Senator URQUHART: I talked about 11 April 2018. Is that when the director appointment occurred or was it earlier than that? Mrs McNeill: Is this the directorship of AccessComm that you are after? Senator URQUHART: Yes. Mrs McNeill: I will find the information for you. Senator URQUHART: Can you tell me, when did the department first become aware of this conflict of interest? How did it become aware, and what actions did the department take?	22/10/2019 Page 72-73

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>Mrs McNeill: I will pause my search for the date verification. The conflict of interest involved in the CEO of the incumbent being a director in a holding company of the handset distributor? I wouldn't know when. The department has been aware of that for some time.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Do you know when the department became aware?</p> <p>Mrs McNeill: I couldn't tell you a date. I could probably look into that for you.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: If you could take that on notice. Do you know how you became aware and what actions did the department take, if any?</p> <p>Mr Mrdak: We will check those details, but I think it is important to recognise that the issues—perhaps 'conflict of interest' may not be the right way to describe it. But certainly the issue for us revolves around the exclusivity and the nature of the relationship between ACE, the contract provider, and the availability of the handset. We have been trying to work through that for some time. We have been trying, as the officers have indicated, to find a way to enable that technology to continue. Unfortunately, because of the exclusivity of the relationship, we haven't been able to achieve that. That's been one of the fundamental problems we've faced.</p>	
18.	1.1	Urquhart	NRS information sharing	<p>Senator URQUHART: In terms of that information sharing process, did the department make any attempt to obtain that information in the past two years? Or did you wait until you got to the tender process?</p> <p>Ms Silleri: I'll have to check for you and I'll take that on notice. We've always been interested to understand the characteristics of the cohorts using various access options of the relay service. Whether that meant giving us the names and addresses so that we can communicate directly, I would have to take that on notice for you.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 74
19.	1.1	Marielle Smith	Implementation of audio description services	<p>Senator MARIELLE SMITH: Has the government been in contact with blindness and disability advocates to discuss the implementation of audio description since April 2019?</p>	22/10/2019 Page 75

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>Ms Silleri: The department meets with people concerned about audio description on a reasonably regular basis. It's a topic of interest and it's a matter that is discussed.</p> <p>Senator MARIELLE SMITH: Could you detail the nature of those meetings and discussions?</p> <p>Ms Silleri: General discussions about a variety of issues, not just about audio description but about other issues related to communication services for people with disability.</p> <p>Senator MARIELLE SMITH: Are you able to provide more detail to me on notice?</p> <p>Ms Silleri: It won't be a lot of detail, but I can provide it.</p>	
20.	1.1	Marielle Smith	Disability access to communications technologies	<p>Senator MARIELLE SMITH: What research evidence does the department have about the number of Australians with disability and their level of access to various communications technologies, including broadcast services and online platforms?</p> <p>Mrs McNeill: Was the question, what information do we have? I'm sorry?</p> <p>Senator MARIELLE SMITH: I can ask the question again. What research evidence does the department have about the number of Australians with disability and their level of access to various communication technologies, including broadcast services and online platforms?</p> <p>Mr Windeyer: Unless an officer at the table has something to add, I suspect that is probably one we can take on notice and come back to you with what we know.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 76
21.	1.1	Marielle Smith	Audio description – free to air broadcast sector	<p>Senator MARIELLE SMITH: How much longer is the government going to give the free-to-air broadcast sector to work out how to implement audio description and how to deliver audio description?</p> <p>Mr Windeyer: Again, I can't speak for the government, but I think in a sense the question of timing is one that again will be informed by what the industry can let us know, which will be affected by a range of things, including the type of</p>	22/10/2019 Page 76-77

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>technological choices they make and how long the implementation timetable is for the particular approach they decide is most sensible from their perspective.</p> <p>Senator Reynolds: Just on that, as I've said, the government really wants to make sure that it is as timely and efficient as possible. It depends on, as the Deputy Secretary said, what comes back from industry and how best to implement that in the new year.</p> <p>Senator MARIELLE SMITH: I appreciate that, but is the government going to set a deadline? How long would that process be allowed to go for? If you're waiting on industry surely there is a point where we say that this is when it needs to be done by?</p> <p>Senator Reynolds: I have said already that we are expecting it to come back by the end of this year.</p> <p>Senator MARIELLE SMITH: Is that a deadline or an expectation?</p> <p>Senator Reynolds: I will check, but we are expecting it back then.</p> <p>Senator MARIELLE SMITH: If you could check and get back to me, that would be good.</p> <p>Senator Reynolds: I will take the detail of that on notice.</p>	
22.	1.1	Urquhart	TPG FTTB network	<p>Senator URQUHART: So, 10 days after the September 2013 election TPG announced they planned to deploy a fibre to the base network to half a million premises. Did TPG FTTB network up reaching half a million premises?</p> <p>Mr Windeyer: I would have to take that on notice. I am not sure how extensive the TPG network is.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Mr Madsen, do you have any insight into that?</p> <p>Mr Madsen: I agree with Mr Windeyer. I think we would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: So you have no other insight into that?</p> <p>Mr Madsen: No.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Is it fair to say TPG scaled its rollout plan back after the Burdekin review and government first floated a levy on non-NBN networks?</p>	22/10/2019 Page 78

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				Mr Windeyer: Again, I couldn't tell you the nature of the scaling of TPG's rollout off the top my head. I am very happy to take that on notice and see how we can answer it.	
23.	1.1	Urquhart	Broadband levy modelling	<p>Senator URQUHART: You have the data. It was published in the NBN corporate plan and provided to the Senate last week on notice. Why is the department so afraid to update the model?</p> <p>Mr Windeyer: It goes to the point Mr Madsen made that the calculation involved is a complex one which goes to considerably more than just the latest number or the sort of movement in numbers in the NBN corporate plan. It is a calculation considered over a considerable period of time, with a number of possible elements that can move around. Whoever is undertaking an update of the costing process will need to take into account a whole lot of factors, which will include needing to have the ability to gather information from the industry. The bill provides for those contingencies.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Isn't it a row in a spreadsheet that you already have the data for? What is so compact about it?</p> <p>Mr Windeyer: I can't speak specifically to the details of the model. I guess the point I'm making is there are a number of other things that may well have moved around that would need to be taken into account.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: What are those things?</p> <p>Mr Windeyer: I don't have in front of me all of the elements that were considered in the context of the model.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: How many elements are there?</p> <p>Mr Windeyer: I'm not sure. I can take that on notice for you. I don't have a copy of the model in front of me and I don't have a list of the elements that taken into consideration in front of me.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 79
24.	1.1	Urquhart	Regional Broadband Scheme	Senator URQUHART: Can I go back to my previous question, because I'm not sure you answered it. I asked how an NBN customer, if they migrate to 5G,	22/10/2019 Page 80

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>would impact on the levy. Under the original proposal, the levy on fixed line providers would increase in order to offset the revenue foregone from the 5G substitution. Is that correct?</p> <p>Mr Windeyer: I think the answer is, yes. That was what Mr Madsen was saying previously. The amount to be recovered won't change. The services that will contribute to recovering that will be apportioned across the remaining services that are contributing.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Did the minister request any advice on an option that involved public subsidies instead of using the RBS?</p> <p>Mr Windeyer: To be honest, this has been longstanding government policy to approach this issue in this particular manner. I would have to take on notice whether there's anything I can say about consideration of a public subsidies back when this was first being considered.</p>	
25.	1.1	Urquhart	Correspondence – NBN and Department regarding expectation of Government	<p>Senator URQUHART: I've got the right officers. Between October 2013 and April 2019, was there any written correspondence between the department and the NBN Co explicitly conveying the expectation of government that serving the enterprise market was a core mission of NBN Co?</p> <p>Mr Madsen: Can you provide us with those dates again?</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: October 2013 and April 2019. Who is going to have a stab at that?</p> <p>Mr Windeyer: I'm not aware of anything off the top of my head, but very happy to take that on notice to confirm or check.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: You're not aware of any written correspondence?</p> <p>Mr Windeyer: Nothing springs to mind, but we will take that on notice and check.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Over that same period, October 2013 to April 2019, was there any correspondence between the government and NBN Co explicitly conveying the expectation of government that serving the enterprise market was a core mission?</p>	22/10/2019 Page 80

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>Mr Windeyer: Again, I'm sorry. I will repeat my previous answer. Nothing springs to mind, but we will happily take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Has there been any correspondence to this effect since the last election?</p> <p>Mr Windeyer: I'm not aware of any correspondence specifically relating to enterprise services.</p>	
26.	1.1	Urquhart	NBN – Statement of Expectations	<p>Senator URQUHART: Just moving to the NBN statement of expectations, can you point me to the passage in the current statement of expectations which conveys the expectation that a core mission of NBN Co is to serve the enterprise market? Could you specifically point me to where that is?</p> <p>Mr Windeyer: I'm happy to take that on notice and come back to you when I have digested the Statement of Expectations, but otherwise I need to sit and read it and see what it says.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Mr Madsen: I think Mr Windeyer has responded to that question.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: He actually hasn't. He said he'll take it on notice. On how many occasions in the previous term of parliament did the department raise concerns with NBN Co about the company using a lower cost of capital to overbuild areas which were considered adequately served?</p> <p>Mr Mrdak: When you say how many times did we raise it—</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: On how many occasions in the previous term of parliament did the department raise concerns with NBN Co about the company using a lower cost of capital to overbuild areas which were considered adequately served?</p> <p>Mr Mrdak: I would have to take that on notice. We have ongoing discussions with NBN, including the corporate plan review. I'm not aware of any specific issue in the terms you have expressed it, but I will take it on notice.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 80 and 81
27.	1.1	Urquhart	NBN – changes to	Senator URQUHART: Over the past two years, has NBN Co made any request	22/10/2019

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
			legislation	<p>to the department or put forward any proposals seeking changes to legislation that would provide the company with greater flexibility in the enterprise market?</p> <p>Mr Mrdak: Not that I'm aware of, but I'll take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Are you aware that NBN Co has shifted \$200 million of previously planned capital expenditure away from its fixed wireless footprint?</p> <p>Mr Madsen: I think you are referring to media reports today that relate to information regarding NBN's corporate plan. My understanding is that NBN has determined that there are likely to be fewer premises in the fixed wireless and satellite footprint and as a result in its corporate plan it had adjusted and indeed revised down the amount of capital it would need to spend activating premises in those areas.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: I'm not referring to media reports. I'm referring to facts contained in a question on notice. So, Mr Mrdak, can I go back to you? Are you aware NBN Co has shifted \$200 million of previously planned capital expenditure away from its fixed wireless footprint?</p> <p>CHAIR: Can you identify the question on notice for the officials?</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: I will get that for you. At this stage, you're not aware, Mr Mrdak?</p> <p>Mr Mrdak: I need to understand the context of the question. In the absence of understanding the question on notice that is involved, I think Mr Madsen was partway through explaining the issue to you in terms of the numbers within the fixed wireless footprint, which may underpin that advice you have. But I will look at that in the context of the tea break.</p> <p>Senator Reynolds: If you can provide the number of the question on notice, we'll chase that up.</p>	Page 82
28.	1.1	Green	Providing Australian commercial content to Pacific	Senator GREEN: Great. Senator Duniam, the ABC Act sets out international broadcasting as a function of the ABC, yet in January this year the government announced \$17 million for 1,000 hours of commercial television content in the Pacific. Is it now the government's policy to support commercial media over the	22/10/2019 Page 102 and 103

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
			broadcasters	<p>national broadcaster when it comes to Australia's soft power?</p> <p>Senator Duniam: It might surprise you to learn that I would have to take that question on notice.Senator GREEN: Okay; you might have to take a few on notice then.</p> <p>Senator Duniam: Yes.</p> <p>Senator GREEN: That's been a bit of a theme for today.</p> <p>Senator Duniam: I will just remind you I'm not the minister for communications. While I have been a member of this committee, if you want a proper answer to some of those detailed questions I will have to take them on notice.</p> <p>Senator GREEN: This is a government announcement of \$17 million made in January this year.Senator Duniam: So in the last parliament, before I was a minister.</p> <p>Senator GREEN: Did you not get a briefing before you came to appear today?</p> <p>Senator Duniam: There are many, many briefings—</p> <p>Senator GREEN: And that wasn't part of it.</p> <p>Senator Duniam: but as I said, if you would like a proper answer, I think we'd best to take these on notice.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator GREEN: The ABC has a role in international programming, and we've also got this announcement that you're either not aware of or don't know the details of—is that right?</p> <p>Senator Duniam: I said I'd take on notice the details of your question so you'll get a proper answer.</p> <p>Senator GREEN: Can you answer this question—you might have to take it on notice—does the \$17 million of commercial television include journalism programs on commercial TV, or is it more for sport, drama or lifestyle programs?</p> <p>Senator Duniam: I think we'll have to take that one on notice as well.</p> <p>Senator GREEN: Are you confident that \$17 million of commercial television content is the most efficient use of taxpayer funds when it comes to Australia's</p>	

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				soft power diplomacy? Senator Duniam: In the vein of taking all the questions in this area on notice, I will do the same with that.	
29.	1.1	Kitching	Executive management	In relation to executive management for the Department and its agencies, can the following be provided for FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 to date: a. The total number of executive management positions b. The aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions. c. The change in the number of executive manager positions. d. The change in aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.	31/10/2019 Written
30.	1.1 [Minister]	Kitching	Ministerial functions	In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio since 1 July 2018, can the following be provided: a. List of functions. b. List of all attendees. c. Function venue. d. Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive). e. Details of any food served. f. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage. g. Any available photographs of the function. h. Details of any entertainment provided.	31/10/2019 Written
31.	1.1	Kitching	Departmental functions	In relation to expenditure on any functions or official receptions etc hosted by the Department or agencies within the portfolio since 1 July 2018, can the	31/10/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>following be provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. List of functions. b. List of all attendees. c. Function venue. d. Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive). e. Details of any food served. f. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage. g. Any available photographs of the function. h. Details of any entertainment provided. 	
32.	1.1	Kitching	Executive office upgrades	Have any furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Secretary's office, or the offices of any Deputy Secretaries been upgraded since 1 July 2018? If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST inclusive).	31/10/2019 Written
33.	1.1	Kitching	Facilities upgrades	<p>Were there any upgrades to facility premises at any of the Departments or agencies since 1 July 2018? 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.</p> <p>If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrades be provided together with an itemised list of costs (GST inclusive)?</p> <p>If so, can any photographs of the upgraded facilities be provided?</p>	31/10/2019 Written
34.	1.1	Kitching	Staff travel	What is the total cost of staff travel for departmental/agency employees for FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date?	31/10/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
35.	1.1	Kitching	Legal costs	What are the total legal costs for the Department/agency for FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date?	31/10/2019 Written
36.	1.1	Kitching	Secretarial travel	Can an itemised list of the costs of all domestic and international travel undertaken by the Secretary of the Department since 1 July 2018 be provided including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Flights for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the airline and class of travel. b. Ground transport for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials. 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. 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. e. Any available photographs documenting the Secretary's travel should also be provided. 	31/10/2019 Written
37.	1.1	Kitching	FOI requests	1. Please list the number of Freedom of Information Act requests ('FOI requests') received by the Department for the following years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 2013-14; b. 2014-15; c. 2015-16; d. 2016-17; e. 2018-19; and f. 2019-20 to date. 	31/10/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>2. For each year above, please provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The number of FOI requests the Department granted in full; b. The number of FOI requests the Department granted in part; c. The number of FOI requests the Department refused in full; and d. The number of FOI requests the Department refused for practical reasons under the Freedom of Information Act. <p>3. For each year above, please also provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The number of times the Department failed to make any decision on a FOI request within the 30 day statutory period; and 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>4. For each year above, please also provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The number of times the Department's FOI decisions have been appealed to the OAIC; and b. The number of times has the OAIC overturned – in whole or in part – the Department's decision to refuse access to material. <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 each of the following years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 2013-14; b. 2014-15; c. 2015-16; d. 2016-17; e. 2018-19; and 	

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>f. 2019-20 to date.</p> <p>6. For each of the years above, 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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. How many times has this occurred in the past twelve months; and b. Please outline the process by which the Department consults the Minister. <p>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>	
38.	1.1	Kitching	Briefings	Has the Department/agency or the Minister's office provided briefings to	31/10/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>independents/minor parties in the Senate or House of Representatives? If so, can the following be provided:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The subject matter of the briefing. The location and date of the briefing. Who proposed the briefing? Attendees of the briefing by level/position. 	
39.	1.1	Kitching	Acting Minister arrangements	<p>Can the Department provide all leave periods of the portfolio Minister from 24 August 2018 to date?</p> <p>Can the Department further provide acting Minister arrangements for each leave period?</p>	31/10/2019 Written
40.	1.1	Kitching	Departmental staff allowances	<p>Can a list of Departmental/agency allowances and reimbursements available to employees be provided?</p>	31/10/2019 Written
41.	1.1	Kitching	Market research	<p>Does the Department/agency undertake any polling or market research in relation to government policies or proposed policies?</p> <p>If so, can the Department provide an itemised list of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Subject matter Company Costs Contract date period <p>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>	31/10/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
42.	1.1	Kitching	Advertising and information campaigns	<p>What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns for FY 2018-19 and for the current financial year to date?</p> <p>What advertising and information campaigns did the Department/agency run in each relevant period? For each campaign, please provide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> when approval was first sought. the date of approval, including whether the advertising went through the Independent Campaign Committee process. the timeline for each campaign, including any variation to the original proposed timeline. <p>Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in each period be provided?</p>	31/10/2019 Written
43.	1.1	Kitching	Promotional merchandise	<p>What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on promotional merchandise for FY 2018-19?</p> <p>Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all promotional merchandise contracts in that period please be provided?</p> <p>Can photographs or samples of relevant promotional merchandise please be provided?</p>	31/10/2019 Written
44.	1.1	Kitching	Ministerial overseas travel	<p>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 since 1 July 2018 please be provided including:</p>	31/10/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 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. b. Ground transport for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials. 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. 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. e. Any available photographs documenting the Minister's travel should also be provided. 	
45.	1.1	Kitching	Social media influencers	<p>What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on social media influencers for FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 to date?</p> <p>What advertising or information campaigns did the Department/agency use social media influencers to promote?</p> <p>Can a copy of all relevant social media influencer posts please be provided?</p> <p>Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all relevant social media influencer contracts please be provided?</p>	31/10/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
46.	1.1	Kitching	Commissioned reports and reviews	<p>Since 24 August 2018, how many Reports or Reviews have been commissioned? Please provide details of each report including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Date commissioned. b. Date report handed to Government. c. Date of public release. d. Terms of Reference. e. Committee members and/or Reviewers. <p>How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost.</p> <p>The background and credentials of the Review personnel.</p> <p>The remuneration arrangements applicable to the Review personnel, including fees, disbursements and travel.</p> <p>The cost of any travel attached to the conduct of the Review.</p> <p>How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?</p> <p>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?</p>	31/10/2019 Written
47.	1.1	Kitching	Board appointments	<p>Provide an update of portfolio boards, including board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members.</p> <p>What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio.</p> <p>Please detail any board appointments made from 1 July 2018 to date.</p>	31/10/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>What has been the total value of all Board Director fees and disbursements paid?</p> <p>What is the value of all domestic travel by Board Directors?</p> <p>What is the value of all international travel by Board Directors?</p>	
48.	1.1	Kitching	Appointments – briefs prepared	<p>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?</p> <p>For each brief prepared, can the Department advise:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The former member. b. The board or entity. c. Whether the request originated from the Minister’s office. d. Whether the appointment was made. 	31/10/2019 Written
49.	1.1	Kitching	Stationery	How much has been spent on ministerial stationery requirements in FY 2019-19 and FY 2019-20 to date.	31/10/2019 Written
50.	1.1	Kitching	Media monitoring	<p>What is the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the each Minister's office for FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Which agency or agencies provided these services? b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided. c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 	31/10/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>FY 2019-20?</p> <p>What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Which agency or agencies provided these services? Can an itemised list of Austender Contract Notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year FY 2019-20? 	
51.	1.1	Kitching	Communications staff	<p>For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following:</p> <p>By Department or agency:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location. How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location. How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location? How many are graphic designers. How many are media managers. How many organise events. <p>Do any departments/agencies have independent media studios?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, why? When was it established? 	31/10/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. What is the set up cost? d. What is the ongoing cost? e. How many staff work there and what are their classifications. 	
52.	1.1	Kitching	Departmental staff in Minister's office	<p>Can the Department provide an update on the total number of departmental staff seconded to ministerial offices, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Duration of secondment. b. APS level. <p>Can the Department provide an update on the total number of DLOs/CLOs for ministerial offices including APS level?</p>	31/10/2019 Written
53.	1.1	Kitching	CDDA payments	<p>How many claims have been received under the Compensation for Detriment caused by Defective Administration scheme (CDDA) by the Department for FY 2018-19?</p> <p>How many claims were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Accepted. b. Rejected. c. Under consideration. <p>Of the accepted claims, can the Department provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Details of the claim, subject to relevant privacy considerations. b. The date payment was made. c. The decision maker. 	31/10/2019 Written
54.	1.1	Kitching	Congestion busting	Can the Department/agency advise how it is “congestion busting” in relation to bureaucratic bottlenecks and regulatory bottlenecks.	31/10/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				Have any additional resources been allocated within the Department to achieve “congestion busting” within the department.	
55.	1.1	Kitching	Recruitment	<p>What amount has been expended by the department/agency on external recruitment or executive search services in FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date.</p> <p>Which services were utilised. Can an itemised list be provided?</p>	31/10/2019 Written
56.	1.1	Kitching	Staffing	<p>How many full-time equivalent staff are engaged at 21 October 2019? How does this differ from the figures presented in Budget Paper 4 in the 2019-20 Budget?</p> <p>How many of these positions are (a) on-going and (b) non-ongoing.</p> <p>How many redundancies have occurred in FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date? How many were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. voluntary b. involuntary. <p>How many of those redundancies occurred as a result of departmental restructuring. What is the total cost of those redundancies?</p> <p>What was the total value in dollar terms of all termination payments paid to exiting staff?</p> <p>How much overtime or equivalent has been paid to staff in FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date?</p>	31/10/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				How many section 37 notices under the Public Service Act 1999 have been offered in FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date?	
57.	1.1	Kitching	Comcare	For FY 2018-19 and FY2019-20 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. Can the Department advise the number of sanctions it has received from Comcare in the FY2019-20 to date?	31/10/2019 Written
58.	1.1	Kitching	Fair Work Commission	For FY 2018-19 and FY2019-20 to date, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Commission within the Department or agency?	31/10/2019 Written
59.	1.1	Kitching	Fair Work Ombudsman	For FY 2018-19 and FY2019-20 to date, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Ombudsman within the Department or agency?	31/10/2019 Written
60.	1.1	Kitching	Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner	For FY 2018-19 and FY2019-20 to date, how many references have been made to the Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner within the Department or agency?	31/10/2019 Written
61.	1.1	Kitching	Public Interest Disclosures	For FY 2018-19 and FY2019-20 to date, how many public interest disclosures have been received?	31/10/2019 Written
62.	1.1	Gallagher	External consultants	In relation to the use of all external consultants in the Department or agencies within the portfolio, can the following be provided?	31/10/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. For each of the last six financial years from 2013-14 to 2018-19, the total amount spent on external consultants, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. contracts tagged as a “consultancy”. ii. contracts not defined as a “consultancy”, but tagged as “business intelligence consulting services”, “information technology consultation services”, “management advisory services”, “management support services”, “organisational structure consultation”, “risk management consultation services” or “strategic planning consultation services” b. The total amount of full time equivalent hours (FTE’s) provided by external consultants in 2018-19. c. The total amount of variances granted to external consultant contracts (including those specified in 1(a) (i) above) in 2018-19. d. A breakdown by consultant, specifications and project completion for 2018-19. 	
63.	1.1	Gallagher	Information technology consultant spend	<p>In relation to expenditure on information technology in the Department or agencies within the portfolio, can the following be provided?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. For each of the last six financial years from 2013-14 to 2018-19, the total amount spent on information technology consultation services. b. The total amount of full time equivalent hours (FTE’s) provided by information technology consultation services in 2018-19. c. The total amount contracted to information technology 	31/10/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>consultation services in 2018-19.</p> <p>d. The total amount of variances granted to information technology consultation services contracts in 2018-19.</p> <p>e. A breakdown by consultant, specifications and project completion for 2018-19.</p>	
64.	1.1	Gallagher	External contractors	<p>In relation to the use of all external contractors in the Department or agencies within the portfolio, can the following be provided:</p> <p>a. The total amount spent on all contracts for Management and Business Professionals and Administrative Services for each of the last six financial years from 2013-14 to 2018-19.</p> <p>b. The total amount spent on all contracts tagged as “Temporary Personnel Services” for each of the last six financial years from 2013-14 to 2018-19.</p> <p>c. The total number of external contractors employed in 2018-19.</p> <p>d. The aggregate total remuneration payable for all external contractors employed in 2018-19.</p> <p>e. The total number of FTE hours provided by external contractors in 2018-19.</p>	31/10/2019 Written
65.	1.1	Gallagher	Information technology contractors	<p>In relation to the use of external information technology contractors in the Department or agencies within the portfolio, can the following be provided:</p> <p>a. The total amount spent on external contractors for each of the last six financial years from 2013-14 to 2018-19.</p> <p>b. The total number of external contractors employed in 2018-19.</p> <p>c. The aggregate total remuneration payable for all external</p>	31/10/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				contractors employed in 2018-19. d. The total number of FTE hours provided by external contractors in 2018-19.	
66.	1.1	Gallagher	Grants	Please provide, for all administered and discretionary grant programs administered by each department and agency within the portfolio: a. Name of the administered or discretionary grant program. b. The recipient of the grant. c. The ABN or ACN of the grant recipient. d. The charitable status of the grant recipient. e. Who authorised the grant payment. f. For each year of the budget and forward estimates: i. What is the total funding budgeted for the program; ii. How much funding has been contracted and allocated; iii. How much funding has been contracted but not allocated; iv. How much funding has been committed but not contracted; v. How much funding is uncommitted, uncontracted and unallocated?	31/10/2019 Written
67.	1.1	Gallagher	Cost of APS staff	The total cost of all staff employed under the Public Service Act for each of the last six financial years from 2013/14 to 2018/19.	31/10/2019 Written
68.	1.1	Hanson	CapTel service costs	Australia has 4000, mostly elderly people living alone, who use the Captioned telephone (CapTel) service which has been most of the calls facilitated by the National Relay Service. I understand that it is now being cut and that those 4000 CapTel customer have been told they will need to revert back to older and inferior technology which obviously they do not want to do. Can you advise what is planned to ensure that hearing impaired people are not further marginalised and isolated by reducing their communications capacity?	31/10/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				How much would it cost to ensure that the CapTel service remains available to them?	
69.	1.1	Rice	Australian Government Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender	Please provide an update to QoN 6 from 2018-19 Budget Estimates . In particular, is the Department compliant with the Australian Government Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender? Are its portfolio agencies compliant?	01/11/2019 Written
70.	1.1	Gallagher	PSPF and Essential 8 Compliance	<p>The Australian Government set a target date for government entities to achieve compliance with the Australian Signals Directorate's Top Four mitigation strategies as detailed in the Protected Security Policy Framework (PSPF), INFOSEC 10 core requirements¹ by 30 June 2014². Non-corporate Commonwealth entities are required to apply the Mandatory 4 whereas it is only considered best practice for corporate Commonwealth entities and wholly-owned Commonwealth companies. ASD had stated that implementing the top 4 mitigation strategies will be able to prevent over 85% of unauthorised intrusions.</p> <p><i>Overall compliance and reporting</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the Department compliant with the core requirements in the Protected Security Policy Framework, <i>INFOSEC 10: Safeguarding information from cyber threats</i> policy? 2. Under the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013, all non-corporate Commonwealth entities are required to report annually to the Attorney-General on the implementation of the Protected Security Policy Framework (PSPF). Has the Department provided an annual report to the Attorney general in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 on compliance with the INFOSEC 10 core requirements? 	01/11/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p><i>Mandatory 4 implementation</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework INFOSEC 10, requirement 1: application whitelisting? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity Model³ what is the maturity of application whitelisting implementation? 4. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework INFOSEC 10, requirement 2: patching applications? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity Model, what is the maturity of patching applications implementation? 5. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework INFOSEC 10, requirement 3: restriction of administrative privileges? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity Model, what is the maturity of ‘restrict administrative privileges’ implementation? 6. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework INFOSEC 10, requirement 4: patching operating systems? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity Model, what is the maturity of ‘Patching operating systems’ implementation? <p><i>Essential 8 implementation</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework INFOSEC 10, C.4, 27 (a): configuring Microsoft Office macro settings? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity Model what is the maturity of ‘configuring Microsoft Office macro settings’ implementation? 8. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework INFOSEC 10, C.4, 27 (b): user application hardening? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity Model what is the maturity of ‘configuring Microsoft Office macro settings’ 	

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>implementation?</p> <p>9. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework INFOSEC 10, C.4, 27 (c): multi-factor authentication?</p> <p>a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity Model what is the maturity of ‘multi-factor authentication’ implementation?</p> <p>10. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework INFOSEC 10, C.4, 27 (d): daily backups?</p> <p>a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity Model what is the maturity of ‘daily backups’ implementation?</p> <p><i>Accountability and funding</i></p> <p>11. How many times has the Department conducted a self-assessment of its compliance with the Protected Security Policy Framework Essential Eight mitigation strategies and cyber resilience since 1 July 2013?</p> <p>12. How many independent assessments of its cyber resilience has the Department conducted since 1 July 2013?</p> <p>13. Has the Minister responsible been briefed on cyber security vulnerabilities in the Department networks since 1 July 2013?</p> <p>14. Has an Australian Signals Directorate cyber security sprint team been deployed to the Department since 1 July 2013?</p> <p>15. How much funding has the Department allocated to cyber security each year during 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019?</p> <p>16. How many times has there been a physical or cyber intrusion attempt made on the Department’s networks that were considered serious enough to warrant an operational response in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019?</p> <p>¹ https://www.protectivesecurity.gov.au/information/safeguarding-information-from-cyber-threats/Documents/pspf-infosec-10-safeguarding-information-cyber-threats.pdf</p> <p>² ANAO, Audit Report No. 42 (2016–17), p. 7.</p> <p>³ https://www.cyber.gov.au/publications/essential-eight-maturity-model</p>	

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
71.	1.1	Urquhart	ABC funding	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Would the ABC have more funding available to it over the three years from 2019-20 if the Government's indexation pause did not apply? 2. Does the Government's indexation pause mean the ABC will have less funding available to it over the three years from 2019-20 than if the indexation pause did not apply? 	01/11/2019 Written
72.	1.1	Urquhart	ABC Amendment Rural and Regional Measures Bill 2017	<p>At the Estimates hearing on 22 October 2019, Senator Reynolds stated, of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation Amendment (Rural and Regional Measures) Bill 2017 that:</p> <p>“this committee did review this bill and was strongly in support of these changes for rural and regional Australia, as the secretary has said, in relation to governance and all the areas that I've already gone through with you. So it's an unequivocally good thing for rural and regional Australia and this committee itself embraced this report and the intent of this legislation”.</p> <p>Did Labor and the Greens both in fact dissent to the recommendation of the Committee, that the bill be passed?</p>	01/11/2019 Written
73.	1.1	Urquhart	Audio description	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will blind and low vision Australians have access to audio description on free-to-air television within the next 12-18 months? If not, why not? 2. At the Estimates hearing on 22 October 2019, Senator Reynolds said: <p>“the government is, and remains, committed to the timely and efficient introduction of audio description on Australian TV”.</p> <p>Does the Government consider an implementation timeframe for audio description on free to air television in Australia in excess of the next 12-18 months to be ‘timely and efficient’?</p> 	01/11/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1003 440 1890 563">3. Does the Government consider implementation of audio-description over a service that a large number blind and low vision Australians do not have access to, such as over-the-top broadcast video-on-demand, to be 'efficient'? <li data-bbox="1003 603 1868 791">4. The Government has already run an Audio Description Working Group that reported to Government almost two years ago, in December 2017. What timeframe or deadline, if any, has Government put on the broadcasting industry for reporting back to Government on implementation options, and how was this timeframe or deadline communicated? <li data-bbox="1003 831 1883 922">5. Does the Government accept that the broadcast industry, which answers to shareholders, may be conflicted when it comes to identifying the most efficient option for delivery of audio description on Australian TV? <li data-bbox="1003 962 1883 1021">6. Does the Government accept that the provision of audio description over free-to-air television in Australia is an area of market failure? <li data-bbox="1003 1061 1877 1184">7. Does the Australian Government consider the decision on implementation of audio description to be a decision for the broadcast industry, or a decision for Government? Under what circumstances may it be a decision for Government? <li data-bbox="1003 1224 1883 1372">8. What evidence does the Department have about the number of blind and low vision Australians in relation to the following? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1122 1283 1715 1310">a. The number of blind and low vision Australians; <li data-bbox="1122 1315 1816 1372">b. The level of access of blind and low vision Australians to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1218 1347 1547 1372">i. Terrestrial television; and 	

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				ii. Broadcast video-on-demand (BVOD) television.	
74.	1.1	Urquhart	Australia Council funding	<p>In 2015 the then arts minister Senator George Brandis took a considerable amount of money from the Australia Council and redirected it to National Programme for Excellence in the Arts (NPEA). Under the next Minister, Senator Mitch Fifield, the NPEA was transformed into a funding program called Catalyst and some, but not all, of the money was returned to the Australia Council. Catalyst was eventually abandoned altogether, although around \$25 million from the initial money taken from the Australia Council still remains unaccounted for.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why was the \$25million not returned to the Australia Council? 2. Please provide a detailed accounting on what that \$25 million was spent on? 	01/11/2019 Written
75.	1.1	Urquhart	Regional media	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does the Government concede that there are areas of Australia that are underserved when it comes to local public interest journalism? If so, where are these areas? 2. What work has the Department done to identify population areas of highest need, when it comes to local newsgathering? 3. Has the Department does any work to identify a process or mechanism to determine population areas of highest need, when it comes to local newsgathering? 4. Has the Government done any work to estimate what it could cost to address the under-provision of public interest journalism in Australia? 5. In the Final Report of the Digital Platforms Inquiry the ACCC finds that: “the ABC and SBS are the predominant means by which the Government has addressed the potential under-provision of public 	01/11/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>interest journalism” and that: “the public broadcasters are not currently resourced to fully compensate for the decline in local reporting previously produced by traditional commercial publishers.”</p> <p>How does the Government’s decision to impose an indexation pause on the ABC, in the sum of \$83.7 million, help address the risk of under-provision of public interest journalism, particularly in rural and regional Australia?</p> <p>6. Does the Government concede the decision to impose an indexation pause on the ABC, amounting to \$83.7 million, make it more difficult for the ABC to address the under-provision of public interest journalism in rural and regional Australia, given the ABC’s broader Charter obligations?</p>	
76.	1.1	Urquhart	Alston / Fletcher Determination	<p>Why has the Government extended the Alston/Fletcher Determination for as long as it has?</p> <p>Is the Government confident that will be enough time?</p>	01/11/2019 Written
77.	1.1	Urquhart	Media diversity	<p>According to the Department’s Media Control and ownership Policy Background Paper No.3, published 27 May 2015, the level of media diversity at a market level was at or below the minimum number of ‘voices’ required by the 5/4 rule in 70 per cent of all licence areas (in 73 of the 105 licence areas). What is the current percentage of licence areas where media diversity at a market level is at or below the minimum number of ‘voices’ required by the 5/4 rule:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. In total; b. In the mainland State capitals; and c. In regional and remote areas? 	01/11/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
78.	1.1	Urquhart	Age verification for online pornography	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At Estimates on 22 October 2019, it was confirmed that Minister Fletcher and Minister Ruston initiated and referred the issue of age verification of online pornography to the Committee now examining it on the basis of advice provided by the Department and other agencies. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Exactly which Departments and agencies were involved in providing the advice? b. Did Minister Fletcher request the advice from the Department and/or other agencies? c. Did Minister Dutton request the advice from the Department and/or other agencies? d. Did the Department proactively provide the advice? If so, why? 2. What evidence does the Department have to indicate this matter should be examined in Australia? 3. Is the Government responding to the requests or concerns of any particular stakeholder or constituent by initiating the Inquiry? 4. What are the main pros and cons of age verification for online pornography? 5. Could an age verification system prevent Australian minors from accessing online pornography hosted in Australia? 6. Could an age verification system prevent Australian minors from accessing online pornography hosted in overseas jurisdictions? 7. The Australian Government response to the Senate References Committee on Environment and Communications report: Harm being done to Australian children through access to pornography on the 	01/11/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>Internet, tabled 20 April 2017, ‘supported’ Recommendations 1, 2 and 4 and ‘noted’ Recommendation 2.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What has the Government done to progress each Recommendation since the response was tabled? b. Has the Government commissioned an expert panel to make recommendations to the government regarding possible policy measures, in accordance with Recommendation 2? If not, why not? If so, when and who is on the panel? 	
79.	1.1	Urquhart	Online Safety & Briggs Review	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will the Online Safety Bill extend the options for those harassed and intimidated online by including provisions similar to those found currently in New Zealand legislation? 2. Will the government adopt an EU-style code of conduct for countering illegal hate speech? 3. In terms of far right extremism and hate speech, which main online platforms have policies in place, and which do not, and what is the Government doing about online platforms which do not? 4. Does Australian law provide sufficient guidance about countering far right extremism and hate speech to cover online platforms that do not have their own policies? 5. What is the Government doing to ensure consistent standards against far right extremism and hate speech across the industry generally? 6. Page 3 of the report of the Briggs Review proposes moving the eSafety Office out of the ACMA and into the Department of Communications and the Arts, where, “the Department and the eSafety Commissioner 	01/11/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>could jointly work on policy, strategy and relationships”. Please provide an update on institutional arrangements for the eSafety Office?</p> <p>7. The Briggs Review reported on relationships between agencies in the eSafety space. For example, page 34 of the report states that: “relationships between the various Chairs of the ACMA and eSafety Commissioners have been poor, with both understandably keen to take full responsibility for their domains. I do not see this changing in the foreseeable future.”</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What specific actions have been taken to improve relations? b. How have the former and current Minister addressed this issue? <p>8. Page 26 of the report of the Briggs Review states that: “some processes between the AFP and the eSafety Office are less than ideal. It is possible that there may be enforcement opportunities that are being missed if the two are not proactively working together to share information, identify and chase perpetrators and fill gaps that might maximize the effectiveness of the enforcement regime, such as how to action take-down of terrorist material hosted overseas”.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What specific actions have been taken to address this issue? b. How have the former and current Minister addressed this issue? c. How, if at all, did this lack of coordination between agencies impact the Australian Government’s response to the Christchurch terror atrocity? 	
80.	1.1	Urquhart	Report of the Taskforce to Combat Terrorist and Extreme Violent Material	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What steps has the Department taken, including in consultation with other Departments, to address the issue of online racism in Australia, and the root causes of far right extremism? 2. The “Report of the Taskforce to Combat Terrorist and Extreme Violent 	01/11/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
			Online	<p>Material Online”, published on 21 June 2019, sets out the Taskforce’s “advice to Government on practical, tangible and effective measures and commitments to combat the upload and dissemination of terrorists and extreme violent material”. What input, if any did the Department have into the advice and recommendations of the Taskforce?</p> <p>3. On 25 August, the Government announced that it will accept the Taskforce’s recommendation – recommendation 5.3 – to “establish a clear and unambiguous content blocking framework for crisis events.” When will the Government respond to the other 29 recommendations, and what role does the Department have in providing advice to Government on each recommendation?</p> <p>4. What aspects of the Taskforce has the Government successfully implemented, and what role has the Department had in implementing these?</p> <p>5. At the time of the August announcement, the Government stated that “Taskforce members have committed to providing detailed implementation plans, setting out how each member will give effect to the recommendations, to Government by the end of September.”</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Has that plan been provided to the government? b. Will those plans be released to the public? <p>6. What is the Department and/or Government doing to include civil society in the work of the Taskforce? What civil society stakeholders have been or are involved in the Government’s response to the Taskforce?</p>	
81.	1.1	Urquhart	NZ Christchurch	1. Australia is one of 17 countries to sign up to the Christchurch Call,	01/11/2019

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
			Call	<p>which sets out “commitments from Governments and online service providers intended to address the issue of terrorist and violent extremist content online and to prevent the abuse of the internet as occurred in and after the Christchurch attacks.” Who in Government decided that Australia should sign up to the Christchurch call?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Did the Department lead or drive the decision to sign up to the Christchurch call? 3. What input did the Department have in the decision to sign up to the Christchurch call, and what was the process for this input? 4. Who in Government has overall responsibility for implementing the Christchurch Call? 5. What is the Department’s role in contributing to implementation of the Christchurch Call? 6. Has the Department or Government established a mechanism to regularly report to the public and parliament on implementation progress? 7. Has the Department or Government set a timeframe for the implementation of the Christchurch Call? 8. After the Christchurch shooting, the Government set up the Taskforce to Combat Terrorists and Extreme Violent Material Online to provide “advice to Government on practical, tangible and effective measures and commitments to combat the upload and dissemination of terrorists and extreme violent material.” Has the Department or Government 	Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>established a taskforce to provide advice on practical, tangible and effective measures to meet the obligations of the Christchurch Call?</p> <p>9. The Christchurch Call sets out several Government commitments:</p> <p>The Christchurch Call asks governments to “counter the drivers of terrorism and violent extremism by strengthening the resilience and inclusiveness of our societies to enable them to resist terrorist and violent extremist ideologies, including through education, building media literacy to help counter distorted terrorist and violent extremist narratives, and the fight against inequality”. Is it the Department or Government’s assessment that Australian society is sufficiently resilient and inclusive to resist terrorist and violent extremist ideologies?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If yes, what is the basis of that assessment? b. If no, what actions has the Department or Government taken to increase resilience and inclusiveness since it signed up to the Christchurch Call? <p>10. The Christchurch Call asks governments to “ensure effective enforcement of applicable laws that prohibit the production or dissemination of terrorist and violent extremist content.” Is it the Department’s or Government’s assessment that Australian laws are sufficient to “prohibit the production or dissemination of terrorist and violent extremist content”?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If yes, what is the basis of that assessment? b. The UK government’s ‘Online Harms White Paper’ proposes a new regulatory framework for online safety including proposing a new statutory duty of care by companies for the safety of users online. Has the Department or Government considered imposing a statutory 	

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>duty of care in Australia?</p> <p>c. The ‘Online Harms White Paper’ also proposes a new regulatory body to oversee the enforcement of the online safety regulatory regime. Has the Department or Government assessed the regulatory enforcement arrangements for protecting the safety of Australians online?</p> <p>11. The Christchurch Call asks governments to “encourage media outlets to apply ethical standards when depicting terrorist events online, to avoid amplifying terrorist and violent extremist content.” Is it the Department’s or Government’s assessment that Australian media standards are sufficient to “avoid amplifying terrorist and violent extremist content”?</p> <p>a. If yes, what is the basis of that assessment?</p> <p>b. If no, what action has the Department or Government taken to encourage media outlets to avoid amplifying terrorist and violent extremist content since it signed up to the Christchurch Call?</p> <p>12. The Christchurch Call asks governments “support frameworks, such as industry standards to ensure that reporting on terrorist attacks does not amplify terrorist and violent extremist content.” Is it the Department’s or Government’s assessment that the current frameworks and industry standards are sufficient for ensuring that “reporting on terrorist attacks does not amplify terrorist and violent extremist content”?</p> <p>a. If yes, what is the basis of that assessment?</p> <p>b. If no, what action has the Department or Government taken to improve the frameworks and industry standards since it signed up to the Christchurch Call?</p> <p>13. The Christchurch Call asks governments to “consider appropriate</p>	

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>action to prevent the use of online services to disseminate terrorist and violent extremist content through awareness-raising and capacity building activities aimed at smaller online service providers". Is it the Department's or Government's assessment that smaller online service providers already have the awareness and capacity to "prevent the use of online services to disseminate terrorist and violent extremist content"?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If yes, what is the basis of that assessment? b. If no, what action has the Department or Government taken to improve the awareness and capacity of small online service providers since it signed up to the Christchurch Call? <p>14. The Christchurch Call asks governments to "consider appropriate action to prevent the use of online services to disseminate terrorist and violent extremist content through development of industry standards or voluntary frameworks." At the G7 summit, the Prime Minister announced that together with New Zealand and the OECD, the Government "is funding a project to develop Voluntary Transparency Reporting Protocols on preventing, detecting, and removing terrorist and violent extremist content from online platforms."</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What is the timeframe for completing the Voluntary Transparency Reporting Protocols? b. How much funding is allocated to this project? c. Who in Department or in Government will be responsible for overseeing the implementation of the project? d. Facebook and Twitter already voluntarily publish bi-annual or quarterly transparent reports on what content and accounts they shut down and remove, covering terrorism, child exploitation material, copyright infringement material, and legal requests from governments. How will this project differ from what companies are 	

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>already doing?</p> <p>15. The Christchurch Call asks governments to “consider appropriate action to prevent the use of online services to disseminate terrorist and violent extremist content through regulatory or policy measures.” Is it the Department’s or Government’s assessment that Australia’s regulatory frameworks or policies are sufficient to prevent the use of online services to disseminate terrorist or violent extremist content?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If yes, what is the basis of that assessment? b. If no, what action has the Department or Government taken to improve Australian regulations or policies? <p>16. The Christchurch Call asks governments to work together with online service providers to “work with civil society to counter violent extremism in all its forms including through the development and promotion of positive alternatives and counter-messaging.” Is it the Department’s or Government’s assessment that Australia’s counter-messaging and promotion of positive alternatives is sufficient to counter violent extremism?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If yes, what is the basis of that assessment? b. If no, what action has the Department or Government taken to promote positive alternatives and counter-messaging since signing onto the Christchurch Call? <p>17. The Christchurch Call asks governments to work together with online service providers to “develop effective interventions, based on trusted information sharing about the effects of algorithmic and other processes, to redirect users from terrorist and violent extremist content.” Is it the Department’s or Government’s assessment that</p>	

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>algorithms already redirect users from terrorist and violent extremist content?</p> <p>a. If yes, what is the basis of that assessment?</p> <p>b. If no, what action has the Department or Government taken to redirect users from terrorist and violent extremist content?</p> <p>18. The Christchurch Call asks governments to work together with online service providers to “accelerate research into and development of technical solutions to prevent the upload or and to detect and immediately remove terrorist and violent extremist content online.” Is it the Department’s or Government’s assessment that Australia is already technically able to prevent the upload of and able to detect and immediately remove terrorist and violent extremist content online?</p> <p>a. If yes, what is the basis of that assessment?</p> <p>b. If no, what action has the Department or Government taken to redirect users from terrorist and violent extremist content?</p> <p>19. The Christchurch Call asks governments to work together with online service providers to “support research and academic efforts to better understand, prevent and counter terrorist and violent extremist content online.” Is it the Department’s or Government’s assessment that Australia is already providing sufficient support to research and academic efforts to better understand, prevent and counter terrorist and violent extremist content online?</p> <p>a. If yes, what is the basis of that assessment?</p> <p>b. If no, what action has the Department or Government taken to support research and academic efforts?</p> <p>20. The Christchurch Call asks governments to work together with online service providers to “support smaller platforms as they build capacity</p>	

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>to remove terrorist and violent extremism content including through sharing technical solutions and relevant databases of hashes or other relevant material.” Is it the Department’s or Government’s assessment that smaller platforms already receive sufficient support or already have the capacity to remove terrorist and violent extremist content?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If yes, what is the basis of that assessment? b. If no, what action has the Department or Government taken to support smaller platforms such as sharing databases of hashes or other relevant material? <p>21. The Christchurch Call asks governments to work together with online service providers to “collaborate and support partner countries in the development and implementation of best practice in preventing the dissemination of terrorist and violent extremist content online, including through operational coordination and trusted information exchanges.” Is it the Department’s or Government’s assessment that there already exists international best practice on preventing the dissemination of terrorist and violent extremist content online?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If yes, what is the basis of that assessment? b. If no, what action has the Department or Government taken to collaborate with partner countries to develop international best practice? <p>22. The Christchurch Call asks governments to work together with online service providers to “develop processes allowing governments and online service providers to respond rapidly, effectively and in a coordinated manner to the dissemination of terrorist or violent extremist content following a terrorist event.” Is it the Department’s or Government’s assessment that there already exists international best practice on preventing the dissemination of terrorist and violent</p>	

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>extremist content online?</p> <p>a. If yes, what is the basis of that assessment?</p> <p>b. If no, what action has the Department or Government taken to collaborate with partner countries to develop international beset practice?</p>	
82.	2.1	Urquhart	Major performing arts framework	<p>Senator URQUHART: Can you outline for me the major differences between the new framework and the old?</p> <p>Mr Eccles: This is the major performing arts—</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Yes, sorry. Apologies. It has been a long day.</p> <p>Mr Eccles: That was canvassed earlier with Senator Hanson-Young. A lot of it will be on the record, but Dr Arnott might be able to summarise.</p> <p>Mr Mrdak: In the interests of time, is it best that we take on notice—</p>	22/10/2019 Page 82
83.	2.1	Urquhart	Arts funding- small to medium sector	<p>Senator Reynolds:—in total. There are many other programs, again which we have discussed, which the small to medium arts sector has access to. I wouldn't agree with your characterisation that there's less. The Australia Council itself gets \$212 million. We've been through many other programs that small to medium have access to.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Can you provide me with, on notice, where the money is going to small and medium sector?</p> <p>Senator Reynolds: Certainly.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 87
84.	2.1	Davey	Regionally based youth arts organisations	<p>Senator DAVEY: How many are youth organisations?</p> <p>Dr Arnott: Most of them would have youth programs and run education programs. But because they're leading companies, they will have activities across all parts of the arts, including many of them touring to regional and remote Australia.</p> <p>Senator DAVEY: I think Australian Theatre for Young People is one of them?</p> <p>Dr Arnott: They're a four-year funded organisation. They are not one of the</p>	22/10/2019 Page 87-88

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>major companies.</p> <p>Senator DAVEY: For the four-year funded organisations, have you got a breakdown of how many of those may be regionally based?</p> <p>Dr Arnott: I don't have that available. The Australia Council would need to provide that.</p> <p>Senator DAVEY: I appreciate that. And again the same with youth, and the Australian Theatre for Young People.</p> <p>Dr Arnott: Yes, we can certainly do that.</p>	
85.	2.1	Davey	Funding for regional youth arts programs	<p>Senator DAVEY: I appreciate that in some of your funding streams you have a regional arts fund, which goes through state organisations, and so it's not a direct federal grant. You've got to apply through state organisations. I appreciate you've got some touring programs such as national regional programs that enable people to tour. One of the frustrations from people in regional areas is we've got a lot of great stories to tell and there are a lot of good arts organisations out there that are vying for a very small bucket, particularly the small to medium organisations that Senator Urquhart was talking about. Of the \$749 million that we fund through the Arts Portfolio, which as the minister says, is record funding in the arts, which is really positive to see, how much is actually spent in regional Australia and also in the youth arts programs? I'm happy for you to take it on notice.</p> <p>Mr Mrdak: We'll take that on notice and come back to you.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 88
86.	Australia Post	Urquhart	UPU – self-declared rates	<p>Senator URQUHART: I understand that the UPU reached an agreement where high-volume importers of mail and packages would be allowed to begin introducing self-declared rates. Can you tell me what a self-declared rate is and what constraints exist on the prices that are set?</p> <p>Ms Holgate: I'm going to let Erin give you the exact definition of self-declared rates so I don't mislead you in anyway. But effectively what it means is that we are unable to be transparent about the rates and negotiate bilaterally, very similar to what we do on our commercial contracts.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 22-23

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>Ms Kelly: Senator, we might take that on notice.</p> <p>Ms Holgate: But that's what it means.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Over what time period will those rates be phased in?</p> <p>Ms Holgate: Over a three- to four-year period.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Can you provide an example of how much the rates are expected to change?</p> <p>Ms Holgate: Yes. Really, if we looked today at our losses, that \$48.5 million, if I recall correctly—we might have to take this on notice and I'll get Erin to confirm this—something like 70 per cent of our losses are actually on the China leg. Hong Kong I think contributes another 15 per cent. So the vast majority is on China and Hong Kong. This will enable us to move to more equitable pricing over a three- to four-year period. We estimate that around that three-year period we will have mitigated those losses we are making. But it all depends on your profile of what you receive. If that changes, it might be slightly longer or it could be sooner.</p>	
87.	Australia Post	Dean Smith	Mail delivery services in the Kimberley region	<p>Senator DEAN SMITH: My questions, in the brief time available to me, go to mail delivery services across the Kimberley in the far north of Western Australia. In particular, recently I happened to be travelling across the Kimberley and concerns were raised with me about the increasing frequency of the offloading of mail across the Kimberley. Can someone give me a response to what might be happening there? Are you aware of the issue? Has anyone raised it with you thus far?</p> <p>Ms Holgate: I must apologise; I am not aware of the issue. Rod, who is normally with me, our head of deliveries, is at Redbank today, as we are opening up this major facility and moving 500 employees there. We are actually on the cusp of announcing the speeding up of letters and parcels out to rural and regional Australia. It has been an element that many community organisations have shared back with me. New automation, like the automation in Redbank, will enable us to do so. I don't have the detail on your specific question. I don't know if my colleague David, who runs our post offices, does.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 23-24

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>Mr McNamara: We are not aware of anything that's major. We do know that occasionally we have some issues where a contractor may not be able to deliver all of their mail. We have recently had an example of a new contractor, but that was for a few days. We're very happy to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator DEAN SMITH: Just explain to me how that works. Australia Post mail travels from Perth to Broome, Derby, Kununurra, Wyndham et cetera; how does the contracting relationship work? It would go up there predominantly on a Qantas flight?</p> <p>Mr McNamara: I don't have the specifics. We would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator DEAN SMITH: In summary, this is the issue on which you might have to come back to me with a response on notice. What we are witnessing, or what people are experiencing, is increasing frequency of mail being offloaded from Qantas flights. That matter is happening during the dry season, predominantly. It has been put to me that mail is being displaced in preference for other Qantas cargo. In particular, I am interested in how Australia maintains its express mail guarantee when, in actual fact, the delivery service from Perth to the Kimberley in some cases might be taking up to a week. That is the thrust of my question.</p> <p>Ms Holgate: I would like to take that on notice. My commitment to you is that we will get back to you within 48 hours at a maximum, and get you a response. We take our obligation to serve the community very strongly. I know you know that. I am not aware of that particular complaint, but I will absolutely come back to you.</p>	
88.	SBS	Abetz	SBS – remuneration	<p>Senator ABETZ: You don't have a specific person who is responsible for going around parliamentary offices? You do that, do you?</p> <p>Ms O'Neil: I do, on occasion. We have a number of members of my team, as does Mr Taylor. There are a number of members of my team who do that. I am in charge of them. They all report through to me. But there are a number of members of the team who make representations to members of parliament.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: If I received a visit some time ago telling me that that was this</p>	22/10/2019 Page 37

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>particular person's role, they would have been mistaken? Ms O'Neil: No, there is a role of government relations manager. Senator ABETZ: Who is it? Ms O'Neil: An employee called Cath McGrath. Senator ABETZ: Thank you. It's taken a long time for that to emerge. Can I ask—chances are that it will be taken on notice, because you wouldn't necessarily know this—what are the terms of the remuneration, and is the arrangement disclosed in SBS's reports? Of course, if they are internally employed, they wouldn't be on the lobbyist register, I assume, but that is another matter. If you could answer that question in light of that, thank you very much, including remuneration et cetera.</p>	
89.	SBS	Urquhart	Cultural Competence Program	<p>Senator URQUHART: What is the level of uptake of that program? Would you like to see a higher uptake of the cultural competence program by the Australian government and business, and how do you think that could be achieved? Mr Taylor: I would love any and all enterprises that are seeking to create a more inclusive workplace to avail themselves of this excellent training resource. We have had some really good success in other government agencies. I am happy to take on notice some specifics around that. I think we are working hard to raise awareness of the capability and making it available to any and all who are interested in it, at a very attractive price point.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 37-38
90.	SBS	Hanson-Young	FOI statistics	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: I have a couple of questions, some you'll need to take on notice, but following on from the Right to Know campaign—and I know SBS have presented to the stand-alone committee or inquiry this committee is running into the issue. I just wanted to know: do you have the statistics of how many FOIs your journalists currently have on the books that are being delayed or rejected? Mr Taylor: No, but I'm happy to take that on notice.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 40

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
91.	SBS	Hanson-Young	Content budget	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Thank you. The questions I have for you on notice are these. For each of the financial years 2012-13 to 2018-19 I would like to know what the total content budget for SBS television is. What was the budget for, in fiction—drama and narrative comedy—children's programs, factual and documentaries? Also, what was the acquisition budget for fiction—both drama and narrative comedy—children's programs, factual and documentaries? What was the commissioning budget for fiction—drama and narrative comedy—children's programs, factual and documentaries? For each of the financial years 2012-13 through to 2018-19 I would like a breakdown to be provided of expenditure incurred and hours produced for each of the following categories: fiction—drama and narrative comedy—children's programs, factual and documentaries. Lastly, can a breakdown be provided for expenditure incurred and hours produced for Australian programs in each of the following categories: fiction—both drama and narrative comedy—children's programs, factual and documentaries?</p> <p>Mr Taylor: I am happy to take that on notice.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 42
92.	SBS	Hanson-Young	<i>Marngrook Footy Show</i>	<p>The award-winning <i>Marngrook Footy Show</i> has been axed after 12 years on air and despite being a major calling card for NITV and providing an Indigenous voice to our national sport.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What is the justification for axing this show? If budget constraints, what funding would be required to recommission the show? Are other shows going to be cut as a result of budget constraints? Will you review the decision to cancel <i>Marngrook Footy Show</i> in light of the public outcry and petition? 	01/11/2019 Written
93.	ACMA	Urquhart	NBN – service speeds	<p>Senator URQUHART: Can I go back to the previous question? I know you have said that it focused on other areas, but, given that FTTN delivers the slowest speeds of all NBN fixed-line technologies, isn't it fair to suggest that the wireless</p>	22/10/2019 Page 44

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>issues would have a greater impact on FTTP, FTTC and HFC services? Ms O'Loughlin: I couldn't make a call on that. Senator URQUHART: Why couldn't you make a call, Ms O'Loughlin? Ms O'Loughlin: I don't have the information before me. I am happy to take it on notice, but that is not something we looked into. Our moderm study focused just on the issues that were at hand when those concerns came to us from NBN Co.</p>	
94.	ACMA	Kitching	Interference to 3SCB	<p>Senator KITCHING: This is a very dangerously bipartisan Victorian effort here! If J-AIR were to undertake to eliminate or minimise interference to 3SCB, would that help regarding having a licence? Ms O'Loughlin: I would like to take that on notice. It is really an engineering question, and I am not the engineer in the group. Senator KITCHING: My understanding, from speaking with them, is that they are very happy to give that undertaking. That might allow the successful co-existence, perhaps. I understand that it is a technical question, and I don't really want to take up the committee's time at this point. I will be writing a letter to you as well. I think that, with the service they perform, in terms of ensuring there is a lack of anti-Semitism in our communities, they perform a community security function as well, in their broadcasting. Obviously, the Jewish community in that area has to take quite active measures. Ms O'Loughlin: Senator, we are quite happy to take it on notice, and we are quite happy to respond to your correspondence, once it is received. We do, of course, have a range of aspirant broadcasters, and that is always a balance.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 47
95.	ACMA	Green	Regional and Small Publishers Innovation Fund – outcome of funding round	<p>Ms O'Loughlin: The innovation fund—the Regional and Small Publishers Innovation Fund. We have recently announced the outcome of our funding round, which will be providing around \$9 million to 62 applicants in this funding round, to help support public interest journalism in regional areas of Australia. Senator GREEN: Can you table that information? Ms O'Loughlin: Certainly; it is publicly available. The minister announced this</p>	22/10/2019 Page 49

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				just this week. All of the grants that we are providing to applicants are available on our website. We are happy to provide that information to the committee for you.	
96.	ACMA	Lines	Media diversity rules – Seven West/Nine merger	<p>Senator LINES: What is that test when you look at the voices? Are there a number of voices? Is there a spread?</p> <p>Ms O'Loughlin: In different areas there are different numbers of voices, so we will be looking at that. The second one that we will be looking at is the temporary breach of a control rule, and that is what is colloquially called the 'two to a market rule'—not being able to have two licensees in a particular market. They are the two tests that we will be examining the proposed transaction against. I will pause there and ask if my colleagues want to add anything to that.</p> <p>Ms Ritter: In terms of the media diversity—'the voices'—it is considered that an unacceptable media diversity situation will exist in a metropolitan area if the points are less than five, and for regional if it is less than four.</p> <p>Senator LINES: They are the points you were explaining to Senator Green?</p> <p>Ms Ritter: No, these are actually about voices—the number of voices in the area—as opposed to the points I was talking about before.</p> <p>Senator LINES: Does that mean there need to be four voices in a metro area? How does that work?</p> <p>Ms Ritter: Five in the metro area and four in the regional area.</p> <p>Senator LINES: How does WA stack up against that rule right now?</p> <p>Ms O'Loughlin: It depends on which licence area we're looking at, Senator. We can take that on notice for you. These are all done by radio licence areas; it is not by state. We could give you that information on notice. That is certainly what we will be looking at, in where that transaction hits, what the number of voices are and what the impact is.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 49
97.	ACMA	Urquhart	Media diversity	According to the Department's Media Control and ownership Policy Background Paper No.3, published 27 May 2015, the level of media diversity at a market level	01/11/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>was at or below the minimum number of ‘voices’ required by the 5/4 rule in 70 per cent of all licence areas (in 73 of the 105 licence areas). What is the current percentage of licence areas where media diversity at a market level is at or below the minimum number of ‘voices’ required by the 5/4 rule:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> In total; In the mainland State capitals; and In regional and remote areas? 	
98.	ACMA	Urquhart	Regional and Small Publishers Innovation Fund	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Did the ACMA receive an application under the Fund from a community news publication by the name of Indian Link, founded by Pawan and Rajni Luthra, Head Office in Market Street, Sydney? Was Indian Link successful in obtaining a grant under the Fund? If not, why not? Please provide a detailed response. What evidence, if any, did the ACMA request from Indian Link in relation to Indian Link’s application? How many changes to the name, and/or criteria and/or application instructions of the Fund have there been? Please provide a detailed response, and specify each and any change including the date it was made and why the change was made. 	01/11/2019 Written
99.	ACMA	Urquhart	ACMA Christchurch terrorist attack investigation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The ACMA decided to investigate the coverage of the Christchurch terrorist attack. Under what section of the Broadcasting Services Act 1992 was the investigation initiated or conducted? How many complaints did the ACMA receive about the broadcast coverage of the Christchurch terrorist attack, and did any complaints mention the absence of warning messages and/or serious distress? 	01/11/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Does the ACMA have discretion to make findings or not make findings, under an investigation? 4. Does the ACMA have discretion to make breach findings but not take compliance or enforcement action, under an investigation? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, was this option considered by the ACMA in relation to the Christchurch investigation? b. If so, why was this option not pursued in relation to the Christchurch investigation? 5. Is the material examined in the Christchurch investigation at the upper-end of the scale in terms of high impact material that the ACMA deals with in broadcast investigations? 6. Do broadcast code of practice provisions around repetition and warnings continue to provide effective community safeguards, or are they now unnecessary and may be removed from broadcast codes of practice? 7. Does the ACMA consider that the broadcast codes of practice would benefit from special industry protocols or conditions for dealing with abhorrent violent material, where the public interest may be satisfied with the use of lower impact, still images? 8. When will the broadcasters respond to the ACMA's investigation report and the ACMA's concerns and issues with editorial processes? 9. When are the relevant codes of practice next due for review? 	
100.	ACMA	Urquhart	National Self	1. What are the key elements of the ACMA project plan to implement the	01/11/2019

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
			Exclusion Register – online wagering	register? a. What is the critical pathway? b. What are the key milestones and deadlines for getting this work done? c. Have these deadlines been met? 2. Can the ACMA commence procurement of the register before the legislation is passed and commenced? 3. How long will the phase for procurement, design and testing for the register take?	Written
101.	ACMA	Urquhart	Australia's media	1. When was the ACMA's research on News – transparency, distinguishability and impartiality commenced, and when will it be published? 2. What is the research methodology and who is conducting the research (i.e. ACMA desk-based research or qualitative/quantitative research by an external provider)? 3. Is it correct that Australia has one of the most concentrated media markets in the world? 4. It is correct that Australia permits news and current affairs to be commercially influenced, as long as relevant commercial agreements are disclosed? 5. Is it correct that the ACMA permits disclosure of commercial agreements on commercial free-to-air television to be disclosed on/via a website?	01/11/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
102.	ACMA	Urquhart	ACMA website	<p>Does the ACMA website provide a consolidated list of ACMA investigations? If so:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. In what categories (i.e. broadcast, online gambling, etc.)? b. Over what time period? c. What is/are the relevant URL/URLs? 	01/11/2019 Written
103.	Australia Council	Urquhart	Four-Year funding round - organisations	<p>Senator URQUHART: Okay. I want to go to the four-year funding round that is currently under way for small and medium arts organisations. Mr Collette, you talked about 250 organisations that have missed out. I note there has been no real increase in the quantum of funding that is available since the last funding round, which began in 2017. That is nearly two-thirds of the 412 organisations. You said 250 cultural organisations applied at the expression of interest stage but did not make it through. So that is the 250 you are talking about? Mr Collette: Yes. Senator URQUHART: Are you able to provide a list of those organisations which did and those which did not make it through to that round? Mr Collette: We don't at this stage, because this was an expression of interest round. Respecting the privacy of these organisations, some of whom made it through that round and some of whom didn't, we deemed it wise not to do it, and we haven't got that understanding with the companies themselves. Senator URQUHART: Are you able to provide that to this committee? Mr Collette: I would have to take that on notice. It depends on our understanding with the organisations themselves. But certainly if we think we can, we will.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 54
104.	Australia Council	Urquhart	Historical budget comparison	<p>Senator URQUHART: What is the Australia Council's total budget appropriation for the current financial year? Mr Collette: It is \$212.6 million. Senator URQUHART: How does that compare to five years and 10 years ago? Do you want to take that on notice? Mr Blackwell: I think I should, to give you an accurate figure.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 54-55

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
105.	Australia Council	Urquhart	Four-Year Funding review	<p>Senator URQUHART: There is a significant shift away from the commitment to ongoing funding for small organisations such as AustralianPlays, Overland magazine and Theatre Works, all of whom have lost their funding in the last several months, I understand. The particular situation facing the nation's playwrights with the apparent loss of key infrastructure organisations such as AustralianPlays and Playwriting Australia is concerning. Are you satisfied that this new model adequately recognises the long-term infrastructure needs of that small to medium sector?</p> <p>Mr Collette: If I may say first, there is no shift away from those organisations. Those organisations were not successful in getting through the first stage gateway of four-year funding, assessed by industry peers. It doesn't signal in any shape or form that the Australia Council or, indeed, the government is shifting away from those organisations. They weren't successful in a highly contested first round for four-year funding. I can't talk about the specific cases as I sit here. We don't talk about the virtues or other of any particular funding application, but I can say that we are critically aware of particularly some of the issues that playwrights and drama will face and we are awaiting the review which Playwrighting Australia actually imposed on itself. It decided to have its operations reviewed by a third party and we are waiting to see the recommendations of that review, knowing that support for playwrights is very important.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: When is that review due, Mr Collette?</p> <p>Mr Collette: I don't know that exactly, I'm sorry. I think it's a matter of two to three months, but we can get that answer for you, if we can take it on notice.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 55-56
106.	Australia Council	Urquhart	Framework budgets	Please provide an annual breakdown of the percentage of the Australia Council budget allocated to the Major Performing Arts framework and the new National Performing Arts Partnership Framework from 2009 to 2020 compared with the percentage allocated to all other Australia Council funding programs.	01/11/2019 Written
107.	National	Marielle	Digitisation	Senator MARIELLE SMITH: What was the rate at which new material was	22/10/2019

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
	Library of Australia	Smith	program	<p>being digitised prior to the May 2016 budget cuts?</p> <p>Dr Ayres: The change occurred at the MYEFO 2015. I would need to take on notice the rate question. It might be simpler to say that we've been digitising for about 20 years, and over that time it has varied from year to year. We've digitised about five per cent of our total collection now, after 20 years of effort. If you wanted to know how much we've digitised in each year to 2015, we can provide that on notice.</p> <p>Senator MARIELLE SMITH: I would. Do you know what the rate is now?</p> <p>Dr Ayres: I'm going to talk in millions. We're delivering millions of pages under the modernisation fund and the Digitisation Fund. For example, the Australian Joint Copying Project—which was a very long-running microfilm project that identified materials relating to Australia in UK archives—ran for 50 years, but nobody wants to use microfilm now. By the end of June close to 9½ million images from that collection will be digitised and available via Trove. This year alone we'd be talking many millions. Since the modernisation fund started, we've delivered 3½ million, and there will be many, many more coming on before the end of June.</p> <p>Senator MARIELLE SMITH: I appreciate you don't have the earlier numbers for the rate of digitisation, and you're saying these advances make it quick. Can you give me a rough estimate? Would the rate around MYEFO in 2015 be less or more than it is?</p> <p>Dr Ayres: Do you mean, prior to 2015, were we digitising less or more than we're digitising now?</p> <p>Senator MARIELLE SMITH: Yes.</p> <p>Dr Ayres: I'd need to take that on notice. And, when you talk about rate, there are so many different kinds of material. For example, with the Digitisation Fund at the moment from government, we're digitising the papers of Sir John Monash—highly significant. It's not the sort of material you would put through an automated scanner. I'd probably want to give you some information on the types of material, because just to talk about X number of images per year doesn't</p>	Page 89-90

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>really give a good sense of the relative scale and importance of what we're digitising.</p> <p>Senator MARIELLE SMITH: I might spell out a couple of question I have for you to take on notice. As we discussed, I was interested in the rate at which new material was being digitised prior to May 2016, but I'm happy for it to be MYEFO 2015, and then what that rate is now. If you would like to provide some breakdowns—as you said, the more information, the better.</p> <p>Dr Ayres: Sure.</p> <p>Senator MARIELLE SMITH: Also, if that is very different—for instance, if the rate was higher at MYEFO—I'd be interested in what factors would be required to align those two. But, without knowing what the difference is, it's hard to ask that. So, if you could take that on notice, that would be great.</p> <p>Dr Ayres: Sure.</p>	
108.	ABC	Roberts	Content from Al Jazeera	<p>Senator ROBERTS: Thank you all for attending today. I'd like to set the context: Al Jazeera is a Qatari state owned and funded global news outlet. Al Jazeera is linked with terrorist organisations, including the Muslim Brotherhood, and provides coverage biased in favour of the Muslim Brotherhood. The ABC has had a deal to broadcast unedited material provided by Al Jazeera on the ABC and through SBS. Could you please tell me, Mr Anderson, what is the nature of the deal that the ABC has with Al Jazeera to broadcast material provided by Al Jazeera?</p> <p>Mr Anderson: I'm going to have to take that on notice. I can't give you the nature of the deal other than that we do broadcast material that comes from other news providers from time to time.</p> <p>Senator ROBERTS: You can't describe the partnership?</p> <p>Mr Anderson: No, Senator, I can't.</p> <p>Senator ROBERTS: Are the arrangements, including content sourcing and rebroadcasting of Al Jazeera material, being scrutinised by an appropriately senior ABC person designated for this purpose?</p>	22/10/2019 Page 95-96

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>Mr Anderson: I'd say they'd need to comply with editorial policies, but I will refer to Mr McMurtrie, who is the editorial director.</p> <p>Mr McMurtrie: Yes, we would apply the same scrutiny that we do to any other arrangement we might have with a third party. I don't believe there is very much Al Jazeera content playing on ABC platforms at all.</p> <p>Senator ROBERTS: So you would comply with section 13, external funding and relationships, and section 1 on standards of ABC editorial policies with regard to the use of Al Jazeera material?</p> <p>Mr McMurtrie: We would certainly comply with ABC editorial policies, yes.</p> <p>Senator ROBERTS: Do you have any idea of who the people would be who would ensure that compliance?</p> <p>Mr McMurtrie: It would be me and people who report to me.</p> <p>Senator ROBERTS: Have these standards been breached on a regular basis given that the ABC has aired unedited programs of Al Jazeera, biased material for the programs Newshour and NewsGrid, and been provided material for ABC NewsRadio?</p> <p>Mr McMurtrie: I would need to take that on notice to go through it.</p> <p>Senator ROBERTS: What Al Jazeera material is still being broadcast by the ABC and how often?</p> <p>Mr McMurtrie: Again, I would need to provide you with a detailed response on that. But I don't believe that there is very much Al Jazeera content playing on ABC platforms at all.</p> <p>Senator ROBERTS: Could you reply with that material?</p> <p>Mr McMurtrie: Certainly.</p>	
109.	ABC	Roberts	Compliance with editorial policies - Al Jazeera	<p>Senator ROBERTS: What verification, due diligence, did you do to make sure the reporting by the ABC of the Al Jazeera hit piece on One Nation was fair, balanced and accurate?</p> <p>Mr McMurtrie: That piece, as I understand it, was brought to us. We often enter into arrangements with third parties when we're acquiring a documentary, and</p>	22/10/2019 Page 96

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>then we assess whether or not we believe that documentary is consistent with our editorial policies. There would've been an editorial adviser working with the E&S team on that piece. I'm happy to provide you with more information about the scrutiny and the process that we went through with that.</p> <p>Senator ROBERTS: Yes please, because we may have further questions on that in the future.</p>	
110.	ABC	Hanson	Program - <i>How to sell a massacre</i>	<p>Senator HANSON: I just want to know did you actually pay for any content?</p> <p>Mr Anderson: You mean with regard to the program, <i>How to sell a massacre</i>?</p> <p>Senator HANSON: That's right.</p> <p>Mr Anderson: We acquired that. We didn't acquire that through news. We acquired through, as Mr McMurtrie said, Entertainment and Specialist, where we do a lot of our acquisitions that sit on our platforms. Sometimes those deals—</p> <p>Senator HANSON: Not a deal. I have asked a question: did you pay any sum of money for that program?</p> <p>Mr Anderson: I will again take that on notice. I have the right amount at \$5,000, but I believe it might have been in-kind for access to the ABC archive for archive footage. I think that's the answer. I will confirm that on notice for you. In which case, it would have been a value rather than an actual payment.</p> <p>Senator HANSON: Did you reach out to One Nation or the president of the party to actually confirm that what was being put out to the public was true and correct?</p> <p>Mr Anderson: I don't know that detail. What I do know is that before it aired it went through our legal department for prepublication. I know it went through our—</p> <p>Senator HANSON: That's not the question I've asked. Did you reach out to One Nation for verification of truth in what was put out?</p> <p>Mr Anderson: I don't know if any member of the ABC reached out to One Nation or not. I would have to take that on notice.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 97

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
111.	ABC	Fawcett	Editorial policies - <i>How to sell a massacre</i>	<p>CHAIR: Can we just come back to this point: you're saying your editorial policy requires that one of your journalists would have to have consulted or at least given the right of reply to someone, but from what One Nation are saying they didn't have any approach from the ABC to verify their position on what was put to air. That would appear, prima facie, to be a breach of your editorial policies.</p> <p>Mr McMurtie: If I can be of help, I have got a bit more information now. The ABC became aware of the documentary in the week of 28 January. Al Jazeera made an approach to the ABC. Because the questions have been put before: the ABC's acquisition of the documentary was confirmed in the week prior to broadcast, on 26 March. Mr Anderson is quite right—the ABC greed to a licence fee of \$5,000 for the rights. But it was provided to Al Jazeera in the in-kind use of ABC archival footage. On the precise details of the scrutiny that was applied before the program went to air, I would need to come back to the committee with details.</p> <p>CHAIR: If you could. Again, I'm not defending One Nation here. I'm just looking at the principle that you said you scrutinise according to your own standards what you acquire, but it appears here as though there is a lack of applying the same standards in terms of giving a right of reply to somebody who's adversely reflected on in an article.</p> <p>Mr McMurtie: Certainly. I don't want to assume that anything did or didn't happen until I can come back to you with more information. Certainly, in the aftermath, there would've been many requests and a central tenet of our policies is that we make sure that we present relevant perspectives over time. It isn't always possible to cover every facet of every story in the initial broadcast. I accept that this was a piece that was brought into the ABC and I want to be able to answer your question. I just need to get the details for you.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 98
112.	ABC	Roberts	Payment to Al Jazeera	<p>Senator ROBERTS: Over the last five years, how much per year has been paid to Al Jazeera?</p> <p>Mr Anderson: We'll have to take that on notice.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 98

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
113.	ABC	Van	Children's content	<p>Senator VAN: Senator Green stole part of my question. I was going to congratulate you on Bluey: congratulations for commissioning that. I have some further questions around children's content. Obviously, there's a lot of children's content on various parts of various platforms of the ABC. Can you update us on what the first-run children's content currently being aired on the ABC is?</p> <p>Mr Anderson: I'm quite happy to provide that on notice. I could do my best to rattle off a few titles. I'm a bit far away from it at the moment, but I'll give it to you on notice.</p> <p>Senator VAN: I don't get to watch too much of it now these days either, so on notice would be fine. What share—and you might want to take this on notice as well—of the ABC's content is Australian children's content; and can that be broken down by both hours and dollars?</p> <p>Mr Anderson: Yes, and, again, I'll take that on notice. We do track that for what is on ABC Kids as well as ABC Me. You're looking for Australian produced content?</p> <p>Senator VAN: Yes.</p> <p>Mr Anderson: Rather than acquired?</p> <p>Senator VAN: Could you also specify what ABC generated content is?</p> <p>Mr Anderson: Yes.</p> <p>Mr Anderson: Rather than acquired?</p> <p>Senator VAN: Could you also specify what ABC generated content is?</p> <p>Mr Anderson: Yes.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 104- 105
114.	ABC	Van	Funding – enhanced news- gathering services	<p>Senator VAN: Since the 2013-14 budget the ABC has received additional funding from the federal government for enhanced news-gathering services, including the \$43.7 million announced in the 2019–20 budget. Can you tell us the total amount that the ABC has received under this program?</p> <p>Mr Anderson: I can't offhand—</p> <p>Senator VAN: Again, on notice is perfectly fine.</p> <p>Mr Anderson: but this is the third by three-year tranche of that. I said earlier</p>	22/10/2019 Page 105

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				that we welcome the extension of that funding, as it employs over 100 people that do very important jobs.	
115.	ABC	Van	Additional regional journalists	<p>Senator VAN: Great, and almost unanimous support for our regional areas has been shown tonight. A program first introduced in 2013 was designed to enable the ABC to place more journalists outside of metropolitan cities and expand the regional participation in its programming. How many additional journalists have been employed outside metropolitan cities using this funding; and how many are expected to be employed with the additional funding from the 2019–20 budget?</p> <p>Mr Anderson: As I mentioned earlier, it's an extension of funding that already exists. But I can certainly give you on notice where it employs people across the country. I can rattle off places like Broome, Alice Springs, the Hunter, Bunbury, Newcastle, Parramatta, Ipswich, et cetera, but we'll give that to you on notice. Because it's an extension of funding, it hasn't employed new people but it's kept the funding going for where we have a presence.</p> <p>Senator VAN: Over that six years it hasn't employed any additional journalists?</p> <p>Mr Anderson: People will have come and gone, but we'll give you an update on that, and if I have any detail over time I will let you know.</p> <p>Senator VAN: If you could you set out how it compares to the ABC's overall number of journalists, that would also be helpful.</p> <p>Mr Anderson: Certainly.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 105
116.	ABC	Van	Funding for outer suburban bureaux	<p>Senator VAN: Thank you. You were talking about the continuation of this funding in the 2016-17 budget. After that, the ABC published a media release, on 3 May 2016, highlighting that this funding would go to the 'establishment of outer suburban bureaux'. Can you tell us where they are located?</p> <p>Mr Anderson: I'm going to have to give you that on notice, I'm afraid.</p> <p>Senator VAN: Again, we've made it perfectly clear that—</p> <p>Mr Anderson: Otherwise, I think I'd be guessing. Again, I can rattle off where I know that we have a presence, but, specifically relating to that outcome, I will</p>	22/10/2019 Page 105

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				provide that to you on notice.	
117.	ABC	Van	Funding for additional regional services	<p>Senator VAN: Terrific. I'm going to guess that this one will probably go on notice as well. What additional regional services does this funding measure directly support?</p> <p>Mr Anderson: I will give that to you on notice.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 105
118.	ABC	Van	The ABC's submission to the PJCIS inquiry into the impact of the exercise of law enforcement and intelligence powers on the freedom of the press	<p>Senator VAN: I will just read a quote to you from your submission. Can you confirm whether it's correct or not, just for the record: 'The requirement for the Attorney-General consent should apply in respect of all offences that may be used to prosecute journalists, including the Defence Act and the Criminal Code offences identified above.'</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Sorry, is that the entire section, or are you just reading an excerpt?</p> <p>Senator VAN: I'm reading a sentence out of it.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: So it's just part of it.</p> <p>Senator VAN: Yes. I'm asking if that sentence can be confirmed.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: To be fair, I think the whole lot should be read.</p> <p>Senator VAN: I have the call, thank you, Senator. Mr Anderson, can you confirm whether that's—</p> <p>Mr Anderson: It's a fairly long submission and I don't have in front of me, but, certainly, I do recall that we asked for that as part of our submission.</p> <p>Senator VAN: Great. So that's confirmed, or do you need to do that on notice?</p> <p>Mr Anderson: I prefer to take it on notice—we can do word for word. But I know that was certainly in there as part of what was quite a lengthy submission with regard to legislative change.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 105- 106
119.	ABC	Abetz	Management and Board	<p>Senator ABETZ: How many people are in the management and board band in 2018-19? And then how many were in that management and board band in the previous financial year? That will tell us the difference. Now this journalist is</p>	22/10/2019 Page 109

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				asserting that the difference is two people. One assumes that they would command a salary or remuneration which would add into the \$2.5 million. Mr Anderson: How about I confirm that on notice for you?	
120.	ABC	Abetz	<i>The Drum - IPA panellists</i>	<p>Senator ABETZ: Yes. If you could, that would be helpful. On 30 July, The Drum host, Julia Baird, tweeted to The Drum audience on Twitter: I've been listening. I plan to review the effectiveness of our requirements for disclosure of conflicts of interest for our panellists, think tanks and lobby groups and will report back. Has a review been undertaken? Is there a copy of the review? Has Julia Baird reported back? And, more importantly, what's our excuse for not having had anybody from the Institute of Public Affairs for over 540 days?</p> <p>Mr Anderson: There are a few questions that you just asked there. How often we've invited someone from the IPA, I am unaware of.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ: Can you take all that on notice?</p> <p>Mr Anderson: We can take it on notice and respond.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 109
121.	ABC	McGrath	Property portfolio	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On 2 November 2018, the ABC provided a detailed list of its property portfolio, in response to questions on notice. Can the ABC provide an updated list? 2. Can the ABC also provide a list of any properties sold, leased or closed in the last seven years? 3. On 22 October 2019, the ABC revealed that its Ultimo property had increased in value from \$218 million to \$330 million, a 51 per cent increase. Can the ABC explain the reason for this re-evaluation? 4. The ABC's (former) Managing Director, Mark Scott, wrote that: <i>[The ABC] will sell Lanceley Place in Sydney and close five of its smallest regional radio stations that operate as virtual outposts.</i> How much did Lanceley Place sell 	28/10/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>for?</p> <p>5. In 2014, the ABC's 'efficiency study' found that its properties in Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth had a relatively low level of utilisation and that: <i>[T]here [was] an opportunity to raise revenue... from [the] rental of this underutilised space.</i> Since the study, how much revenue has been raised from this underutilised space?</p>	
122.	ABC	McGrath	<i>The Drum</i>	<p>1. How does the ABC aim to achieve balance and diversity on The Drum?</p> <p>2. In 2017, the Institute of Public Affairs (IPA) appeared on The Drum once a month, on average. The IPA has not been invited on The Drum since 23 April 2018. Can the ABC explain the reason for this?</p> <p>3. Is there a boycott of the IPA on The Drum?</p> <p>4. On 30 July 2018, the host of the Drum, Julia Baird, tweeted: <i>To the Drum audience on Twitter: I have been listening. I plan to review the effectiveness of our requirements for disclosure of conflicts of interest for our panellists, think tanks, lobby groups with @ellenmfanning and will report back. @ABCthedrum.</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a. Has a review been undertaken? b. Is there a copy of the review? c. Has Julia Baird reported back?</p> <p>5. Has the ABC refused any requests from the IPA to appear on The Drum? a. If so, why?</p>	28/10/2019 Written
123.	ABC	Hanson-Young	ABC content budget	<p>1. For each of the financial years from 2012-13 to 2018-19:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. What was the total content budget for ABC Television? b. What was the budget for</p>	01/11/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. fiction ii. drama iii. narrative comedy iv. children's programs, and v. factual and documentaries. c. What was the acquisition budget for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. fiction ii. drama iii. narrative comedy iv. children's programs, and v. factual and documentaries. d. What was the commissioning budget for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. fiction ii. drama iii. narrative comedy iv. children's programs, and v. factual and documentaries. 2. For each of the financial years from 2012-13 to 2018-19: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Can a breakdown be provided of expenditure incurred and hours produced for each of the following categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. fiction ii. drama iii. narrative comedy iv. children's programs, and v. factual and documentaries. b. Can a breakdown be provided of expenditure incurred and hours produced for Australian programs in each of the following categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. fiction ii. drama 	

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> iii. narrative comedy iv. children’s programs, and v. factual and documentaries. <p>3. Noting that the ACCC has recently called for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. stable and adequate funding for the public broadcasters (recommendation 9); and b. a new platform-neutral regulatory framework to ensure effective and consistent regulatory oversight of all entities involved in content production or delivery in Australia, including media businesses, publishers, broadcasters and digital platforms (recommendation 6) <p>Can ABC state its position:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. on whether it has stable and adequate funding; and 2. on the desirability and value of Australian content quotas or expenditure obligations for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the ABC and SBS b. commercial television broadcasters, and c. SVODs such as Stan, Amazon and Netflix. 	
124.	NBN Co	Roberts	Sky Muster cost	<p>Mr Rue: The Sky Muster service is already available to rural Queensland. The service has been available for several years now. We launched two satellites, one in 2015 and the other in 2016—would that be right, Brad? It's around that date. So the services are already available on satellite.</p> <p>Senator ROBERTS: What are the costs of those?</p> <p>Mr Rue: The cost of that will depend upon the retailer. Do you have the retail data there, Brad?</p> <p>Mr Whitcomb: Not off the top of my head, no. I can take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator ROBERTS: Thank you.</p>	22/10/2019 Page 120
125.	NBN Co	Patrick	Services in	Senator PATRICK: Mr Rue, I asked a question in April, question No. 44,	22/10/2019

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
			Wudinna	<p>relating to services at Wudinna in South Australia. I have been to Wudinna and I could share a story in common with Senator Roberts in that the community there have only got satellite services. And your answer to my question on notice said that is all they are going to get. So I don't doubt that they have satellite services, but they have described to me situations where those satellite services are just not up to what is required—doctors having conference calls, schools using the internet, and even things like access to government services. You might be aware that, in many regional communities, there have been cutbacks on the basis that a lot of government services have switched to online. Clearly there are some policy decisions being made. You say that these decisions are based on factors such as population density, engineering considerations, location of existing and leased infrastructure, and cost per premises to serve an area. That means nothing to the farmers I talked to in Wudinna, nothing at all. They simply are not getting services. I am of the understanding that there is an NBN cable running past the council building, and I'm wondering what it's going to take to get these people the service they deserve.</p> <p>Mr Rue: Obviously I don't know whether there is a cable running past or not—</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: Can you take that on notice to confirm whether that is the case.</p> <p>Mr Rue: I am happy to do that.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: Thank you.</p> <p>Mr Rue: We are working on a statement of expectations, which is our role, which is to build high-speed broadband across the nation. And satellite is actually a significant step-up from services that people used to have, there's no doubt. As I said in my answer to Senator Roberts, we want to work with communities, within the funding that we have, to see how we can assist regional and rural Australia. For example, in education, we're looking at ways that we can provide another port—essentially, additional capacity—into schools in remote areas so that some of the capacity the satellite provides can actually be provided to education. I have visited distance education and I know how important it is for people who live a</p>	Page 120-121

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>long way away. The enterprise satellite I talked about is another way of using capacity from the satellite. We will continue to work within the bounds of the technology and within the bounds of our funding. I understand the issues you are talking about, but I'm also working to a statement of expectations and—</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: In some sense the situation here is a lot of bureaucratic-speak for someone who might be listening to what has just been said. These are people who want services and they deserve just the same sorts of services as people in the cities; in fact, because of their remoteness, in my view they deserve priority.</p> <p>Mr Rue: We actually do give people priority by going first to places where they had no internet access, rather than a commercial organisation, which would have gone to where you make money first, if you will. But let me take your question on notice regarding the cable and how close it is.</p>	
126.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Wholesale charges - transparency	<p>Senator URQUHART: You indicated at the first question that I asked that it was about transparency—that's why you have reported it in the corporate plan. Shouldn't retail providers be receiving a transparent and non-discriminatory view of your wholesale charges by you releasing or putting out that RPU?</p> <p>Mr Tyler: Absolutely. To the principles that you laid out in your opening commentary there, we absolutely agree with all of those principles out. We do give full transparency on every one of the business products to our retailers. NBN is a wholesale only provider. We will only sell carriage services through a retail provider. We have a list price, where we provide the price of each one of our offerings to retailers and then they in turn sell those offerings into the retail market. We don't set the retail price; we only set the wholesale price for those carriage services.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: I'm happy for you to take it on notice...</p>	22/10/2019 Page 122
127.	NBN Co	Green	NBN rollout in Samford	<p>Senator GREEN: There are people who are concerned about this. About 2,000 people have signed a petition at the moment, and it is a smaller town, so that's</p>	22/10/2019 Page 128

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
			Queensland	<p>quite a big number. But it's not as geographically isolated as other places in the country. It's pretty close to Brisbane, really. I just want to give them a little bit of certainty about this before we go tonight. There are people who have been moved between fixed line and wireless technology. Can you let me know, since 1 January, how many subscribers were moved from a previously allocated fixed line technology to a fixed wireless or satellite technology, and what's the reason for this change?</p> <p>Ms Dyer: I will definitely have to take that question on notice and come back to you. Again, what happens in the construction program, as we get on the ground and start construction work, is that we do see some changes in the network boundary. Sometimes we extend the network boundary—the fixed line boundary. We've got examples of that, in fact, in Canberra and New South Wales, where recently, when we've been deploying, we've deployed an alternative solution because it made more sense. So we are reviewing that area at the moment. Again, it is quite a challenging area to deploy to. As I said, there are very large street frontages. My understanding is that there's a lot of aerial network there. So, depending on how we finally deploy to that area—and it is under consideration—we will need to take all of that into consideration to be able to construct in that area.</p> <p>Can I make a suggestion, Senator. I can come back to you more fully, I think, on this area. Even with my planning team, it's a very hot topic for NBN, because we understand the customers' frustration. I have certainly reviewed it myself. So, if we could take that on notice, I think we could come back to you more fully.</p>	
128.	NBN Co	Green	NBN rollout in Samford – review	<p>Senator GREEN: I think the issues that have been raised have led people in the Samford area to indicate that they're prepared to halt the proposed NBN Co deployment in order to receive the right long-term, sustainable, fixed-line broadband technology for the community irrespective of NBN Co's target completion date. I know you've said tonight that you're planning on reviewing this issue and you are aware there's a petition with around 2,000 signatures. Will</p>	22/10/2019 Page 128

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>you go beyond a review and actually have a conversation with the community to find out what their needs are and what they want out of this situation?</p> <p>Ms Dyer: It's the role of the NBN local team to engage with the community, take that feedback on board and input it into the overall network plan and construction team. I have a construction team based in Queensland. They're quite local in their knowledge. We would take that into consideration and we would be prepared to engage with that group, as I think we have been doing.</p> <p>Senator GREEN: When are you planning on finalising your review?</p> <p>Ms Dyer: I can't give you a time frame, unfortunately, but I have a ticking clock to complete the network by June 2020, so any outstanding reviews of any edge case decisions we are making quite rapidly.</p> <p>Senator GREEN: With respect, I think the people who are concerned about this don't want an answer in June 2020. They need an answer now so they know what's going to happen before June 2020. So it would be really helpful if you could conduct that review and get back to them. I'm happy for you to take that on notice—</p> <p>Ms Dyer: Yes, absolutely.</p> <p>Senator GREEN: and let them know not necessarily what the decision is but what the plan around consultation is. Essentially they're feeling not only that they're not happy with the service they're being offered but that they're not being listened to.</p>	
129.	NBN Co	Hanson-Young	NBN pricing	<p>With data consumption increasing at 37% annually, does NBN expect that retailers will have to continue increasing prices for consumers to keep up with increasing data consumption charges?</p> <p>The majority of broadband plans in the market today offer unlimited downloads, yet NBN continues to charge retailers for data consumption. This can only lead to two possible outcomes: retailers will be forced to increase prices, or retailers will have to limit monthly downloads to constrain usage. Which of these two</p>	01/11/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				outcomes does NBN expect to be more likely?	
130.	NBN Co	Hanson-Young	Unlimited download broadband plans	Millions of Australians are still on ADSL, and typically pay around \$60 a month for an unlimited download broadband plan. Yet an unlimited download plan on the NBN usually cost around \$10 more per month. The ACCC has recognised this problem, and Chair Rod Sims has said, “We were never meant to get to a situation where some consumers, in switching to the NBN, will be left worse off by paying more, or getting less.” Why has NBN squeezed low income users out of the broadband market, forcing the competition watchdog to intervene?	01/11/2019 Written
131.	NBN Co	Hanson-Young	NBN affordability	<p>NBN says that it is addressing affordability concerns in its second pricing paper, yet the entry-level bundles still have the lowest CVC inclusions of all available bundles. Shouldn't low-income users have the same opportunity to access broadband as people on higher incomes? Why are the most vulnerable Australians getting so little data?</p> <p>In the second pricing consultation paper, the amount of included CVC on a 50Mbps bundle is more than double the CVC included in the entry level 12Mbps product, and is 1Mbps more than the CVC included in the 25Mbps product. Does NBN's data show that a 12Mbps only has half the CVC requirements of a 50Mbps user? Why are entry-level users given such a paltry amount of CVC?</p>	01/11/2019 Written
132.	NBN Co	Hanson-Young	NBN pricing bundles	NBN's 'rebalanced' 25Mbps product has reduced in price by \$8 per month, but it has also reduced the amount of included CVC to just 1.25Mbps. Retailers have said that this will require them to buy back that reduced amount of CVC soon after the new plans come into effect. As a result, a 25Mbps plan with 2.25Mbps of CVC costs \$45 per month – the same price as the 50Mbps bundle. Does NBN agree with the view that retailers are basically back where they started from, with a 25Mbps plan that costs the same as the 50Mbps plan? Why doesn't NBN offer	01/11/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>a lower price for 25Mbps to allow retailers to offer more affordable services for lower speeds?</p> <p>NBN's second pricing consultation paper has also introduced new high-speed bundles with much larger amounts of included CVC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 100Mbps bundle with 3.75Mbps of included CVC for \$58 per month o 250Mbps bundle with 4.75Mbps of included CVC for \$68 p/m o 1000Mbps bundle with 5.75Mbps of included CVC for \$80 p/m <p>These premium plans have very generous CVC inclusions – far more than the 12Mbps or 25Mbps plans which are meant to be for users that need affordable broadband. Why does NBN offer so little CVC to users on entry-level speeds and so much CVC to wealthy users buying higher speeds?</p>	
133.	NBN Co	Hanson-Young	ARPU	<p>NBN has made its more expensive broadband products much more attractive by offering higher data inclusions, and its entry-level products unattractive with lower data inclusions at relatively higher prices, isn't NBN's pricing designed to increase NBN's Average Revenue Per User (ARPU) rather than delivering what consumers need, at a price they can afford?</p>	01/11/2019 Written
134.	NBN Co	Hanson-Young	NBN pricing structure	<p>In its inquiry paper, the ACCC has said that it is concerned by NBN's use of 'discounts' because this approach sits outside of the protections offered by NBN's Special Access Undertaking (SAU) with the ACCC. The ACCC has said that as a result, "there is much less certainty for access seekers in supplying NBN retail services. In addition, the introduction of various discount/bundled offers appears to have led to increasingly complex pricing and product constructs for NBN services." (page 23 of inquiry paper) Why is NBN making its pricing so complex when retailers have continually called for simpler pricing?</p>	01/11/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
135.	NBN Co	Hanson-Young	Voice only service pricing	Consumers can now buy a mobile SIM offering unlimited voice for as little as \$5 per month, yet NBN's proposed 'voice only' service will cost \$22.50 wholesale – meaning retail prices will likely be around six times higher than comparable mobile services. Is NBN concerned that its high pricing for voice-only services will accelerate the trend of consumers abandoning fixed-lines in favour of more affordable mobile services?	01/11/2019 Written
136.	NBN Co	Urquhart	The multi-technology mix – over budget	In 2013, the Coalition promised to deliver the NBN for peak funding of \$29.5 billion. How much peak-funding is the multi-technology mix now expected to require?	04/11/2019 Written
137.	NBN Co	Urquhart	The multi-technology mix – behind schedule	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?	04/11/2019 Written
138.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Capacity and augmentation CAPEX	The 2018 Corporate Plan contains a line item for Network Capacity and Augmentation as shown below:	04/11/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing																																																																																				
				<p>5.3 Capital expenditure</p> <p>Table 7: Capital expenditure</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>FY17(A)</th> <th>FY18</th> <th>FY19</th> <th>FY20</th> <th>FY21</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="6">Capex (\$ billion)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FTTP Brownfields</td> <td>(0.2)</td> <td>(0.1)</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FTTP Greenfields</td> <td>(0.2)</td> <td>(0.2)</td> <td>(0.2)</td> <td>(0.2)</td> <td>(0.2)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FTTN/B</td> <td>(2.2)</td> <td>(1.9)</td> <td>(0.8)</td> <td>(0.2)</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FTTC</td> <td>(0.1)</td> <td>(1.0)</td> <td>(0.7)</td> <td>(0.2)</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HFC</td> <td>(1.2)</td> <td>(1.8)</td> <td>(1.1)</td> <td>(0.1)</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fixed Wireless</td> <td>(0.3)</td> <td>(0.4)</td> <td>(0.3)</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Satellite</td> <td>(0.2)</td> <td>(0.1)</td> <td>(0.1)</td> <td>(0.1)</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total network build and activate</td> <td>(4.4)</td> <td>(5.5)</td> <td>(3.2)</td> <td>(0.8)</td> <td>(0.2)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Transit</td> <td>(0.6)</td> <td>(0.5)</td> <td>(0.2)</td> <td>(0.1)</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Network Capacity and Augmentation</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>(0.3)</td> <td>(0.3)</td> <td>(0.3)</td> <td>(0.2)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Common</td> <td>(0.8)</td> <td>(0.7)</td> <td>(0.5)</td> <td>(0.4)</td> <td>(0.2)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total capex</td> <td>(5.8)</td> <td>(7.0)</td> <td>(4.2)</td> <td>(1.6)</td> <td>(0.6)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><small>Note: The numbers presented in this table correspond to the RFS base case consistent with the ranges represented in Table 5 but may vary significantly over time.</small></p> <p>a) Please outline capacity and augmentation for FY19, FY20, FY21, FY22 and FY23 based on the 2020 Corporate Plan.</p>		FY17(A)	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	Capex (\$ billion)						FTTP Brownfields	(0.2)	(0.1)	0.0	0.0	0.0	FTTP Greenfields	(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.2)	FTTN/B	(2.2)	(1.9)	(0.8)	(0.2)	0.0	FTTC	(0.1)	(1.0)	(0.7)	(0.2)	0.0	HFC	(1.2)	(1.8)	(1.1)	(0.1)	0.0	Fixed Wireless	(0.3)	(0.4)	(0.3)	0.0	0.0	Satellite	(0.2)	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.1)	0.0	Total network build and activate	(4.4)	(5.5)	(3.2)	(0.8)	(0.2)	Transit	(0.6)	(0.5)	(0.2)	(0.1)	0.0	Network Capacity and Augmentation	0.0	(0.3)	(0.3)	(0.3)	(0.2)	Common	(0.8)	(0.7)	(0.5)	(0.4)	(0.2)	Total capex	(5.8)	(7.0)	(4.2)	(1.6)	(0.6)	
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139.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Cumulative Capex – fixed wireless	What was the cumulative CAPEX for the fixed-wireless network as of 1 July 2019?	04/11/2019 Written																																																																																				
140.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Expenses – redundancies	How many redundancies have been processed by NBN over FY18-19? a. Of these redundancies, how many were: i. Voluntary? ii. Forced? b. What was the total cost of all redundancies?	04/11/2019 Written																																																																																				

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
141.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Network reliability	Please provide the most recent figures for network reliability across each technology footprint deployed by NBN Co.	04/11/2019 Written
142.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Consultancy spend	How much did NBN spend on advisory and consultants in FY18-19?	04/11/2019 Written
143.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Service Faults - total	Please provide <u>the total number</u> of service faults lodged with NBN in FY18-19?	04/11/2019 Written
144.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Service Faults – breakdown by access technology	Please provide <u>the total number</u> of service faults lodged with NBN in FY18-19, broken down by access technology.	04/11/2019 Written
145.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Missed appointments	Please provide <u>the number</u> of missed technician appointments in FY18-19	04/11/2019 Written
146.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Point Piper NBN rollout	Given the former Prime Minister was able to connect his Point Piper mansion to the NBN on 8 December 2017, when will the other residents of Point Piper be able to access the NBN?	04/11/2019 Written
147.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Cycle time - FTTC	What is the average cycle time for FTTC once in the construction phase?	04/11/2019 Written
148.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Technology choice – FTTN to FTTC	a) Does NBN currently offer technology choice for HFC to FTTP? If not, when will this become available? b) Why has NBN yet to offer technology choice for FTTN to FTTC given FTTC is in commercial deployment?	04/11/2019 Written
149.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Customer Experience Metric (CEM)	The 2017 Corporate Plan (page 16) noted that: <i>“The Customer Experience Metric is tracking favourably, meeting a metric of 7.2 out of 10 (FY16), up from 6.6 (FY15). Implementation of continuous improvement programs aim to reach 8 out of 10 by 2020.”</i>	04/11/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>The 2020 Corporate Plan does not appear to make any reference to this metric.</p> <p>a) Please confirm what the Customer Experience Metric was at the time of the 2020 Corporate Plan.</p>	
150.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Media monitoring – FY18-19	How much was spent on media monitoring in FY18-19?	04/11/2019 Written
151.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Highest take-up in FSA	Please list the top 10 FSA by level of take-up in areas where migration period is complete.	04/11/2019 Written
152.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Fixed wireless take-up after 18 months	<p>a) What is the level of fixed-wireless take-up after an area has been RFS for 18 months?</p> <p>b) What is the level of fixed-wireless take-up after an area has been RFS for 24 months?</p>	04/11/2019 Written
153.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Advocacy metric	<p>The 2017 Corporate Plan contained references to Advocacy measures such as the example below:</p> <p><i>“nbn’s Advocacy, a measure of users who have already recommended the nbn™ network to family, friends or colleagues is at 65 per cent, the same as 12 months ago. This measure is reflective of enduser experience across both the RSP and nbn™ networks.”</i></p>	04/11/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing												
				<p>Advocacy</p> <p>Advocacy is a measure of behaviour, capturing end users who have recommended the nbn™ network to a colleague, friend or family member based on their experience. It is calculated as percentage of total users surveyed. Advocacy is measured over time at one, three and six months after installation.</p> <p>Please provide Advocacy scores for FTTP, FTTC, FTTN, HFC, Fixed Wireless and Satellite which either underpinned the 2020 Corporate Plan or were taken at the end of financial year 18-19.</p>													
154.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Median usage fixed wireless	What is the median amount of monthly usage on Fixed Wireless?	04/11/2019 Written												
155.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Activations by technology	<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> <table border="1" data-bbox="969 933 1751 1361"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="969 933 1321 1034">Technology</th> <th data-bbox="1321 933 1751 1034">Activations (at least two decimal points)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="969 1034 1321 1101">HFC</td> <td data-bbox="1321 1034 1751 1101"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="969 1101 1321 1168">FTTN/B</td> <td data-bbox="1321 1101 1751 1168"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="969 1168 1321 1235">FTTP (brownfields)</td> <td data-bbox="1321 1168 1751 1235"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="969 1235 1321 1302">FTTC</td> <td data-bbox="1321 1235 1751 1302"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="969 1302 1321 1361">Satellite</td> <td data-bbox="1321 1302 1751 1361"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Technology	Activations (at least two decimal points)	HFC		FTTN/B		FTTP (brownfields)		FTTC		Satellite		04/11/2019 Written
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156.	NBN Co	Urquhart	FTTP overbuild	To how many premises has NBN overbuilt FTTN with FTTP?	04/11/2019 Written										
157.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Fixed-wireless congestion	<p data-bbox="972 722 1375 751">Please complete the following table:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1066 799 1816 1126"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="1066 799 1440 865">Average busy hour speed</th> <th data-bbox="1440 799 1816 865">% of total cells</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="1066 865 1440 930"><3mbps</td> <td data-bbox="1440 865 1816 930"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1066 930 1440 995">3-6 mbps</td> <td data-bbox="1440 930 1816 995"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1066 995 1440 1061">6~12mbps</td> <td data-bbox="1440 995 1816 1061"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1066 1061 1440 1126">12~25mbps</td> <td data-bbox="1440 1061 1816 1126"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Average busy hour speed	% of total cells	<3mbps		3-6 mbps		6~12mbps		12~25mbps		04/11/2019 Written
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158.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Not Ready to Connect / Service Class Zero	<p>Please provide a breakdown of premises not ready to connect by technology type. Provide the number of premises for each technology.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1066 523 1839 928"> <thead> <tr> <th>Technology</th> <th>Number of SCO premises</th> <th>% of RFS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>FTTP</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>FTTC</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>FTTN</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>FTTB</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>HFC</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Technology	Number of SCO premises	% of RFS	FTTP			FTTC			FTTN			FTTB			HFC			04/11/2019 Written
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159.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Copper purchases	How many metres of new copper has NBN purchased to date?	04/11/2019 Written																		
160.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Cell and tower counts	<p>a) How many fixed-wireless towers have been deployed across the NBN network?</p> <p>b) How many fixed-wireless cells have been deployed across the NBN network based on the most recent information?</p> <p>c) How many fixed-wireless towers does NBN expect to have deployed by 2020?</p>	04/11/2019 Written																		
161.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Cumulative revenue	Please provide cumulative revenue since the beginning of the project up to 1 July 2019.	04/11/2019 Written																		

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing														
162.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Cumulative OPEX	Please provide cumulative OPEX since the beginning of the project up to up to 1 July 2019.	04/11/2019 Written														
163.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Cumulative CAPEX	<p>Please provide cumulative CAPEX on each technology since the beginning of the project up to up to 1 July 2019.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1070 632 1812 1126"> <thead> <tr> <th>Technology</th> <th>Cumulative CAPEX To up to 1 July 2018.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>FTTP</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>FTTN/B</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>FTTC</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>HFC</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fixed Wireless</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Satellite</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Technology	Cumulative CAPEX To up to 1 July 2018.	FTTP		FTTN/B		FTTC		HFC		Fixed Wireless		Satellite		04/11/2019 Written
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164.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Cycle time - FTTP	What is the average cycle time for FTTP once in the construction phase?	04/11/2019 Written														
165.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Subscriber payments	Please confirm forecast cumulative Subscriber Payments once all legacy users have been migrated.	04/11/2019 Written														
166.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Fixed-wireless revenue forecasts	Relative to the 2019 Corporate Plan, can NBN confirm it has reduced revenue expectations in the fixed-wireless footprint?	04/11/2019 Written														

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				For example, the forecasts activations in FY22 are less in the 2020 plan compared to the 2019 plan.	
167.	NBN Co	Urquhart	Calls to call centre	With reference to the NBN public-facing contact centre number: How many calls have been made to the 1800 687 626 number in FY18-19? Please break down by month.	04/11/2019 Written
168.	NBN Co	Urquhart	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.	04/11/2019 Written
169.	OeSC	Urquhart	eSafety Commissioner	1. Can the Commissioner provide an update on the implementation of the Abhorrent Violent Material legislation? a. How many notices have been served? b. How many have been complied with? 2. Can the Commissioner provide an update on the implementation of the ISP blocking measures recently introduced? a. How many notices have been served? b. How many have been complied with? c. How many websites have you requested be blocked and on what grounds?	01/11/2019 Written

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<p>3. Are these measures making a measurable impact on the problem they've been designed to address?</p> <p>4. How much additional funding was allocated to implementing the AVM and ISP blocking work?</p> <p>5. How many staff are working on managing the AVM and ISP blocking work?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Are these staff performing other duties? Has their workload increased with these new measures being implemented? <p>6. What is the current staffing profile of the eSafety Office?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> How many staff are full time? How many are on contract? When were the contract-based staff brought on, and for what purpose? What skill sets are the contract-based staff used for, as opposed to full time staff? What is the turnover rate of contract-based staff like? What is turnover rate of full time staff like? 	
170.	1.1	Urquhart	Contracts signed during caretaker period	Aside from the NRS contract, what other contracts were entered into during the caretaker period by the Department of Communications?	28/11/2019 Written,
171.	1.1	Urquhart	NRS – no user worse off	In April 2018 the Minister stated that no one would be worse off as a result of the NRS tender. Does the Department consider it is better placed to judge if users will potentially	28/11/2019 Written,

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				be worse off as a result of a decision? Or the users themselves? Can the Department rule out the possibility any existing CapTel user will be worse off?	
172.	1.1	Urquhart	NRS – funding for migration training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) How are one-on-one training services for the NRS migration being funded? From an industry levy or from the Budget? b) When was this contract entered into and who with? c) What is the AusTender contract ID? d) What is the contract amount? 	28/11/2019 Written,
173.	1.1	Urquhart	NRS – tender	Prior to an NRS tender decision being made, the decision maker would have been presented with a recommendation. On what date was the recommendation made? Was it made during the caretaker period of beforehand?	28/11/2019 Written,
174.	1.1	Urquhart	NRS – date of decision on Tender	On what date was a decision taken in relation to the NRS tender?	28/11/2019 Written,
175.	1.1	Urquhart	NRS – general questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Department indicated it facilitated an opportunity for the Minister to trial making phone calls through CapTel and other technologies (including TTY) but only <u>after</u> the announcement that the tender was awarded to Concentrix. Does the Minister consider a TTY to be an equivalent alternative to CapTel for elderly deaf Australians? b) When questioned as to how a small TTY screen provided a better reading experience than a large CapTel display, a Department official stated that they were comparable. When questioned as to where that feedback had come from, Department officials admitted that was from their own experience and they had not consulted with CapTel users. Did the Department deliberately avoid consulting CapTel users in order to execute a premeditated decision? 	28/11/2019 Written,

Number	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) How many TTYs are available in Australia for CapTel users to migrate to? d) Given the Government has decided to remove the CapTel service which had technology that removed the need for direct interaction with a relay officer, what remaining remaining speak and read services will the NRS offer that do not require direct interaction with a relay officer? 	
176.	1.1	Urquhart	NRS – number of users	Is the Department of Communications keeping track of how many active users there are on the NRS now, in order to compare this to the number of active users after the migration?	28/11/2019 Written,
177.	1.1	Urquhart	NRS – CapTel license	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) What progress has been made in discussions with American CapTel owner and what are the results of this discussion. b) And ‘are commercial arrangements preventing the ongoing supply of CapTel equipment’ and can these arrangements be renegotiated? 	28/11/2019 Written,
178.	1.1	Urquhart	NRS – CapTel license – current contract	Does the current NRS contract provide a mechanism for the Commonwealth to acquire the CapTel license?	28/11/2019 Written,
179.	1.1	Urquhart	NRS – directorship of AccessCom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) On what date did the Department become aware that Mr Gililand, of Australian Communications Exchange, was a director of AccessCom? b) On what date was this information made available to the previous or current Minister? 	28/11/2019 Written,