



Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee  
Additional Estimates 2019-20  
Tuesday, 3 March 2020  
Daily summary

Here is the summary of today's proceedings in the Environment and Communications Legislation Committee estimates hearing.

The committee met from 9.00am until 11.02pm.

The committee called the communications and arts outcomes and agencies of the Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications portfolio, including the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, Australian Postal Corporation, Special Broadcasting Service (SBS) Corporation, Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC), Australian Communications and Media Authority, Office of the eSafety Commissioner, Classification Board, Screen Australia, Australia Council, National Library of Australia, and NBN Co Limited.

Topics discussed by the committee included:

- Government's response to the Australian and Children's Screen Content Review;
- funding for the National Relay Service;
- closure of the WA based community TV station WTV;
- Australia Post's revenue results for its letter and parcel delivery services;
- Government's response to the Digital Platforms Inquiry final report;
- selection process for the appointment of the next Chair of the SBS board;
- impact of the recent Australian bushfires on the ABC's emergency broadcasting services;
- ABC's decision to remove an episode of the Q&A program from its digital platforms;
- number of ABC staff members based outside Australian capital cities;
- operation of the Office of the eSafety Commissioner's Online Content Scheme;
- implementation of the Australian Music Industry Package;
- announced roundtable to hear from Indigenous artists in relation to the unethical art trading industry;
- decisions of the Classification Board in relation to Japanese anime and manga;
- review of Australia's classification regulation;
- National Library of Australia's proposed reorganisation of its staffing and operations;
- current household take-up rates for 12 megabits per second (Mbps) plans; and
- timeframe for the completion of the National Broadband Network.