

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**

**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**

**Additional Estimates February 2017**

**Communications Portfolio**

**Australian Broadcasting Corporation**

**Question No: 105**

**Australian Broadcasting Corporation**

**Hansard Ref: Pages 100-101, 28/02/2017**

**Topic: Staffing - Rockhampton**

**Senator McKenzie, Bridget asked:**

**Senator McKENZIE:** No, I want to ask why you had to shift somebody from Rockhampton to the Sunshine Coast rather than somebody from Sydney to the Sunshine Coast. Was that ever considered?

**Ms Guthrie:** The staffing for our Maroochydore and Rockhampton offices is the responsibility of the regional division, and they have made the assessment based on their expertise in the area. But, as I said to Senator Williams, I do acknowledge that we need to invest further in our regional bureaus, and that is a key priority of the organisation.

**Senator McKENZIE:** Perhaps you could take on notice consideration by the regional division not on approaching the other regional staff to transfer to the Sunshine Coast but actually getting to Sydney to go to the Sunshine Coast, or Brisbane to go to the Sunshine Coast, rather than taking it out of Rockhampton.

**Answer:**

Staffing allocations for ABC regional offices are the responsibility of the Regional division and the division is provided with discrete funding for its resourcing. Divisional management made this staffing reallocation decision based on their expertise and the best interests of audiences in these regions.