

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**  
**Additional Estimates February 2017**  
**Communications Portfolio**  
**Department of Communications and the Arts**

**Question No: 22**

**Program 1.1**

**Hansard Ref: Written, 14/03/2017**

**Topic: Deregulation and Regulation Reform 2016**

**Senator Urquhart, Anne asked:**

1. What was the Communication portfolio red tape / regulation reform target for the 2016 calendar year?
2. How many deregulatory / regulatory initiatives were implemented by the Department in 2015?
3. What total red tape savings were achieved by the Department in 2015?
4. How many deregulatory / regulatory initiatives were implemented by the Department in 2016?
  - (a) Please list each measure and the associated regulatory savings.
5. What was the total quantum of savings achieved by the Department in 2016?
  - (a) Please break down into savings, costs and the net result.
6. What proportion of the Department's total savings/costs in 2016 came from measures which were costed but have not been implemented?

**Answer:**

1. The Government has not announced individual portfolio deregulation targets. Questions on targets should be addressed to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.
2. The Department announced 29 deregulatory and 3 regulatory measures in 2015, of which 28 were implemented during the reporting period. Further information is available at: [https://www.cuttingredtape.gov.au/sites/default/files/files/B\\_3\\_Comms\\_Arts.pdf](https://www.cuttingredtape.gov.au/sites/default/files/files/B_3_Comms_Arts.pdf)
3. The Department reported a total net regulatory saving of \$256,400,000 in 2015.
4. The Department announced eight measures in 2016 (five implemented):

Measure	Regulatory impact (000)	Impl.
The Broadcasting Legislation (Media Reform) Bill 2016 would repeal certain media ownership and control rules and enhance safeguards for local content in regional areas.	3,500 (cost)	N
The Interactive Gambling Amendment Bill 2016 would implement the Government's response to the 2015 Review of Illegal Offshore Wagering.	117.2 (cost)	N

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<b>Measure</b>	<b>Regulatory impact (000)</b>	<b>Impl.</b>
The <i>Telecommunications (International Mobile Roaming) Industry Standard Variation 2016 (No. 1)</i> amended the <i>Telecommunications (International Mobile Roaming) Industry Standard 2013</i> to provide additional flexibility to industry and consumers.	-184.2 (saving)	Y
A pilot classification tool streamlined the process of classifying Netflix content.	-78.8 (saving)	Y
The ACMA amended requirements in order to recognise assessments provided by registered training organisations for Marine Radio Certificates of Proficiency.	-21.3 (saving)	Y
The ACMA migrated paper based forms and interactions online.	-12.0 (saving)	Y
Seniors' digital literacy and online safety strategy for use by community organisations.	-560.0 (saving)	N
The ACCC 'superfast broadband access service' declaration regulated access to wholesale superfast broadband services.	1225.0 (cost)	Y

5. The measures listed at item 4 have an estimated net regulatory cost of \$3,985,900.
6. 76.7 per cent of the costs listed at item 5 arise from measures that are yet to be implemented.