

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**  
**Additional Estimates Spill-over hearing March 2017**  
**Communications Portfolio**  
**Department of Communications and the Arts**

**Question No: 278**

**Program 2.1**

**Hansard Ref: Written, 03/04/2017**

**Topic: Arts Boards**

**Senator Bilyk, Catryna asked:**

1. Provide a list of all statutory, board and legislated office vacancies and other significant appointments vacancies within the arts area of the portfolio, including length of time vacant and current acting arrangements as at 24 March 2017?
2. What steps are being taken to bring boards and other bodies to full strength and to fill vacancies?

**Answer:**

1. Please refer to the Department of Communications and the Arts response to Senate Order 15 Departmental and agency appointments and vacancies, tabled on 20 February 2017. The next response to this Senate Order is to be tabled not later than 7 days prior to Budget Estimates. The following acting appointment was in effect as at 24 March 2017:

Name	Position	Agency	Substantive position vacant since
Ms Meg Labrum	Acting Chief Executive Officer	National Film and Sound Archive	6 January 2017

2. The enabling legislation of each agency defines its minimum and maximum number of appointees. As has been the practice of successive governments, it is not necessarily the case that every position on a Board or Council will be filled. The Boards and Councils continue to function effectively and the Government continues to make appointments as necessary.