

**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: 316**

**Program 1.1**

**Hansard Ref: Written, 31/03/2017**

**Topic: NBN electorate briefs – General**

**Senator Urquhart, Anne asked:**

1. For what purpose are NBN electorate briefs created?
2. Who have the electorate briefs been provided to? Please list the key recipients since 1 March 2016. Individual names are not required – just categories of stakeholders or recipients.
3. On what dates did the Minister or his office request electorate and state/territory briefs between March 1 2016 and July 2 2016?
  - (a) For which electorates and states/territories?
  - (b) Do these briefs contain commercial in confidence information?
4. Are the electorate briefs that were generated on 25 November 2016 in the same format as other electorate briefs prepared between March 1 2016 and 24 November 2016? If not, what is different?

**Answer:**

1. Electorate focussed briefs are created to provide general briefing about the rollout of the National Broadband Network.
2. The Department provides electorate briefs to the Minister's Office as well as to use them for Ministerial meetings and event briefings, Departmental briefings and the preparation of ministerial correspondence. Requested information is also provided to other Australian Government Departments to prepare Ministerial and event briefs.
3. The Department does not retain copies of electorate and State and Territory briefs provided prior to 2 July 2016 in a database. Collating information would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.
4. See the response to Question on Notice 314 on 'NBN electorate briefs – FOI CIC'.