

**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: 99**

**Australian Broadcasting Corporation**

**Hansard Ref: Page 93, 28/02/2017**

**Topic: Staff based in City vs Regional**

**Senator Williams, John asked:**

**Senator WILLIAMS:** Okay. Let's just move to a couple of other things. Your organisation has well over 4,000 employees in capital cities and around 500 outside the capital cities. Do you think that is an imbalance? Do you think that is fair when it comes to spreading your resources across Australia?

**Ms Guthrie:** I do not think that those numbers are entirely correct.

**Senator WILLIAMS:** You might perhaps correct them for me, then.

**Ms Guthrie:** I can provide you with the information that we have provided on notice previously. Perhaps I can give you the specifics on notice, but we do not have 4,500 staff; we have fewer than that. But roughly 10 to 15 per cent of our staff are based in regional areas.

**Answer:**

As of 5 March 2017, the ABC employed 4,036.7 fulltime equivalent staff in Australia. Of this total, 376.4 fulltime equivalent staff are employed outside of the capital cities.

On 7 March 2017, the ABC announced that due to an additional investment in regional resources, it will employ a further 80 positions over the following 18 months to enhance regional news and information coverage.