

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Budget Estimates May 2017

Communications Portfolio

Special Broadcasting Service

Question No: 61

Special Broadcasting Service

Hansard Ref: Page 87, 24/05/2017

Topic: Comedy at SBS - Complaints

Senator Ludlam, Scott asked:

Senator LUDLAM: Could you on notice just provide us with a brief rundown of the nature of those complaints and how they were resolved?

Mr Ebeid: Sure.

Senator LUDLAM: You probably have to manage some privacy issues there, but I am just keen to know.

Mr Ebeid: I am just thinking about that.

Senator LUDLAM: I will let you figure it out, but just some basic information would be helpful.

Mr Ebeid: Let me have a look at it and I will come back to you and let you know if we can provide that. Maybe we can de-identify the complainants. Often the complaint would give away who the person is, so let me see what I can do on that front. There is not that many, to be honest. If I think about the last 12 months, it is probably a handful. It is not a lot.

Answer:

From 1 June 2016 to 31 May 2017, one complaint was received about an SBS Comedy article where the complainant was from the organisation featured in an article. The article was not found to be in breach of the Codes.