

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Group 1

Program 2.1

Question No. 111

Senator Singh asked the following question at the hearing on 24 February 2014:

The basic “arm’s length” principle is noted that the Minister may not direct the Council with regard to the provision of grants. Has the Council, or any members of it, the Chair, or the CEO, met with the Minister since the change of government? If so, what was discussed at those meetings? Did the Minister direct the council about any matters? What were those directions?

The answer to the honourable senator’s question is as follows:

Two meetings with the Attorney-General and Minister for the Arts have taken place.

Matters relevant to the Australia Council were discussed at both meetings.