

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

Group 1

Program 2.1

Question No. 103

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

- 1) What were the reasons for the closure of the Adelaide, Hobart and Canberra offices of CPA?
- 2) What measures are being put in place to provide services to SA, Tasmania and ACT?

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

1) Upon its creation, Creative Partnerships Australia inherited the staffing structure and staff of its predecessors, AbaF and Artsupport. In 2013 the CEO and executive undertook a review of the staffing needs of the new organisation, in light of the strategic direction of the new organisation, with the underlying principle that the organisational structure must support the goals and activities of the organisation. Creative Partnerships' board considered a proposed new structure that included the consolidation of state/territory offices and it was agreed that the new structure be implemented.

The new structure is proving effective with high quality services provided to all states and territories.

2) Mentoring of arts organisations and artists in SA, Tasmania and ACT is being delivered by the new State Manager positions: WA/SA based in Perth, Vic/Tas based in Melbourne, NSW/ACT based in Sydney. These staff will travel regularly to SA, Tasmania and ACT for face to face meetings and are available by telephone and email at all other times. Other programs such as workshops and master classes that are delivered by external parties will continue to be delivered in all states and territories based on demand and are not dependent on staff being based locally, as was the case with predecessors AbaF and Artsupport.

The new structure does not in any way indicate a reduction of services in SA, Tasmania and ACT.

As the structure is new, its effectiveness is being monitored closely.