

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

Group: 2

Program: Other Agency

Question No. BE15/078

Senator Collins asked the following written question from the 27 and 28 May 2015 hearing:

1. In October 2014 the NFSA announced a partnership with Albert Music. No further comment has been made, and no information is available online. How much of the Alberts archive has been delivered to the NFSA? How much of this material has been accessioned, catalogued, and made publicly accessible? Physically or online? How much has this partnership cost the NFSA to date, and what outcomes are expected and when? What is the expected total cost to the NFSA?

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

1. The national audiovisual collection is developed largely by voluntary donation through a range of contractual agreements. The relationship between the NFSA and Albert Music is a long-term and sensitive partnership with the objective to transfer an archive of significant cultural and historical value into the permanent stewardship and care of the NFSA.

Following on from the formal announcement of this collaboration in October 2014 we have been negotiating details of the progressive acquisition of the Albert Music corporate archive across a wide range of media and across all of the NFSA collecting areas.

To date no delivery has occurred.

To date no material has been accessioned, catalogued, and made publicly accessible except for relevant holdings already extant in the national audiovisual collection.

Expected outcomes consistent with priorities articulated in the NFSA Strategic Plan 2015-18 are:

- the permanent preservation of, and access to, archival records of national cultural and historical significance (Strategic Priority 1.3); and
- an increase in awareness for the mission of the NFSA and the importance of cultural collections at large through a partnership with a key stakeholder in the creative industries and cultural sector (Strategic Priority 1.5).

The only expense to date has been the hosting of a joint event to formally launch the partnership. This event consisted of a function for around 100 key stakeholders, a temporary exhibition of key artefacts and items from the Albert's archive, a musical performance and a free 'Vinyl Lounge' event open to the general public. The cost to the NFSA budget of this event was \$24,275.42.

Future costs related to the ongoing collection transfer and maintenance are being established as a forward schedule and contractual arrangements are developed.