



Australian Government

**Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications**

Senator the Hon David Fawcett
Chair
Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Fawcett

Having reviewed the transcript of the Estimates hearing conducted by the Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee on Wednesday 26 May 2021¹, I would like to provide a clarification to evidence that I provided to the Committee.

Senator GREEN: There's a breakdown in the media release about the particular institutions that the funding is going to, so we certainly have that information. It also says that part of the funding will go directly to the delivery of public services and programs, and also capital works, to preserve heritage. Can I just understand: we have the breakdown with each institution, and then it seems like we've got the split for the entire amount, but can I confirm, of the \$79.9 million that was announced, how much is going to capital works and how much is going to ongoing operational funding? Are they the same figures that were in the media release?

Dr Arnott: Yes. It's slightly complicated, but let's try and have a go at it. In terms of financial sustainability, which is the funding that's going directly towards delivery of public services, that's \$32.4 million over two years, which—on my version—is on the second page of the media release.

Senator GREEN: Yes.

Dr Arnott: And then the remaining funding, which is itemised there, \$47.5 million, goes to five institutions for capital works funding.

Senator GREEN: And I assume that those capital works will happen over a longer period than two years?

Dr Arnott: The funding is allocated over two years.

The \$47.5 million capital works funding is allocated across five National Collecting Institutions (the Australian National Maritime Museum, Bundanon Trust, National Gallery of Australia, National Library of Australia and Museum of Australian Democracy).

¹ Page 113, of Proof Committee Hansard, Environment and Communications Legislation Committee of Wednesday 26 May 2021

While the capital works funding for the four institutions within the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications portfolio will be provided over two financial years, the Museum of Australian Democracy within the portfolio of the Prime Minister and Cabinet will receive its capital works funding over four financial years. The following table outlines the profile for the capital works funding for each of the five institutions:

National Collecting Institution	2021-22 \$m	2022-23 \$m	2023-24 \$m	2024-25 \$m	Total \$m
Australian National Maritime Museum	2.6	2.4	-	-	5.0
Bundanon Trust	-	1.1	-	-	1.1
National Gallery of Australia	28.6	-	-	-	28.6
National Library of Australia	-	2.9	-	-	2.9
Museum of Australian Democracy	1.9	4.2	2.8	1.0	9.9
Total	33.1	10.6	2.8	1.0	47.5

I trust this clarification assists the Committee. The remainder of my answers provided to questions asked at the hearing are correct.

Yours sincerely



Dr Stephen Arnott PSM
Acting Deputy Secretary
Creative Economy and the Arts