

Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee.

Inquiry into Communications Legislation Amendment (Combatting Misinformation and Disinformation) Bill 2024

Division/Agency Name: Australian Communications and Media Authority

Topic: Use of Budget for Mis and Disinformation Regulation

Name asked: Senator David Sharma

Example

Senator Sharma: I believe ACMA received some money, I think \$366,500 for dis and misinformation regulation. It came out in a previous FOI request. It was reallocated by the Minister I believe. Do we know what ACMA spent that money on, for dis and misinformation regulation?

Ms Zurnamer: *Senator we may have to take that on notice. I can tell you at a higher level that the money we've received to do this work over a period of years including the forward Estimates. But in terms of the \$366,500, we'd have to take that on notice.*

Answer:

The \$366,500 referred to in the Department of Infrastructure FOI 24-297 was used to offset other spending measures within the portfolio including misinformation and disinformation regulation.

With the funding, the ACMA increased its monitoring of the measures undertaken by digital platforms to combat disinformation and misinformation on their services. A key workstream has been the development of the measurement framework to improve transparency around the effectiveness of platforms' measures to combat disinformation and misinformation.

Further questions about the funding should be directed to the Department.