

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Additional Estimates Spill-Over Hearing March 2017
Communications Portfolio
Australia Council

Question No: 261

Australia Council

Hansard Ref: Pages 7-8, 24/03/2017

Topic: Consultations with Industry

Senator Bilyk, Catryna asked:

Senator BILYK: Minister, you talked about the consultations you have done with the industry, Aus Co and all that. You might need to take this on notice—I am happy for that. Was the return of the funding discussed with the Aus Co prior to the announcement? If so, can you tell me when it was discussed, with whom, and what advice was provided to you on the return of those funds?

Senator Fifield: Certainly, I am happy to take that on notice.

Answer:

Yes. Discussions between the Minister, the Department and the Australia Council have been ongoing. As noted in the Minister's 18 March 2017 media release, 'New Portfolio Arrangements for the Arts', "... the Government has listened and responded to feedback from the Department, the Australia Council and the arts sector regarding the ongoing arrangements for the Australian Government's funding for the Arts portfolio."