

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates February 2017

Communications Portfolio

Special Broadcasting Service

Question No: 56

Special Broadcasting Services Corporation

Hansard Ref: Page 35, 28/02/2017

Topic: New Programming Investment

Senator Di Natale, Richard asked:

Senator DI NATALE: savings. In terms of staff numbers, what does that translate to—a reduction in staff?

Mr Ebeid: We did not have any actual redundancy programs as some of the other agencies did. We did it mostly in terms of supplier agreements, renegotiations of contracts. I will have to come back to you. I know there were some parts of the business that did have some headcount reductions, but it was minimal. But I will get the exact number for you.

Senator DI NATALE: All right. You can take that on notice. Just in terms of the programming, you said you were planning on a range of investing into new programming, and you cannot do that now because of the \$28 million.

Answer:

Following the ABC and SBS Efficiency Review of 2014, SBS implemented a number of efficiencies across the business. Further efficiencies were implemented following the outcome of the ABC and SBS Lewis review. While the employee impact of efficiencies was 58 FTE (as at February 2016), a broad redundancy program was not put in place.