

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Budget Estimates Hearings May 2014

Communications Portfolio

Department of Communications

Question No: 582

Program No. 1.3

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: ABC 1% efficiency dividend

Senator Urquhart asked:

At estimates the ABC estimated that its back office costs are 20% of total costs. As a consequence is a 1% efficiency dividend on the whole organisation actually a 5% efficiency dividend on back office costs? Is the Department aware of any Department or agency that has been expected to make a 5% efficiency dividend on non-program costs? If so what?

Answer:

The efficiency savings measure announced in the 2014-15 Budget represents a reduction of 1 per cent on operations of the ABC and SBS. The measure is a flat one-off reduction to ongoing funding, not an on-going efficiency dividend.