Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings October 2015 Communications Portfolio Special Broadcasting Service

Question No: 37

Special Broadcasting Service

Hansard Ref: Page 21, 20/10/2015

Topic: Security Agency Meetings

Senator Dastyari, Sam asked:

Senator DASTYARI: At some point a year ago, in a different environment, was the last time the security agencies met with you. You talked about putting the proposals to government. Were they specific proposals for how SBS can better engage? And in those proposals were you also seeking funding?

Mr Ebeid: Yes to both of those questions.

Senator DASTYARI: I assume then that those proposals were not taken up by government.

Mr Ebeid: That is correct.

Senator DASTYARI: How many proposals were there?

Mr Ebeid: I would have to check but off the top of my head we had about two or three various ideas for programs that we could initiate in this space.

Answer:

In regards to the specific context of Senator Dastyari question, SBS has not met with the security agencies recently to discuss a deradicalisation strategy.

SBS has clarified its position in relation to its role and specific activities in the deradicalisation space by writing to the Chair of the Environment and Communication Legislation Committee.

Attached is the letter of 5 November 2015 to Senator Linda Reynolds CSC Chair of the Environment and Communications Legislation Committee.