

# Senate Standing Committee on Environment, Communications and the Arts

## 2007-08 Additional Estimates

### Questions on Notice

#### *Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy portfolio*

QoN No.	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/ Agency	Date rec'd
1	ECA 3	Birmingham	<b>Cost of letter delivery</b> In terms of the actual cost of delivering the basic unit of mail, do you have an estimate for how much, on average, it costs you to deliver a domestic basic letter?	Australia Post	24/04/08
2	ECA 5	Lundy	<b>Building Delivery Centres</b> Can you provide me with a little more detail about where new centres are being built at the moment as opposed to annexes? How many of these annexes have you built on existing centres to service growth areas? What is your expenditure to date in that budget, for this current financial year?	Australia Post	24/04/08
3	ECA 13	Abetz	<b>Employees earning over \$127,000</b> How many people in Australia Post earn \$127,000 per annum or more?	Australia Post	24/04/08
4	ECA 16	Abetz	<b>PO Boxes - Specified Post Offices</b> Is it correct that licensed post offices are classified 'specified' for the purposes of private mailbox rentals? <b>Mr McCloskey</b> —I would have thought it was the opposite. I am told that there are possibly two licensed post offices that fit into that category. Only two? Are we sure of that? <b>Ms Button</b> —The information I have been provided with is that we have two licensed post offices that have specified rate boxes. Could you take that on notice and correct it just in case that is not the event.	Australia Post	24/04/08
5	ECA 18	Abetz	<b>PO relocations due to hold-ups or relocations</b> Have any post offices been relocated in the past five years due to a history of hold-ups or break-ins? Were any of them licensed post offices; if so, was the licensee fully consulted and was the licensee in agreement with the move?	Australia Post	24/04/08
6	ECA 18	Abetz	<b>Public liability insurance</b> Does Australia Post's public liability insurance for community mail agencies and community postal agencies go out for public tender, or will it go out for public tender for the 2008-09 year? As I understand it tenders have not been called in previous years. Can you indicate to us whether that is right and, if that is right, for how many years has Australia Post failed to call tenders for the public	Australia Post	24/04/08

QoN No.	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/ Agency	Date rec'd
			liability insurance?		
7	ECA 19	Marshall	<p><b>Energy Efficiency Audit</b> What have you budgeted for that? <b>Mr Walter</b>—It is several million. The audit itself is well over \$1.5 million, I understand. I do not have the actual figures, but we are committed to doing whatever we need to do. I would have to take the actual figure on notice, but it is a very substantial investment to take whatever action we can take. <b>Senator Marshall</b> - I would appreciate it if you could work out for me the amount of expenditure that you are expecting to do this work and over what period of time</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08
8	ECA 21	Marshall	<p><b>Emissions targets</b> Does Australia Post have internal targets for emissions reductions?</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08
9	ECA 21/22	Allison	<p><b>Electric motorbike</b> There is already an electric motorbike here. <b>Mr Newman</b>—Yes, one. There is one—the Vectrix. <b>Mr Newman</b>—Yes, but it is still under bond. I am not sure what one you are referring to. We are talking about the bike from Europe. This one is also from Europe. <b>Mr Newman</b>—Yes, okay. I would have to take that on notice because we may be talking about the same bike. I only have the term that we use in the postal industry. It has been designed specifically for carrying heavy loads, stopping and starting and getting to a reasonable speed. I just do not know that brand you are using.</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08
10	ECA 24	Parry	<p><b>Executive salaries</b> Since the Prime Minister's announcement, has there been any discussion of either reducing or freezing those salaries? So, Mr McCloskey, you are indicating that the managing director would not have had discussions, are you? Are you confident that he would not have had any discussions, even on an informal basis, with any other director or the committee that would determine executive salaries? <b>Mr McCloskey</b>—I would need to confirm that, Senator, but I am fairly confident that there have not been any discussions.</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08
11	ECA 27	Parry	<p><b>Cost of Executive salaries</b> I know Senator Abetz has placed on notice a question about executive salary levels, and we used the benchmark figure of \$127,000-plus to work out that percentage. Is there an estimation of costs that you could give at this stage, or a dollar value, for executive level salaries or salaries above \$127,000 per annum?</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08
12	ECA 28	Birmingham	<p><b>Proposed increase in basic postage rate – revenue impact</b> Are you able to break that down and tell us on the basic postal rate?</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08
13	ECA 28	Birmingham	<b>Social Mail – Use by older people</b>	Australia Post	24/04/08

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			You have not got any market analysis that would indicate whether pensioners use postage services more? <b>Mr McCloskey</b> —I am sure I could get that information on notice, but I do not have it with me at the moment.		
14	ECA 29	Birmingham	<b>Executive Wage Increases</b> What have you budgeted for other wage increases? <b>Mr Tenace</b> —Wage increases would again be around the 3½ to four per cent mark. And in dollar terms the wages would account for how much? <b>Mr Tenace</b> —I would have to take that on notice.	Australia Post	24/04/08
15	ECA 31	Lundy	<b>Facility nominated doctors</b> How many people presenting a certificate accompanied by a Comcare claim are referred off to a FND? <b>Ms Walsh</b> —I would have to take that on notice.	Australia Post	24/04/08
16	ECA 32	Lundy	<b>Principal determination</b> Have any employees or employee representatives objected to the determination, on the basis that it takes away the rights of injured workers? <b>Mr McDonald</b> —I think we might have had some concerns raised at the time. <b>Ms Walsh</b> —I would have to take that on notice. There has not been a large statement by any of our employees. There have certainly been no complaints over the last 12 months in relation to this policy or process.	Australia Post	24/04/08
17	ECA 33	Lundy	<b>Injured workers</b> Can you tell me how many injured workers have been medically retired following liability for a workers compensation claim ceasing or failing to be accepted by the corporation? If an injured worker is incapacitated and fails to receive a workers compensation determination from Post accepting liability, is that injured worker forcibly medically retired by Post once 78 weeks have passed? <b>Ms Walsh</b> —Every case is considered on its merits but certainly under our award there is a provision under there that says that can occur. So how many workers have been terminated on that basis? <b>Ms Walsh</b> —I would have to take that on notice. Can you please provide the answer over the last five years. Of the injured workers being medically retired after 78 weeks, how many of these decisions, or cases, relied upon the medical evidence provided by an FND as opposed to the doctor of the employee's choice?	Australia Post	24/04/08
18	ECA 33	Lundy	<b>Employee Number</b> What is the total number of employees currently working at Australia Post? <b>Mr McDonald</b> —It is around 35,000. Can you provide a breakdown of full-time, part-time and casual?	Australia Post	24/04/08

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19	ECA 33	Lundy	<p><b>Delivery staff numbers</b> Can you provide the exact number of people employed in delivery and their classification going back five years. <b>Mr McDonald</b>—Yes, we could. I think there are two or three levels of delivery officer, but yes we can provide that</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08
20	ECA 34	Lundy	<p><b>Delivery round vacancies</b> How many vacant delivery rounds exist in major metropolitan areas—that is, delivery rounds for which you are seeking staff?</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08
21	ECA 35	Webber	<p><b>Service performance – North West Western Australia</b> My feedback in the north-west of Western Australia is that you are having some difficulties in meeting your service obligations. <b>Mr Newman</b>—My understanding is that we are meeting service obligations in that area. I could probably take that on notice to confirm that there are no weak paths there. That would be good if you could.</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08
22	ECA 35	Lundy	<p><b>Licensed Post Office Agreements - Interpretation</b> I have been advised that it varies on a state-by-state basis—for example, in New South Wales, Australia Post is choosing to ignore the requirements of the LPO agreement to impose certain conditions upon licensees. Are you aware of any variation on a state-by-state basis? <b>Ms Button</b>—No, I am not. I can certainly look into specific instances but I will make it my business to go back and find out.</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08
23	ECA 35	Lundy	<p><b>Licensed Post Office Agreements – Dispute Resolution</b> Perhaps you could confirm that you are meeting time frames for dispute resolution procedures as required under the LPO agreement and LPO manual. <b>Ms Button</b>—Certainly. If there are any delays, could you confirm how many disputes have been affected by delays, in which states the delays are occurring and the reasons for those delays? <b>Ms Button</b>—I will.</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08
24	ECA 36	Lundy	<p><b>Conversion of Corporate outlets</b> How do you accommodate the staff in any proposal to convert a corporate outlet to a licensed outlet? How do you manage that? <b>Ms Button</b>—I think I would like to take that on notice to articulate the process. Essentially, we have some guidelines that have been agreed with the union around the criteria we would use to convert a corporate to a licensed outlet. It is generally a consistent trend of unprofitability, and certainly in the metro areas ones with fewer than three full-time equivalents. The consultative process definitely involves talking to the staff and finding out what their requirements are, and</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08

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			making sure that they find another job that is convenient to them. But I will take that on notice and articulate the process a bit better for you.		
25	ECA 37	Lundy	<p><b>Kariong LPO</b> Whom was the licence granted to? <b>Ms Button</b>—It was a Mr Bourne. Would he be the Mr Bob Bourne, the former local Liberal government councillor in the area? <b>Ms Button</b>—I do not know. I would have to take that on notice. I suspect the answer is yes. Given these arrangements were supposed to be temporary arrangements, do you have a date when the post outlet in that area will no longer be in the same place as a licensed liquor outlet? <b>Ms Button</b>—No, we do not, not as yet. Did you place a deadline on the arrangement or on the agreement with this licence holder or was it open-ended when you signed him up? <b>Ms Button</b>—I would have to take that on notice. I am really not sure about the arrangements that were put in place. Certainly our focus would have been to try and continue the provision of postal services in that community. To what extent is the local government involved now in the approval process? You mentioned the permanent place for an LPO: is that specifically a local government decision? <b>Ms Button</b>—I am sorry, I would have to take that on notice. I am not sure.</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08
26	ECA 38	Wortley	<p><b>Closure of Adelaide International Gateway – AQIS / Customs impact</b> To what extent does the AQIS and Customs section exist at the Adelaide facility post the implementation of these changes? <b>Mr Newman</b>—I am not aware of the current staffing relating to Customs and AQIS. I think I mentioned last time that the staffing for AQIS and Customs is the responsibility of AQIS and Customs. My understanding was that they were going to be relocated through various parts of Adelaide or put onto alternative duties. My understanding is that that has occurred; however, I would need to confirm that. I want to state, though, that normally I would have to contact those agencies and they may or may not wish to tell me. Could you take that on notice?</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08
27	ECA 38	Wortley	<p><b>Closure of International Gateway - Australia Post Impact</b> Could you confirm the numbers of Australia Post jobs that it actually did impact on? 'Impact' includes loss of jobs and staff that were required to be relocated as a result of those changes. <b>Mr Newman</b>—I will do that on notice, but this location was at the Adelaide mail centre, which is a big facility. The plan was to absorb those into the</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08

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			<p>many other jobs in the facility. My understanding was that it impacted on more than two jobs, and that there were a number of jobs lost, but I would like some confirmation in relation to that.</p> <p><b>Mr Newman</b>—I will do that.</p>		
28	ECA 39	Wortley	<p><b>Closure of International Gateway</b> There were concerns raised at the time that, with the loss of AQIS and Customs workers, there would be a loss of local knowledge in South Australia if that role were carried out interstate. Could you look into that as well?</p> <p><b>Mr Newman</b> - Yes</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08
29	Tabled	Birmingham	<p><b>Staffing details</b> How many staff are employed by Australia Post? What is the age profile of staff employed by Australia Post? What is the gender mix of staff employed by Australia Post?</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08
30	Tabled	Birmingham	<p><b>Retirement Expectations</b> How many staff, and what percentage of total staff employed by Australia Post, are scheduled or expected to retire in each of the next three years?</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08
31	Tabled	Birmingham	<p><b>Recruitment Strategies</b> What recruitment and employment strategies does Australia Post have in place to attract qualified individuals?</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08
32	Tabled	Birmingham	<p><b>Staff Turnover</b> How many staff have left Australia Post in the last twelve months?</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08
33	Tabled	Birmingham	<p><b>Staffing Levels</b> How many staff are employed by Australia Post at APS, EL and SES level?</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08
34	Tabled	Birmingham	<p><b>Wage restraint</b> How many staff employed by Australia Post earn more than \$130,000? Will Australia Post be mindful of the Prime Minister's call for "wage restraint" in setting or adjusting salaries this year, particularly in relation to senior executives?</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08
35	Tabled	Birmingham	<p><b>Graduate Recruitment</b> Does Australia Post intend to recruit new graduates over the next three years and, if so, how many per year? How does this compare to the last three years? What challenges does Australia Post face in recruiting new graduates?</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08
36	Tabled	Birmingham	<p><b>Government programs</b> What programs are currently underspent, and what are the reasons for these underspends? Has the Government formally advised Australia Post to achieve a two per cent efficiency dividend? How does Australia Post intend to achieve this? How much will this save this year and in future years? Has the Government cut any current or planned Australia Post programs and, if so, what is their</p>	Australia Post	24/04/08

QoN No.	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/ Agency	Date rec'd
			value? What services will not be delivered as a result of these cuts? Will there be any staff reductions as a result of these cuts? What new programs or policies are being implemented by Australia Post as a result of commitments made by the new Government prior to and during the 2007 election campaign? Are any additional staff being recruited by Australia Post to implement these programs or policies and, if so, how many? What is the expected cost of implementing new programs or policies in the current financial year and in each of the next three years?		
37	Tabled	Birmingham	<b>Departmental reorganisation</b> What costs have been incurred by Australia Post as a result of departmental reorganisation following the election of the new Government?	Australia Post	24/04/08
38	Tabled	Birmingham	<b>Minister's office</b> How many staff employed by Australia Post work within the Minister's office?	Australia Post	24/04/08
39	ECA69	Kemp	<b>Senator KEMP</b> —...I am referring to an article in the Weekend Australian of 15 and 16 December 2007 entitled 'Media Watch silent on complaint.' I think you will be aware of the issues. It says: More than two months after The Australian's political editor Dennis Shanahan formally complained to the ABC about a stinging—and, in Shanahan's view, unjustified—attack by Media Watch on one of his articles, the national broadcaster has yet to formulate a response..... Can I ask Mr Scott: have you replied to that complaint? <b>Mr Scott</b> —Yes, I understand that that complaint has been resolved. We have corrected the public record on that; we have written to Mr Shanahan on that. <b>Senator KEMP</b> —Has the ABC broadcast that correction? <b>Mr Scott</b> —I believe we have corrected the website, but I will have to find out on notice.	ABC	24/04/08
40	ECA 71 &73	Kemp	Is the ABC stylebook available? Can you table that? <b>Mr Scott</b> – Yes it is...We can make it available to you	ABC	24/04/08 + 3 att'ts
41	ECA76	Allison	<b>Senator ALLISON</b> —There was a case, as I understand it, some years ago, where testicular cancer was seen to be due to radiation from outside broadcast vans. Can you confirm that? <b>Mr Scott</b> —I would have to take that detail on notice. <b>Senator ALLISON</b> —I understand there was some shielding that was done <b>Mr Scott</b> —I would have to take that on notice.	ABC	24/04/08
42	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff are employed by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC)?	ABC	24/04/08
43	Tabled	Birmingham	What is the age profile of staff employed by the ABC?	ABC	24/04/08
44	Tabled	Birmingham	What is the gender mix of staff employed by the ABC?	ABC	24/04/08

QoN No.	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/ Agency	Date rec'd
45	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff, and what percentage of total staff employed by the ABC, are scheduled or expected to retire in each of the next three years?	ABC	24/04/08
46	Tabled	Birmingham	What recruitment and employment strategies does the ABC have in place to attract qualified individuals?	ABC	24/04/08
47	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff have left the ABC in the last twelve months?	ABC	24/04/08
48	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff are employed by the ABC at APS, EL and SES level?	ABC	24/04/08
49	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff employed by the ABC earns more than \$130,000?	ABC	24/04/08
50	Tabled	Birmingham	Will the ABC be mindful of the Prime Minister's call for "wage restraint" in setting or adjusting salaries this year, particularly in relation to senior executives?	ABC	24/04/08
51	Tabled	Birmingham	Does the ABC intend to recruit new graduates over the next three years and, if so, how many per year? How does this compare to the last three years?	ABC	24/04/08
52	Tabled	Birmingham	What challenges does the ABC face in recruiting new graduates?	ABC	24/04/08
53	Tabled	Birmingham	What programs are currently underspent, and what are the reasons for these underspends?	ABC	24/04/08
54	Tabled	Birmingham	Has the Government formally advised the ABC to achieve a two per cent efficiency dividend? How does the ABC intend to achieve this? How much will this save this year and in future years?	ABC	24/04/08
55	Tabled	Birmingham	Has the Government cut any current or planned ABC programs and, if so, what is their value? What services will not be delivered as a result of these cuts? Will there be any staff reductions as a result of these cuts?	ABC	24/04/08
56	Tabled	Birmingham	What new programs or policies are being implemented by the ABC as a result of commitments made by the new Government prior to and during the 2007 election campaign?	ABC	24/04/08
57	Tabled	Birmingham	Are any additional staff being recruited by the ABC to implement these programs or policies and, if so, how many?	ABC	24/04/08
58	Tabled	Birmingham	What is the expected cost of implementing new programs or policies in the current financial year and in each of the next three years?	ABC	24/04/08
59	Tabled	Birmingham	What costs have been incurred by the ABC as a result of departmental reorganisation following the election of the new Government?	ABC	24/04/08
60	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff employed by the ABC work within the Minister's office?	ABC	24/04/08
61	ECA81	Birmingham	<b>Senator BIRMINGHAM</b> —Over the current triennium to 2009, how does total funding compare with that which ended in the previous triennium? <b>Mr Torpy</b> —I do not think we have those figures with us. It would be a slight increase basically flowing from funding for the indexation that we get from the WCI6 and also from digital funding for digital transmission. They are the main areas of increase.	SBS	24/04/08



QoN No.	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/ Agency	Date rec'd
			<p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM</b>—Perhaps you could take that on notice too and, if you could, give us those exact figures?</p> <p><b>Mr Torpy</b>—We will give you the exact figures, yes.</p>		
62	ECA88	Allison	<p><b>Senator ALLISON</b>—....Is it the case that complaints concerning natural breaks cannot be made to ACMA and is this the reason why that is the case?</p> <p><b>Mr Brown</b>—I will have to take that on notice again.</p>	SBS	02/05/08
63	ECA90	Allison	<p><b>Senator ALLISON</b>—...Are there confidentiality agreements?</p> <p><b>Mr Brown</b>—No. There is an employment code of practice which all of us who are employed by SBS, including me, are bound by, and that in part deals with who may speak on behalf of SBS and who may make comments about SBS. Clearly that does not permit everybody in SBS to make those comments.</p> <p><b>Senator ALLISON</b>—Can a section of that clause be provided?</p> <p><b>Mr Brown</b>—Yes. I could supply you with the full code.</p>	SBS	02/05/08 + 1 att't
64	ECA90/91	Allison	<p><b>Senator ALLISON</b>—I have some questions about the number of hours that are devoted to programs in languages other than English in evening prime time on a night-to-night basis on SBS television</p> <p><b>Mr Meagher</b>—Obviously we will provide you with the most up-to-date information but an answer we provided to a question Senator Conroy asked in relation to this issue was that in the three months prior to the introduction of in-program breaks, which was 9 October 2006, languages other than English programming scheduled during prime time averaged 32 per cent. In the period subsequent to when the answer was given, which was to June 2007—so the three months prior to June 2007—the average was 34.8 per cent. So there had actually been a slight increase in that period. But as I have said, we will get you the most up-to-date material.</p> <p><b>Senator ALLISON</b>—Thank you.</p>	SBS	02/05/08
65	ECA91	Allison	<p><b>Senator ALLISON</b>—English lesson programs also seem to be on the decline. Is that the case?</p> <p><b>Mr Brown</b>—English tuition programs?</p> <p><b>Senator ALLISON</b>—Yes.</p> <p><b>Mr Brown</b>—They have not existed on SBS television in the time that I have been with SBS, which is five years. You would be aware that this was something that we sought previously in a funding round to be part of our multichannel proposition, and that was unsuccessful.</p> <p><b>Senator ALLISON</b>—So when did they stop?</p> <p><b>Mr Brown</b>—I would have to take that on notice.</p>	SBS	02/05/08
66	ECA92	Allison	<p><b>Senator ALLISON</b>—Are there any ads that are allowed in languages of the program that are not English or any ads that are not allowed but are</p>	SBS	02/05/08

QoN No.	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/ Agency	Date rec'd
			run? <b>Mr Brown</b> —There certainly are in radio. Let me take that on notice because I think there might be some in that part of our schedule which we call World Watch where we take news programs from other countries and broadcast them in language. From time to time there is a specific interest in being associated with those programs. <b>Senator ALLISON</b> —Thank you.		
67	ECA92	Wortley	<b>Senator WORTLEY</b> —Still on the issue of staffing, how many job vacancies in total has SBS advertised each year in the last three years? <b>Mr Brown</b> —I would have to take that on notice.	SBS	02/05/08
68	ECA93	Wortley	<b>Senator WORTLEY</b> —and the others you could take on notice and get answers back to me, thank you. How many of these positions were offered on an ongoing basis and how many on a contract basis? How many permanent employees are currently employed on AWAs? <b>Mr Brown</b> —I can answer that. <b>Senator WORTLEY</b> —Yes. <b>Mr Brown</b> —Twenty-seven per cent of our current workforce are on AWAs. <b>Senator WORTLEY</b> —How many non-ongoing or contract employees are on AWAs? Does that include contract and non-ongoing employees? <b>Mr Brown</b> —Would it help you if I just gave you the four categories of employees and then you could see where they fit? <b>Senator WORTLEY</b> —Sure. <b>Mr Brown</b> —We have a certified agreement which provides for two instruments. One is an ongoing status, that permanent status that you referred to. There is also in there a specified period which we are entitled to employ under the certified agreement. <b>Senator WORTLEY</b> —Is that for a specific term or on a task contract basis? <b>Mr Brown</b> —It may be task related or it may be duration related, such as a certain program run or a certain event that we have no confidence is going to continue. Currently, ongoing is 51 per cent of the entire workforce; specified period is 14 per cent; AWAs is 27 per cent; and executive or common law contracts, eight per cent. <b>Senator WORTLEY</b> —Thank you. Would you be able to provide the actual figures rather than the percentages on notice? <b>Mr Brown</b> —The number of contracts? <b>Senator WORTLEY</b> —Thank you.	SBS	02/05/08
69	ECA93	Wortley	<b>Senator WORTLEY</b> —...on the Arabic program on the 22, 23 and 24 January 2008, a marketing position was advertised as being on an AWA. Can you explain why that was the case? <b>Mr Brown</b> —I am not aware of that being the case. We will look into it and I will give you an answer	SBS	02/05/08

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			on notice.		
70	ECA96	Birmingham	<p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM</b>—You have indicated complaints about radio are very few?</p> <p><b>Mr Brown</b>—Yes, they do not run at a very high level.</p> <p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM</b>—In terms of what you would treat as formal complaints in the discussion you had with</p> <p><b>Senator Allison</b>, do you have complaint numbers for the previous year?</p> <p><b>Mr Brown</b>—I think it will be single digits. I can take that on notice though and confirm that for you.</p> <p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM</b>—Could you also outline what those complaints were about.</p> <p><b>Mr Brown</b>—Yes.</p>	SBS	02/05/08
71	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff are employed by the Special Broadcasting Service Corporation (SBS)?	SBS	02/05/08
72	Tabled	Birmingham	What is the age profile of staff employed by SBS?	SBS	02/05/08
73	Tabled	Birmingham	What is the gender mix of staff employed by SBS?	SBS	02/05/08
74	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff, and what percentage of total staff employed by SBS, are scheduled or expected to retire in each of the next three years?	SBS	02/05/08
75	Tabled	Birmingham	What recruitment and employment strategies does SBS have in place to attract qualified individuals?	SBS	02/05/08
76	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff have left SBS in the last twelve months?	SBS	02/05/08
77	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff are employed by SBS at APS, EL and SES level?	SBS	02/05/08
78	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff employed by SBS earn more than \$130,000?	SBS	02/05/08
79	Tabled	Birmingham	Will SBS be mindful of the Prime Minister's call for "wage restraint" in setting or adjusting salaries this year, particularly in relation to senior executives?	SBS	02/05/08
80	Tabled	Birmingham	Does SBS intend to recruit new graduates over the next three years and, if so, how many per year? How does this compare to the last three years?	SBS	02/05/08
81	Tabled	Birmingham	What challenges does SBS face in recruiting new graduates?	SBS	02/05/08
82	Tabled	Birmingham	What programs are currently underspent, and what are the reasons for these underspends?	SBS	02/05/08
83	Tabled	Birmingham	Has the Government formally advised SBS to achieve a two per cent efficiency dividend? How does SBS intend to achieve this? How much will this save this year and in future years?	SBS	02/05/08
84	Tabled	Birmingham	Has the Government cut any current or planned SBS programs and, if so, what is their value? What services will not be delivered as a result of these cuts? Will there be any staff reductions as a result of these cuts?	SBS	02/05/08
85	Tabled	Birmingham	What new programs or policies are being implemented by SBS as a result of commitments made by the new Government prior to and during the 2007 election campaign?	SBS	02/05/08
86	Tabled	Birmingham	Are any additional staff being recruited by SBS to implement these programs or policies and, if so,	SBS	02/05/08

QoN No.	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/ Agency	Date rec'd
			how many?		
87	Tabled	Birmingham	What is the expected cost of implementing new programs or policies in the current financial year and in each of the next three years?	SBS	02/05/08
88	Tabled	Birmingham	What costs have been incurred by SBS as a result of departmental reorganisation following the election of the new Government?	SBS	02/05/08
89	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff employed by SBS work within the Minister's office?	SBS	02/05/08
90	ECA 99	Johnston	Can we have that [Authority] paper [on the termination of Sports FM]?	ACMA [paper to be provided within a week]	02/05/08 + Letter & 5 att'ts provided 12/03/08
91	ECA 99	Johnston	When was Sports FM advised that it would be disconnected, so to speak?	ACMA	24/04/08
92	ECA 100	Johnston	Can we have the documentation in support of the application from the Aboriginal group that has the licence, please?	ACMA [Authority paper to be provided within a week]	24/04/08 + 6 att'ts
93	ECA 112	Macdonald	You have told me [the survey] did go north of Mackay... Tell me where it went [north of Mackay].	ACMA	16/05/08
94	ECA 113 & 121	Birmingham	Are you able to provide us with a comprehensive list of where the survey work was undertaken? ...Perhaps you could identify the 230 cells? ...And how those cells were selected or how those locations were selected?	ACMA	16/05/08 + 1 att't
95	ECA 118	Nash	How many of these mobile quick cells is Telstra using?	ACMA	24/04/08
96	ECA 118-119	Nash	Are you just assuming that [Telstra is using a Cell On Wheels at Hoskinstown is to keep the tower from interfering with the Molonglo telescope]?	ACMA	24/04/08
97	ECA 119	Nash	What guarantee is there that the quick cell, being mobile, will not be removed at some point, given that the whole assessment of this Next G network should be on a permanent basis? ...Was that quick cell tower part of one of the regions for the audit progress?	ACMA	24/04/08
98	ECA 119	Nash	I was going to ask somebody who understood these things about this short set time of approximately one hour. A definition of what a 'short set time' is would be very useful.	ACMA	24/04/08
99	ECA 119	Barnett	You said earlier in your introductory remarks that particular geographic areas needed looking at [in relation to CDMA/Next G coverage]. Can you identify which areas you were referring to and were any of those in Tasmania?	ACMA	02/05/08
100	ECA 119	Barnett	I...would like you to reconsider Telstra's request to keep this [information identifying the six less sensitive handsets] blacked out. I would like you to table the report without it being blacked out for the committee... Would you please reconsider?	ACMA	16/05/08
101	ECA 120	Barnett	In terms for the ACMA ISP trial ...in Tasmania ... could you please advise the committee of the terms	ACMA	24/04/08

QoN No.	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/ Agency	Date rec'd
			of reference, table the terms of reference for that trial and advise the committee of the report date?		
102	ECA 124	Birmingham	How many URLs would you expect to be on the blacklist to meet the Labor Party's policy of prohibiting sites such as those containing child pornography and X-rated material?	ACMA	23/05/08
103	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff are employed by the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA)?	ACMA	24/04/08
104	Tabled	Birmingham	What is the age profile of staff employed by ACMA?	ACMA	24/04/08
105	Tabled	Birmingham	What is the gender mix of staff employed by ACMA?	ACMA	24/04/08
106	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff, and what percentage of total staff employed by ACMA, are scheduled or expected to retire in each of the next three years?	ACMA	24/04/08
107	Tabled	Birmingham	What recruitment and employment strategies does ACMA have in place to attract qualified individuals?	ACMA	24/04/08
108	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff have left ACMA in the last twelve months?	ACMA	24/04/08
109	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff are employed by ACMA at APS, EL and SES level?	ACMA	24/04/08
110	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff employed by ACMA earn more than \$130,000?	ACMA	24/04/08
111	Tabled	Birmingham	Will ACMA be mindful of the Prime Minister's call for "wage restraint" in setting or adjusting salaries this year, particularly in relation to senior executives?	ACMA	24/04/08
112	Tabled	Birmingham	Does ACMA intend to recruit new graduates over the next three years and, if so, how many per year? How does this compare to the last three years?	ACMA	24/04/08
113	Tabled	Birmingham	What challenges does ACMA face in recruiting new graduates?	ACMA	24/04/08
114	Tabled	Birmingham	What programs are currently underspent, and what are the reasons for these underspends?	ACMA	24/04/08
115	Tabled	Birmingham	Has the Government formally advised ACMA to achieve a two per cent efficiency dividend? How does ACMA intend to achieve this? How much will this save this year and in future years?	ACMA	24/04/08
116	Tabled	Birmingham	Has the Government cut any current or planned ACMA programs and, if so, what is their value? What services will not be delivered as a result of these cuts? Will there be any staff reductions as a result of these cuts?	ACMA	24/04/08
117	Tabled	Birmingham	What new programs or policies are being implemented by ACMA as a result of commitments made by the new Government prior to and during the 2007 election campaign?	ACMA	24/04/08
118	Tabled	Birmingham	Are any additional staff being recruited by ACMA to implement these programs or policies and, if so, how many?	ACMA	24/04/08
119	Tabled	Birmingham	What is the expected cost of implementing new programs or policies in the current financial year and in each of the next three years?	ACMA	24/04/08
120	Tabled	Birmingham	What costs have been incurred by ACMA as a result of departmental reorganisation following the election of the new Government?	ACMA	24/04/08

<b>QoN No.</b>	<b>Hansard ref.</b>	<b>Senator</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Division/ Agency</b>	<b>Date rec'd</b>
121	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff employed by ACMA work within the Minister's office?	ACMA	24/04/08
122	ECA 127	Birmingham	You actually believe that this will provide an \$18 million, or thereabouts, saving?	Digital Switchover Taskforce	02/05/08
123	ECA 127	Birmingham	What consideration is being given to assisting people who will require financial support with a switch-over to digital television?	Digital Switchover Taskforce	24/04/08
124	ECA 128	Birmingham	Would the government consider providing free set top boxes to some Australians either on the basis of their financial circumstances or to help speed up the process of switch-over?	Digital Switchover Taskforce	24/04/08
125	ECA 103	Bernardi	<b>DBCDE's CDMA/Next G hotline,</b> following on from: Mr Rizvi—We are making our government number known. We have had it out there in the public for quite some time. How are you doing that? I would be interested in knowing how much money was spent in the marketing of this hotline in the months previous?	RSICTR	02/05/08
126	ECA 106 ECA 120	Macdonald Barnett	<b>Telstra rectification plan.</b> Are you going to release it at some time?  Will you release to this committee the Telstra rectification plan, if you cannot do it now, when you have finished the work in progress discussions with Telstra? Secondly, will you release to this committee the Telstra report, which is coming to you in March or thereabouts with its recommendations? And finally, Will you release to this committee and advise the committee on the independent verification process that you referred to earlier during estimates?	RSICTR	16/05/08 + 1 att't
127	ECA 120	Barnett	<b>Telstra's 1800 number</b> In terms of Telstra calls to the 1800 number, how many have there been?	RSICTR	21/05/08
128	ECA 129	Nash	<b>Replacement of Handsets</b> If they have committed to replacing them anyway, which they have, to their credit, why don't they simply recall them and change them over so that there is no issue? Minister Replied... That is a matter that I am happy to take up with Telstra.	RSICTR	16/05/08
129	ECA 129	Nash	<b>Issues post CDMA switch off</b> In a hypothetical world, if the circumstances arise that you agree to the switch-off, if issues still arise post that switch-of date, with handsets or coverage that have slipped through the net for whatever reason, what is your contingency plan? [in answering this question, the Minister raised the questions of 'how long the replacements of the handsets continues to go on' and how long the Telstra hotline should stay in place?' and provided the following answer to these questions on ECA 130]... "I think Telstra made a number of commitments at a recent stakeholders meeting. I am happy to get you that information"...	RSICTR	23/05/08

QoN No.	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/ Agency	Date rec'd
130	ECA 132	Macdonald	I want your assurance that you will not backtrack on what you and I agreed was the right approach to this C and extended C channel [band] when you were in opposition.	TNRAP	24/04/08
131	ECA 145	Kemp	Have you got a list of vacancies which remain to be filled by Senator Conroy, cabinet or executive council appointments?	Corporate and Business	02/05/08
132	ECA 146	Kemp	Have you got a list of all the grants which have been so far approved by the minister from within the portfolio?	Finance and Budgets	23/05/08
133	ECA 147	Kemp	Do you have a complete list of the government election commitments which are going to be administered by the department?	Corporate and Business	16/05/08
134	ECA 136	Lundy	<b>Australian Broadband Guarantee Funding</b> Last year it was reported that the department awarded funding to Telstra to run ADSL services in the York Peninsular, but that Internode also had Broadband Guarantee funding to provide services in the same area. Can you tell the committee what the circumstances were that led to that occurring and whether or not that constituted a breach of the guidelines? Telstra mistakenly registered a series of exchanges that it was acknowledged were eligible for a subsidy for the rollout of ADSL? Did it get any funding from the government? If it did and this was followed through, would it have paid that back?	Broadband	02/05/08
135	ECA 137/138	Lundy	<b>OPEL coverage maps</b> My next question relates to the department's preparation of electoral maps showing OPEL coverage last year which the government distributed. What maps did the department prepare relating to electorates and how many electorates were mapped? I am referring to maps that showed OPEL coverage, some of which may have been relating to electorates or groups thereof, or indeed geographic areas. I want to know whether the department prepared maps relating to OPEL coverage? The seat of McEwan was one of those?	Broadband	02/05/08
136	Tabled	Birmingham	<b>OPEL Consortium</b> Has the OPEL consortium lodged an initial business plan or progress report with the department and/or Minister for approval? If so, when was this lodged? Has approval or other feedback been provided? If so, what feedback and when? If not, why not? Have there been any delays in the expected development of the network to be provided by the OPEL consortium? If so, what delays? Is delivery of the services promised by the OPEL consortium expected to occur on time and on budget?	Broadband	24/04/08
137	Tabled	Birmingham	<b>OPEL Consortium</b> Has the government sought advice regarding the implications of cancelling, voiding or varying	Broadband	24/04/08

QoN No.	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/ Agency	Date rec'd
			some or all of the contractual arrangements entered into with the OPEL consortium? If so, what has this advice indicated regarding the potential to cancel, void or vary any of the contractual arrangements with the OPEL consortium and the extent of liabilities resulting from such action?		
138	Tabled	Birmingham	<b>OPEL</b> Has the government sought to cancel, void or vary any aspects of the contractual arrangements entered into with the OPEL consortium? If so, what aspects has the government sought to cancel, void or vary and it what terms?	Broadband	24/04/08
139	Tabled	Birmingham	<b>OPEL</b> Does the government believe the decision by Telstra to switch on ADSL2+ at more exchanges impacts on the OPEL business case?	Broadband	24/04/08
140	Tabled	Birmingham	<b>Broadband Availability Estimates</b> Given the decision by Telstra to switch on ADSL2+ at more exchanges what are the government's estimates on the availability of broadband to Australian consumers for each of the next 3 years – what proportion of consumers will be able to access broadband; at what minimum and average speeds will such access be achieved; and through what technologies or delivery modes?	Broadband	24/04/08
141	Tabled	Birmingham	<b>ADSL2+</b> Did the Minister provide any other statements of 'comfort' to Telstra (written or verbal) in addition to the written letter from the Minister cited by Telstra as a key reason for their decision to switch on ADSL2+ from more exchanges? If so, what statements were provided? Did the letter from the Minister cited by Telstra contain any new information that had not already been provided to Telstra by the former Minister for Communications, if so, what new information? Has the Minister made any promises to Telstra to legislate if the assurances provided in his letter do not prove accurate?	Broadband	24/04/08
142	Tabled	Birmingham	<b>Australian Broadband Guarantee</b> How many claims have been made for a subsidy under the Australian Broadband Guarantee? How does this compare with budgeted expectations? Is the government committed to the ongoing delivery of this subsidy?	Broadband	24/04/08
143	Tabled	Birmingham	<b>Government's \$4.7billion 'Fibre to the Node' election commitment</b> Will the government's contribution to this project be capped at \$4.7billion, regardless of whether it is ultimately a Fibre to the Node, Fibre to the Home or any other sort of service? When does the government expect to call for expressions of interest and/or tenders to provide the service; when does it expect to select a successful tenderer or partner; and when is it committed to delivery of the service by? Who will assess the tenders and make recommendations to government?	Broadband	16/05/08



QoN No.	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/ Agency	Date rec'd
144	Tabled	Birmingham	<p><b>Government's \$4.7billion 'Fibre to the Node' election commitment</b></p> <p>Will the government set a maximum access price? If so, at what level? Will the government guarantee access to the network for all providers? How will access pricing be determined? What minimum speed will be required to be delivered to what proportion of Australian households and businesses? Will the government specify the form of technology to be used for delivery of the service in the tender documents? If so, what technology or technologies?</p>	Broadband	16/05/08
145	Tabled	Birmingham	<p><b>Government's \$4.7billion 'Fibre to the Node' election commitment</b></p> <p>Is the government committed to the project being a joint venture, with a single company being created part owned by the Commonwealth and part owned by a private provider or consortium, as per their election commitment? If so, what steps will be taken to protect the Commonwealth's investment? If not, under what investment terms will the \$4.7billion be provided?</p>	Broadband	24/04/08
146	Tabled	Birmingham	<p><b>Government's \$4.7billion 'Fibre to the Node' election commitment</b></p> <p>Has the department costed the provision of Fibre to the Node and Fibre to the Home services? If so, what are those cost estimates? What speed of service to do they deliver to what proportion of Australian consumers?</p>	Broadband	16/05/08
147	Tabled	Birmingham	<p><b>Government's \$4.7billion 'Fibre to the Node' election commitment</b></p> <p>When did the government decide to abandon its election commitment that it would require an equity model for delivery of the Fibre to the Node network? Who made this decision and who was consulted? Were any telecommunications providers consulted prior to the decision or advised before it was made public? If so, who and when?</p>	Broadband	24/04/08
148	Tabled	Ronaldson	<p><b>Fibre Optic Cable</b></p> <p>Does the Department have knowledge of where fibre optic cable is currently being used to provide consumers with Broadband services in Australia and how many customers are involved? Can the Department provide maps to this effect?</p>	Broadband	24/04/08
149	Tabled	Ronaldson	<p><b>Fibre Optic Cable</b></p> <p>Has the department been asked to conduct a national dark and lit fibre audit by the Minister? By what means could the Department ask all the ISP's (Internet Service Providers) for an audit of their fibre optic cable? Would say a temporary or permanent licence condition be considered?</p>	Broadband	24/04/08
150	Tabled	Ronaldson	<p><b>Nationalised Telecommunications Networks</b></p> <p>If the Government and the Department know where all the fibre optic cable is across Australia has the Government considered nationalising it? Is the Department aware of any other nationalised telecommunications networks that have been</p>	Broadband	24/04/08

QoN No.	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/ Agency	Date rec'd
			commandeered by Governments around the world?		
151	Tabled	Ronaldson	<b>Fibre to the Node Network</b> How many ISP's currently offer Fibre to the Home and how many premises are connected via this method? Does the Department accept the view that a fibre to the node network would cost more than the \$8-9 billion?	Broadband	24/04/08
152	Tabled	Ronaldson	<b>Fibre to the Node Network</b> Has the Department done any costings for a FTTN network to 98 % of the population and what was the result of the costing? What does the Department consider 98% of the population to be? Can the Department provide a listing and/or map of geographical areas included in covering 98% of the population?	Broadband	16/05/08
153	Tabled	Ronaldson	<b>National Network in Korea</b> What was the cost of the national network in Korea, which is the same geographic size as Victoria? What was the take up rate of the national network in Korea?	Broadband	24/04/08
154	Tabled	Ronaldson	<b>OPEL Network</b> How far advanced is the process of considering the OPEL business case? Will Telstra's recent ADSL2+ decision result in a re-think of the \$958 million in funding earmarked for the OPEL network? Will the Minister renege on any part of the \$958 million committed to the OPEL network?	Broadband	21/05/08
155	Tabled	Ronaldson	<b>BroadbandNOW</b> The government has also announced a reversal of the \$2.4 million BroadbandNOW initiative, what impact on broadband take up rates is expected from this change?	Broadband	24/04/08
156	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff are employed by the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (DBCDE)?	Corporate and Business	24/04/08
157	Tabled	Birmingham	What is the age profile of staff employed by DBCDE?	Corporate and Business	24/04/08
158	Tabled	Birmingham	What is the gender mix of staff employed by DBCDE?	Corporate and Business	24/04/08
159	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff, and what percentage of total staff employed by DBCDE, are scheduled or expected to retire in each of the next three years?	Corporate and Business	24/04/08
160	Tabled	Birmingham	What recruitment and employment strategies does DBCDE have in place to attract qualified individuals?	Corporate and Business	24/04/08
161	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff have left DBCDE in the last twelve months?	Corporate and Business	24/04/08
162	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff are employed by DBCDE at APS, EL and SES level?	Corporate and Business	24/04/08
163	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff employed by DBCDE earn more than \$130,000?	Corporate and Business	24/04/08
164	Tabled	Birmingham	Will DBCDE be mindful of the Prime Minister's call for "wage restraint" in setting or adjusting	Corporate and Business	24/04/08

QoN No.	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/ Agency	Date rec'd
			salaries this year, particularly in relation to senior executives?		
165	Tabled	Birmingham	Does DBCDE intend to recruit new graduates over the next three years and, if so, how many per year? How does this compare to the last three years?	Corporate and Business	24/04/08
166	Tabled	Birmingham	What challenges does DBCDE face in recruiting new graduates?	Corporate and Business	24/04/08
167	Tabled	Birmingham	What programs are currently underspent, and what are the reasons for these underspends?	Finance and Budgets	24/04/08
168	Tabled	Birmingham	Has the Government formally advised DBCDE to achieve a two per cent efficiency dividend? How does DBCDE intend to achieve this? How much will this save this year and in future years?	Finance and Budgets	24/04/08
169	Tabled	Birmingham	Has the Government cut any current or planned DBCDE programs and, if so, what is their value? What services will not be delivered as a result of these cuts? Will there be any staff reductions as a result of these cuts?	Finance and Budgets	02/05/08
170	Tabled	Birmingham	What new programs or policies are being implemented by DBCDE as a result of commitments made by the new Government prior to and during the 2007 election campaign?	Finance and Budgets	02/05/08
171	Tabled	Birmingham	Are any additional staff being recruited by DBCDE to implement these programs or policies and, if so, how many?	Finance and Budgets	02/05/08
172	Tabled	Birmingham	What is the expected cost of implementing new programs or policies in the current financial year and in each of the next three years?	Finance and Budgets	02/05/08
173	Tabled	Birmingham	What costs have been incurred by DBCDE as a result of departmental reorganisation following the election of the new Government?	Corporate and Business	02/05/08
174	Tabled	Birmingham	How many staff employed by DBCDE work within the Minister's office?	Corporate and Business	21/05/08
175	ECA 121	Barnett	<b>Senator Barnett:</b> Has the Internet Industry Association's feasibility study of ISP filtering and the survey of the like been received by the Department and is it available to the Committee? <b>Mr Bezzi:</b> We have received a draft report from the IIA. The report has not yet been approved by the board of the IIA. Once it has been, we will have a final and we will then brief the Minister on that particular report. <b>Senator Barnett:</b> Will you make it available to the Committee? <b>Senator Conroy:</b> I will take that on notice.	Broadcasting and Content	02/05/08
176	ECA 141	Webber	How many people are working at the call centre?	Broadcasting and Content	24/04/08
177	ECA 141	Webber	And the cost of the call centre, please, if you could take that on notice?	Broadcasting and Content	24/04/08
178	ECA47	Parry	<b>Senator PARRY</b> —Can I just direct one more question to you, Minister: will you do a comparison of the salaries paid to Australia Post compared to ABC. It appears ABC has competitors in the commercial market and Australia Post does not, yet Australia Post salaries seem very high compared to ABC. Whether ABC are too low or Australia Post is too high, would	Broadcasting and Content	24/04/08

QoN No.	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/ Agency	Date rec'd
			<p>you do a comparative analysis with the private sector?</p> <p><b>Senator Conroy</b>—Perhaps you might want to narrow the scope of your comparison. Obviously it is something that I am going to have to take on notice, but perhaps you would like to narrow the focus a little bit. They are both very large organisations with many employees.</p> <p><b>Senator PARRY</b>—Just to executive remuneration in particular. The ABC has as a \$130,000 threshold from last year's annual report. That is a good starting measure.</p>		
179	ECA61	Kemp	<p><b>Senator KEMP</b>—...I am just asking you: is the code of conduct that was in place at the time that Mr Newman resigned still in place? Is the legal advice that the staff-elected representative acted upon still the relevant legal advice that is available to staff?</p> <p><b>Senator Conroy</b>—Because we are going back some time in history, to 2000, I will probably need to take that on notice.</p>	Broadcasting and Content	24/04/08
180	ECA88	Allison	<p><b>Senator ALLISON</b>—Minister, have you had a chance to look into this issue? Do you, in principle, support the idea that a formal complaint ought to be able to be made about whether or not the advertising break in the program is or is not a natural break, as it were?...</p> <p><b>Senator Conroy</b>—If I could take that on notice, just because it is an interesting line.</p> <p><b>Senator ALLISON</b>—It is already on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator Conroy</b>—Yes. But if I could take it on notice as opposed to the SBS. I was not aware that you had given SBS some questions. If I could take that on notice and get back to you?</p>	Broadcasting and Content	24/04/08
181	Tabled	Ronaldson	<p>What impact will funding cuts of \$6.4 million announced by the government have on the Net Alert program's education and advertising budget?</p>	Broadcasting and Content	24/04/08
182	Tabled	Stott Despoja	<p>In a media release issued on 12 September 2007, former Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, Senator Helen Coonan, launched an investigation into access to electronic media for the hearing impaired</p> <p>“to stocktake developments in captioning and other essential access technologies that assist hearing impaired Australians, and consider options for their extension beyond the current requirements”.</p> <p>The media release stated that "The investigation into access to electronic media and films by the hearing impaired is to be completed by 30 April 2008, with the full report of that investigation to be tabled by the Minister in Parliament" and that a "discussion paper for public comment will be released over coming weeks."</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Does the Government intend to proceed with the inquiry initiated by the former Minister?</li> <li>2. If so, what is the status of the inquiry?</li> </ol>	Broadcasting and Content	21/05/08

<b>QoN No.</b>	<b>Hansard ref.</b>	<b>Senator</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Division/ Agency</b>	<b>Date rec'd</b>
			3. When does the Government intend to release the proposed discussion paper? 4. Does the Government consider that that the proposed completion date of 30 April 2007 has been compromised by the delay in the inquiry's progress? 5. Has the Government conducted any consultations in relation to the inquiry?		
183	Tabled	Minchin	All appointments which have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards, with a brief outline of the respective appointee's credentials.	Corporate and Business	02/05/08
184	Tabled	Minchin	A list of all vacancies which remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments.	Corporate and Business	02/05/08
185	Tabled	Minchin	All grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio.	Finance and Budgets	23/05/08
186	Tabled	Minchin	Requests to the Department of Finance to move funds within each portfolio.	Finance and Budgets	02/05/08