Senate Standing Committee on Environment, Communications and the Arts Legislation Committee

Answers to questions on notice

Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts portfolio

Additional Estimates, February 2010

Outcome: 5 Question No: 163

Program: 5.1

Division/Agency: National Gallery of Australia

Topic: Efficiency dividend and the special

dividend of 2008 – impact on

operations

Hansard Page ECA: 103 (8/2/10)

Senator TROETH asked:

Dr Radford—We did identify at a former Senate estimates that we had to cut down some administration. The touring exhibition program and the publication program had to be cut, which it was.

Senator TROETH—Are you not doing anything now that you would have otherwise been doing, apart from those two programs that you mentioned?

Dr Radford—No.

Senator TROETH—So far it has not impacted at all on your operations?

Dr Radford—Only on those areas, and that has been offset by a new government initiative to help with touring exhibitions. That has helped us.

Senator TROETH—Has the new government initiative compensated for what you were doing before with the touring exhibitions?

Dr Radford—To some extent, yes, it has.

Senator TROETH—One hundred per cent?

Dr Radford—I would have to actually work that out. We will take that on notice. I am not quite sure. I think it probably does but I had better check.

Answer:

The National Gallery of Australia did not release any touring exhibitions in 2008/09 as a result of the application of the special efficiency dividend of 2008. The Gallery will release three exhibitions in 2009/10 with the assistance of the National Collecting Institutions Touring and Outreach Program, and with the same level of assistance from that program in 2010/11, the Gallery would expect to release another three exhibitions in 2010/11. This would bring us back to the level of touring exhibitions the Gallery had touring nationally prior to the application of the special efficiency dividend of 2008.