

**Senate Standing Committee on the Environment, Communications, Information Technology  
and the Arts**

**2007-08 Budget Estimates**

*Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Portfolio*

**Questions on Notice – Wednesday, 23 May 2007**

<b>QoN No</b>	<b>Hansard ref.</b>	<b>Senator</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Division/Agency</b>	<b>Date Rec'd</b>
61	ECITA 3	Marshall	<u>Spending on Licensee Advisory Councils (LACs)</u> How much did Australia Post spend on the LACs in the 2005/2006 and 2006/2007 years? Could you break that down for me into spending on the national LAC and the state LACs? What is your budget for the LACs for the 2007/2008 year?	Australia Post	17/07/07
62	ECITA 3	Marshall	<u>Election of licensee representatives for LACs</u> Does Australia Post coordinate elections for the Licensee representatives on the state and national LACs? Can you also get back to us with how that process actually operates?	Australia Post	08/08/07
63	ECITA 4	Marshall	<u>LAC elections in 2006</u> Are you able to detail where the elections were, which states? In the states where elections were not necessary, were all nominees duly deemed to be elected to the respective LACs?	Australia Post	17/07/07
64	ECITA 4	Marshall	<u>Selection of Post representatives for LACs</u> What happens at the state level? Would you be able to provide that information to the committee?	Australia Post	17/07/07
65	ECITA 4	Marshall	<u>Regulations governing LACs</u> What regulations govern the number of Australia Post representatives on the state and national LACs? <i>Ms Button: There is a charter that governs the LACs....we can certainly provide a copy.</i>	Australia Post	18/02/08 + 1 att't
66	ECITA 4/5	Marshall	<u>LACs' obligations with respect to ASIC</u> Do the LACs have obligations with respect to ASIC? Could you tell me whether any LAC has been fined for failing to meet any of its obligations with ASIC? What would happen if ASIC fined a LAC for failing to meet any of its obligations, how would the fine be paid? Could you also find out whether licensee members of the LACs would be liable to contribute towards any fine?	Australia Post	17/07/07
67	ECITA 5	Marshall	<u>Public liability insurance for Community Postal/Mail Agents</u> Can you tell me which insurer or insurance broker Australia Post uses to place public liability insurance for community postal/mail agents? Could you explain to us the process for selecting that insurer or broker?	Australia Post	17/07/07
68	ECITA 6	Marshall	<u>Hybrid vehicle</u> Can you tell me where your trial of a hybrid vehicle is at? Are you aware of the types of vehicles that are being trialled?	Australia Post	08/08/07
69	ECITA 6	Marshall	<u>Reduced rate post office box</u> How many of those private boxes are on a subsidised rental? Are you able to provide information to the committee about where they are? Is there a list available?	Australia Post	18/02/08 + 1 att't
70	ECITA 7	Campbell	<u>Wholesale fuel price</u> Have you advised the contractors how you calculate your	Australia Post	08/08/07

QoN No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/Agency	Date Rec'd
			wholesale fuel price?		
71	ECITA 13	Conroy	<u>Termination of mail contracts</u> How many contracts have been terminated by the contractor as a result of bullying or intimidating behaviour from Australia Post staff or management towards the contractor?	Australia Post	17/07/07
72	ECITA 14	Conroy	<u>Multiple mail contracts</u> How many of these super contractors who have multiple contracts are there in Australia...Contractors who hold in excess of five mail contracts?	Australia Post	08/08/07
73	ECITA 14	Conroy	<u>Disclosure of tender information</u> Has Australia Post provided details of unsuccessful tenderers to the successful tenderer in any instance?	Australia Post	17/07/07
74	ECITA 15	Conroy	<u>Relocation of Licensed Post Offices (LPOs) for security reasons</u> If a LPO has been held up or broken into on a number of occasions, at what point does Australia Post reassess the feasibility of retaining a post office at that location? If it is considered wise to relocate a post office for security reasons, does Australia Post bear the cost of that relocation?	Australia Post	17/07/07
75	ECITA 15	Conroy	<u>Assistance with the cost and provision of security equipment</u> Does Australia Post assist with the cost and provision of security equipment in post offices, as is done in other countries, such as the UK and New Zealand? <i>Ms Button – For Licensees?</i> Yes.	Australia Post	17/07/07
76	ECITA 15/16	Conroy	<u>Extended trading hours at corporate post offices</u> How many corporate post offices are open extended hours? What is Australia Post's policy regarding opening hours when a corporate post office is located in a shopping centre that is open for extended hours or on weekends?	Australia Post	17/07/07
77	ECITA 16	Conroy	<u>Facilities/repositories used to store mail</u> When these facilities are not owned by Australia Post, how many of these facilities or repositories are at LPOs? How many licensees are being paid to provide this service? How many licensees are not being paid to provide this service? If licensees are currently not being paid for providing these facilities or repositories, does this represent a breach of the community service obligations of Australia Post? If licensees are currently not being paid for providing these facilities or repositories, will Australia Post view favourably any application for payment?	Australia Post	08/08/07
78	ECITA 16	Conroy	<u>Licensee and mail contractor contributions to Australia Post meeting its community service obligations (CSOs)</u> Has Australia Post calculated the contributions of licensees and mail contractors to Australia Post's meeting of its CSOs? <i>Mr McCloskey: I think the answer to that would be that there is a particular model in place that takes all appropriate costs into account in calculating the cost of the CSOs.</i> Could you check that and let us know if there is a difference or variations?	Australia Post	17/07/07
79	ECITA 17	Conroy	<u>Freedom of Information (FOI) requests</u> How many FOI requests have been received by Australia Post since 1 January 2006? Of these FOI requests, how many were granted in their entirety? How many of these FOI requests were refused in part or in entirety?	Australia Post	18/02/08

QoN No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/Agency	Date Rec'd
			<p>If any FOI requests or parts of FOI requests were refused, on what grounds were they refused?</p> <p>If any FOI requests were refused, did those who requested the information appeal a refusal, and what were the results of the appeal?</p>		
80	ECITA 18	Conroy	<p><u>Weekend mail sorting</u></p> <p>Since the implementation of cutbacks to weekend mail sorting shifts, has Australia Post received any complaints about the failure of mail to reach its destination by the guaranteed delivery day and, if so, how many?</p>	Australia Post	15/08/07
81	ECITA 18/19	Conroy	<p><u>Rylstone LPO</u></p> <p>The owners and licensees of Rylstone wrote to Post and to Minister Anderson – I think he might be their local member – with allegations of bullying, and harassment by Australia Post management over a three year period to September 2003, after exhausting all complaint avenues with Australia Post. Can you tell me what investigations Australia Post undertook to assess and address the licensee's concerns? Was it a detailed internal investigation or was the Ombudsman involved? Has there yet been a finding by the Ombudsman? If you could take it on notice and come back to me with some details. The investigation, and who undertook it? Was it undertaken by the Area Post Manager, or was someone from outside the area brought in to investigate it?</p>	Australia Post	08/08/07
82	ECITA 22/33	Campbell/ Webber	<p><u>Wangara Delivery Centre</u></p> <p>The Wangara distribution centre in Western Australia, are you aware of any claims of bullying at that centre? Can you take that question on notice and find out for us if there have been any claims and how they have been dealt with?</p>	Australia Post	08/08/07
83	ECITA 31	Conroy	<p><u>Outstanding Liberal Party account for Qld state election</u></p> <p>Do you charge late fees? I saw that you had a note passed to you a little earlier. Are you able to confirm the \$50,000?</p>	Australia Post	17/07/07
84	ECITA 34	Wortley	<p><u>Delivery Officers</u></p> <p>You will probably have to take this on notice, although you may have the figures. Can you tell me how many delivery posties are employed in each of the states and territories in Australia?</p>	Australia Post	18/02/08
85	ECITA 34	Wortley	<p><u>Margate</u></p> <p>I understand that Margate is a rapidly expanding suburb of south Hobart and that currently Australia Post uses two part-time posties to deliver to households there. I understand also that Australia Post is in the process of contracting out these two positions. Do you know anything about that? Other concerns that were raised, in particular in this expanding suburb, were security of mail, community service obligations and standards of service for contracting out postie positions. Do you have a policy on that, and would you be able to provide that as well?</p>	Australia Post	17/07/07
86	ECITA 35	Allison	<p><u>Identification requirements for lodgement of overseas mail</u></p> <p>Is there anything in your instructions to your staff in the directive from the department to do with regimes for licence provision which stipulates that a licence cannot be used for identification purposes? I put this question on notice on 14 March and it has not been answered. The case I am referring to relates to South Australia. It indicates that licence identification is illegal in</p>	Australia Post	23/07/07

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			that state. My question to you is: does Australia Post consider this, care about it, take it into account in its practice of demanding identification?		
87	ECITA 36//37	Allison	<u>Identification details obtained from customers lodging overseas mail</u> How is the data held and by what authority? Who within Australia Post's agencies or centrally has access to that database? What information is kept on the database? In the case of a licence, what would that be? How is it protected from hackers, or what sort of security applies to its maintenance?	Australia Post	17/07/07
88	ECITA 38	Allison	<u>Identification details required for other services (mail redirection and private boxes)</u> And all of these previously cited documents are applicable for those cases too? And this database is kept centrally in Australia Post? And can you also take on notice who has access to it?	Australia Post	08/08/07
89	Tabled	Conroy	<u>Crosby Textor</u> 1. Has Crosby Textor undertaken any services for Australia Post such as market research, public opinion polling, strategic counsel, campaign and communications services, or any other services? a. If so, what were they? b. When were they undertaken? c. What was the cost? d. Was a report produced? e. If so, would you please table the report? 2. Is Crosby Textor undertaking any services for Australia Post such as market research, public opinion polling, strategic counsel, campaign and communications services, or any other services? a. If so, what are they? b. When did they begin? c. Is a report to be produced? d. What is the agreed cost? 3. Is Crosby Textor in contract negotiations with Australia Post to provide market research, public opinion polling, strategic counsel, campaign and communications services, or any other services?	Australia Post	17/07/07
90	Tabled	Conroy	<u>Support network for LPOs</u> 1. Can you inform us whether Australia Post is reviewing its support network for LPOs? 2. If so, please provide details, including but not limited to: a. desired outcomes; b. consultation with stakeholders; and c. scale of the review. 3. Can you tell us when the support network for LPOs was last reviewed?	Australia Post	02/08/07
91	Tabled	Conroy	<u>Proposed changes to LPO network</u> 1. Does Australia Post have any plans for changing, revising or revamping the LPO network? 2. If so: a. what impact will this have on existing LPOs? b. what impact will it have on those staff who have an LPO support function? 3. Does Australia Post intend on keeping the number of LPOs constant at today's numbers?	Australia Post	08/08/07
92	Tabled	Conroy	<u>Criteria for opening a new post office</u>	Australia	17/07/07

QoN No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/A gency	Date Rec'd
			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What are the criteria for opening a new post office in an industrial or residential area?</li> <li>2. Would Australia Post give first option to a licensee whose business was declining due to shifts in population or business?</li> </ol>	Post	
93	Tabled	Conroy	<u>Proposed mix of retail outlets</u> Will Australia Post keep its current mix of corporate post offices, LPOs Community Mail/Postal Agencies and other retail outlets in the near future, say to 2014?	Australia Post	08/08/07
94	Tabled	Conroy	<u>Experience/qualifications of LPO support staff</u> What experience and qualifications do Australia Post staff that make decisions regarding or have interactions with LPO have, for example: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. what specific LPO training is provided to these staff members (either internally or via external consultants)?</li> <li>b. what understanding of the LPO Agreement (and other related agreements and contracts) is provided to new LPO support staff by way of training?</li> </ol>	Australia Post	17/07/07
95	Tabled	Conroy	<u>Review/rationalisation of delivery network</u> What plans does Australia Post have to review or rationalise its mail and delivery network now that it has large mail processing centres such as those at Dandenong and Ardeer?	Australia Post	18/02/08
96	Tabled	Conroy	<u>Margaret Gibson</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Australia Post board member Margaret Gibson is also a Director on the Partnership Board of the legal firm DLA Phillips Fox. During Ms Gibson's term as Director at the firm DLA Phillips Fox, has Australia Post ever used or does it intend to use DLA Phillips Fox for legal services?</li> <li>2. If so, please provide details of these occasions.</li> <li>3. If so, is there a conflict of interest in the Board positions Ms Gibson holds with both Australia Post and DLA Phillips Fox?</li> </ol>	Australia Post	18/02/08
97	ECITA 40	Conroy	Senator CONROY—... What figures do you have on ratings for SBS news since the introduction of in-program breaks? Mr Brown—The full implementation of in-program breaks was virtually simultaneous with the launch of the new news hour. Ratings would be an indication possibly of an attitude towards the commercials, but they are more likely to be an indication of reaction to the establishment of a news hour. I do not have the numbers—and I am certainly happy to take that on notice and give you the numbers...	SBS	07/09/07
98	ECITA 41	Conroy	<b>Advertising Revenue</b> Senator CONROY—How much revenue has been raised by SBS since the introduction of in-program breaks? Mr Brown—Revenue is currently tracking ahead of budget. I think I reported that at the last estimates hearing. Senator CONROY—Do you have a figure? Mr Brown—I will need to take that on notice.	SBS	18/02/08
99	ECITA 42	Conroy	<b>Marketing Costs</b> Senator CONROY—...How much was spent on marketing in 2005-06 and in 2007-08 to date? Mr Brown—Do you mean marketing of television content? Senator CONROY—Yes. Mr Brown—I will have to take that on notice. Senator CONROY—Can you also take on notice what percentage increase it was on the previous year?	SBS	18/02/08
100	ECITA 43	Conroy	<b>Engagement of Marketing Companies</b> Senator CONROY—..... When did SBS start to use Open Dialogue, a marketing company, to promote its ratings?	SBS	18/02/08

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			<p>Mr Brown—It has not used it to promote its ratings. Open Dialogue is on a short-term contract—I think for the last three months—specifically employed by the Commercial Affairs Division as a trade marketing activity to inform advertisers and the business media of performance, particularly in relation to intraprogram breaks, so that we do realise the full value of intraprogram breaks.</p> <p>Senator CONROY—They have been on for three months. How long is their short-term contract in total?</p> <p>Mr Brown—I will have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator CONROY—How much are we paying them for the term of their contract?</p> <p>Mr Brown—I will take that on notice as well. ...</p> <p>Senator CONROY—Did SBS previously use any marketing firms to promote its advertising opportunities?</p> <p>Mr Brown—I do not believe so.</p> <p>Senator CONROY—Could you check that on notice. If the answer is different, you can let us know.</p>		
101	ECITA 44	Conroy	<p><b>LOTE Programming in Prime Time</b></p> <p>Senator CONROY—There is an argument that since the introduction of in-program advertising there has been a change in the percentage of LOTE programming scheduled in prime time. Can you check into that. ... Since the introduction of in-program advertising, has the percentage of Indigenous programming scheduled in prime time altered, and, if so, how much?</p> <p>Mr Brown—I think it has increased, but I think <i>Living Black</i> moved into a six o'clock timeslot last year when it had previously been off peak.</p> <p>Senator CONROY—It would be helpful if you could come back to us with some figures.</p>	SBS	18/02/08
102	ECITA 44/45	Conroy	<p><b>Meetings with Advertising Agents</b></p> <p>Senator CONROY—Have any meetings been held between any advertising agents and any program making staff at SBS?</p> <p>Mr Brown—I would have to take that on notice.</p>	SBS	07/09/07
103	ECITA 48	Ronaldson	<p><b>SBS Divisional Structure</b></p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—So there has been a change to the divisional structure?</p> <p>Mr Brown—Within each division, yes, in some cases.</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—It is headed 'SBS Divisional Structure', which has all those positions in place. So there have been changes to that structure that you have in front of you?</p> <p>Mr Brown—Yes.</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Can you describe those now and also provide a copy of the change, to the committee?</p> <p>Mr Brown—Yes.</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—I would be happy for you to take that on notice rather than going through it.</p>	SBS	07/09/07
104	ECITA 49	Ronaldson	<p><b>Staff Positions in Melbourne</b></p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Those positions in Melbourne, do you know what they are as a proportion of all the positions listed?</p> <p>Mr Brown—As a proportion of this only or the staffing overall?</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—No, of this divisional structure.</p> <p>Mr Brown—I do not know, but if you say there are 64 then I would imagine that somewhere between 10 per cent and 15 per cent would be Melbourne.</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Will you take that on notice?</p>	SBS	07/09/07

QoN No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/A gency	Date Rec'd
			<p>Mr Brown—Yes.</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Have the numbers of managers and directors who are based in Victoria increased or decreased over the last 12 months?</p> <p>Mr Brown—I believe it has stayed the same.</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Will you take that on notice?</p> <p>Mr Brown—Yes, I will confirm that.</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Can you also take on notice the number of positions based in Sydney, under the new divisional structure?</p> <p>Mr Brown—Yes.</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—I take it that you would also want to take on notice my question of what this is as a proportion of all the positions listed?</p> <p>Mr Brown—Yes.</p>		
105	ECITA 50	Ronaldson	<p><b>SBS Personnel Changes</b></p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Do you know how many changes there have been in personnel in management and director positions in the last 12 months?</p> <p>Mr Brown—The director positions or those positions that sit below the director or both?</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Both.</p> <p>Mr Brown—The whole thing on that page?</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Yes.</p> <p>Mr Brown—We will take that on notice.</p>	SBS	07/09/07
106	ECITA 50/51	Ronaldson	<p><b>Workplace Bullying</b></p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Have any of those disputes or decisions related to bullying in the workplace?</p> <p>Mr Brown—Bullying?</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Yes. Have there been any allegations of bullying?</p> <p>Mr Brown—No, I am not aware of any allegations of bullying in relation to management positions.</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Will you take that on notice?</p> <p>Mr Brown—Yes.</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Victimisation?</p> <p>Mr Brown—I will take that on notice.</p>	SBS	07/09/07
107	ECITA 51	Ronaldson	<p><b>Costs of Restructure</b></p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—What has been the result of the restructure in terms of the numbers of management staff or staff costs and management to production cost ratios?</p> <p>Mr Brown—I would need to take that on notice.</p>	SBS	07/09/07
108	ECITA 51	Ronaldson	<p><b>Management Disputes</b></p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—...Are you saying to the committee that no-one has left the organisation in the past 12 months since the restructure as a result of disputes with management?</p> <p>Mr Brown—I will take that on notice. I cannot think of anything.</p>	SBS	07/09/07
109	ECITA 52	Ronaldson	<p><b>Submission on Budget for SBS Radio</b></p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—I note that in the submission of SBS Radio to the Victorian parliament's Economic Development Committee that the operating budget for SBS Radio in 1998-99 for Melbourne exceeded that of Sydney. Is this still the case today?</p> <p>Mr Brown—I will take that on notice.</p>	SBS	07/09/07
110	ECITA 52	Ronaldson	<p><b>Proportion of Staffing in Melbourne and Sydney</b></p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—...are you telling the committee that in proportional terms in the last 12 months since the restructure there has been no change in the proportion of</p>	SBS	07/09/07

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			<p>everyone in this divisional structure; the proportions between Melbourne and Sydney have not altered?</p> <p>Mr Brown—Yes, that is my evidence.</p> <p>Senator RONALDSON—Do you want to take that on notice?</p> <p>Mr Brown—I will take on notice that I will confirm that, but I am confident.</p>		
111	ECITA 53	Ronaldson	<p><b>Guidelines for Program Acquisition</b></p> <p>Senator CONROY—What are the guidelines and protocols for program acquisition? Can you provide those to us?</p> <p>Mr Brown—I am not sure there does exist in a sort of singular finite form a set of guidelines. ...</p> <p>Senator CONROY—Are you able to provide them to us? I appreciate they are not in a singular form, but is there a consolidated form they can be drawn into?</p> <p>Mr Brown—I do not believe there is, but if there is we will supply it.</p>	SBS	07/09/07
112	ECITA 54	Wortley	<p><b>Advertising Revenue</b></p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—Can you give us the details of the increased advertising revenue in radio?</p> <p>Mr Brown—In radio? I will take that on notice. ...</p> <p>Mr Brown—For this current financial year or for last financial year?</p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—Both, if available.</p>	SBS	07/09/07
113	ECITA 55	Wortley	<p><b>Budget for Radio Language Groups</b></p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—It is it possible to provide the budgets for each of the language groups' radio programming?</p> <p>Mr Brown—I will take that on notice. ...</p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—If they have not been structured in an individual language group, but if they have been done in a different way, could we have the details of that as well?</p> <p>Mr Brown—Yes. ...</p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—Are you able today to provide us with details of the increased revenue that has been invested in radio content?</p> <p>Mr Brown—Let me take that on notice.</p>	SBS	18/02/08
114	ECITA 55/56	Wortley/ Conroy	<p><b>Meetings Between Paul Cutler and Minister for Foreign Affairs (1)</b></p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—If we just move to <i>Dateline</i>. On 26 March 2007 the <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> reported that SBS management, including a senior <i>Dateline</i> producer, frequently met with the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Furthermore, in the article an SBS spokesperson is quoted as saying:</p> <p>... the Director of News and Current Affairs, Paul Cutler, has had both informal and formal meetings with Mr Downer's office.</p> <p>Can you confirm that such meetings took place?</p> <p>Mr Brown—Yes. I believe the director has told me that those meetings have taken place.</p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—Can you tell us how many times and over what period these meetings have taken place?</p> <p>Mr Brown—I would have to take that on notice.</p>	SBS	18/02/08
115	ECITA 56	Conroy	<p><b>Meetings Between Paul Cutler and Minister for Foreign Affairs (2)</b></p> <p>Senator CONROY—...So Mr Cutler had both informal and formal meetings with Mr Downer's office, is that right?</p> <p>Mr Brown—Yes.</p> <p>Senator CONROY—Who did he meet with?</p> <p>Mr Brown—I will take that on notice. I am not aware.</p>	SBS	18/02/08



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116	ECITA 56	Conroy	<p><b>Appearances by Minister for Foreign Affairs on <i>Dateline</i></b>  Senator CONROY—How many times did the minister [for Foreign Affairs and Trade] appear on the show in the last 12 months?  Mr Brown—I do not believe the minister has appeared on the show in the last 12 months.  Senator CONROY—At all? Is it one year, two years, three years? ...  Mr Brown—I cannot recall the minister appearing on <i>Dateline</i> in the last four years. Let me take that on notice.</p>	SBS	18/02/08
117	ECITA 58(see ECITA 55/56)	Conroy	<p><b>Meeting between Paul Cutler and the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade</b>  Senator CONROY—I assumed that that might have been the difference between an informal and formal meeting, that someone was keeping a record?  Mr Brown—I am not aware of any minutes that exist, but I am happy to, as part of my response in terms of the number of meetings, characterise what was discussed.</p>	SBS	18/02/08
118	ECITA 58	Conroy	<p><b><i>Dateline</i> and Minister for Foreign Affairs</b>  Senator CONROY—Can you confirm that Paul Cutler, the Director News and Current Affairs, has told <i>Dateline</i> journalists that Alexander Downer has said he would not appear on <i>Dateline</i>?  Mr Brown—I will seek confirmation of that.</p>	SBS	18/02/08
119	ECITA 60	Conroy	<p><b>Position of Executive Producer <i>Dateline</i></b>  Senator CONROY—Can you provide the duty statement and selection criteria for the position?  Mr Brown—The executive producer position?  Senator CONROY—The supervising producer and executive producer.  Mr Brown—Certainly.</p>	SBS	07/09/07
120	Tabled	Fierravanti-Wells	<p><b>Inspector Rex</b>  Previously I have used Senate Estimates to complain about smut on SBS. Please explain how this matter came about.  May 29, 2007 - 3:30PM  SBS Television has apologised for screening in the family viewing time of 7.30pm an episode of Inspector Rex which featured a man being murdered during a sexual encounter with a married couple.  A viewer complained about an episode broadcast on November 18, 2006, of the Austrian crime series which stars a German shepherd police dog named Rex.  A report by the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) released today backed the finding and SBS's handling of the complaint about the episode entitled <i>Death Via the Internet</i>.  "SBS apologised for any distress the misclassification may have caused in its response to the complaint dated 14 December 2006," the ACMA report said.  "SBS took additional steps to inform classification officers of the breach and reasons for the breach to ensure the breach does not occur again."  The episode features a husband filming his wife and another man embrace and kiss on a bed.  When the man invites the husband to join them and questions his virility, the husband hits him on the head with a lamp and kills him.  The ACMA investigation found the sexual activity depicted</p>	SBS	07/09/07

QoN No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/Agency	Date Rec'd
			<p>in the scene was "higher than mild" and therefore not appropriate for a program classified PG (Parental Guidance).</p> <p>It found the impact of the scene was heightened by the man and woman breathing heavily while they embraced, sexual dialogue, shots of the wife's breasts and cut-away shots of another man watching pornography on a computer.</p> <p>SBS had no plan to show the episode again, but if this changed it would edit the program?</p>		
121	Tabled	Fierravanti -Wells	<p><b>Director SBS Radio - Ms Paula Masselos</b>            Have any complaints been lodged about Ms Masselos? If so, please provide details of the same incl. what actions have been taken subsequent to those complaints?            Have there been any resignations or retirements at SBS Radio since the appointment of Ms Masselos? If so, please provide details of the persons who have resigned or retired, incl. the position and the time of service of the person.            Please specify how Ms Masselos met each of the selection criteria for fulfilling the position of Director SBS Radio?            Specifically, did Ms Masselos have "a strong record in leading and managing a large workforce engaged in Radio program production" (Criterion 1) and did she have "demonstrated capability to build effective radio programs and schedules" (Criterion 2)?            Why did an experienced senior manager such as Mr David Ingram – who acted as Head of Radio for four months after Quang Luu retired – resign rather than continue working for Ms Masselos? [This was reported in the online magazine RadioWise on 22 March 2007].            Did any person working Ms Masselos make any complaints to SBS Human Resources? Did that person then accept a redundancy? If so, please provide details of the circumstances surrounding this redundancy.            How many other staff at SBS Radio have resigned, retired or made complaints about her behaviour since November 2006?</p>	SBS	07/09/07
122	Tabled	Fierravanti -Wells	<p><b>Consultancies – SBS Radio</b>            Please provide full details of all consultancies which have been engaged at SBS Radio or by SBS for specific work at SBS Radio, incl. the costs and duration of each?</p>	SBS	07/09/07
123	Tabled	Fierravanti -Wells	<p><b>Contracts – SBS Radio</b>            How many SBS Radio Managers have contracts which extend beyond 30 June 2007?</p>	SBS	07/09/07
124	Tabled	Fierravanti -Wells	<p><b>Advertisements – SBS Radio</b>            Please provide details of all advertisements for senior management positions at SBS Radio since Ms Masselos become Director of Radio.</p>	SBS	07/09/07
125	Tabled	Fierravanti -Wells	<p><b>Program Sponsorship and Funding</b>            Are there any programs at SBS which are funded or sponsored in any way by a private business? If so, please provide full details about such funding/sponsorship incl. terms, amounts etc.?            In relation to any program so funded, does that program promote that business in any way?</p>	SBS	07/09/07
126	Tabled	Fierravanti -Wells	<p><b>Different perspectives on language programs</b>            Please specify how SBS deals with the presentation of a range of views?            What procedures are in place for SBS deals with the concept of presenting a range of views "over time"?            What mechanisms are in place at SBS to guarantee balance</p>	SBS	07/09/07

QoN No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/Agency	Date Rec'd
			in its programming? Please specify each of the mechanisms in place in each of the programs covered in News and Current Affairs.		
127	Tabled	Fierravanti-Wells	<p><b>Spanish Radio Program</b></p> <p>I understand that on 15 March 2007, the Spanish speaking program had an adviser of Ms Julia Gillard on the program. I am advised there was no Liberal/National spokesperson to rebut the views of Mr Carlo Valdovino. Please clarify this matter and advise if, at all, an alternative to the pro-left view was put?</p>	SBS	07/09/07
128	Tabled	Fierravanti-Wells	<p><b>SBS Dateline – 18 April 2007</b></p> <p>I refer to the interview of 18 April 2007 on SBS Dateline between George Negus and "Dr" Anwar Ibrahim. In this interview, as was the case in his first interview with Anwar Ibrahim in March 2005, George Negus has chosen to ignore matters raised by SBS Dateline in October 2003 concerning "Dr" Anwar Ibrahim, his associates, and the IIIT which he founded and still leads, and the financing of terrorism. Since the story went to air, and indeed since the interview of March 2005, more details have come into the public domain concerning those matters. These include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The conviction of Sami Al-Arian, who was supported by the IIIT, in the United States for leading and financially supporting the Palestinian Islamic Jihad.</li> <li>Sami Al-Arian's further conviction for refusing to give evidence against Anwar Ibrahim and the IIIT before a grand jury-Al-Arian has said that he feared for his life if he did so;</li> <li>Evidence of Anwar and associates being linked to the ongoing case of Commercial IBT in Melbourne, which involved some USD 8 billion;</li> <li>The fact that Anwar Ibrahim and other directors of the IIIT have all taken the 5th Amendment against self-incrimination ; in filing of the IIIT's IRS 990 returns-the relevant IRS forms are part of the research that SBS Dateline should have on file, provided them by this writer in 2003;</li> <li>Evidence that Anwar Ibrahim himself had used the IIIT's funds to assist his own family, in contravention of IRS rules-the relevant IRS forms are part of the research that SBS Dateline should have on file, provided them by this writer in 2003.</li> <li>There also appears to be some attempt by George Negus to burnish his interviewee's credentials. His reference to Anwar Ibrahim as "Doctor", especially apparent in the last line: <i>"Doctor, always good to talk to you. Thank you for your time "</i>, is amusing given that Anwar has only this year enrolled in the Griffith University's PhD programme-see.</li> </ol> <p>I understand that there have been previous complaints about the apparent bias caused by the fact that George Negus is author and continues to benefit from the sale of his book "The World From Islam."</p> <p>Please explain why each of these complaints has been dismissed.</p>	SBS	07/09/07
129	Tabled	Conroy	<p><b>SBS Budget</b></p> <p>For <b>Output 1</b> (<i>multi lingual and multicultural services</i>)</p> <p><b>Output 1.1</b> (<i>television</i>) provide the unspent funds against the 2006-07 budget (including 2006-07 additional estimates and Bill 5 and 6 funding requests.)</p> <p>For <b>Output 1.2</b> (<i>radio</i>) provide the unspent funds against</p>	SBS	18/02/08

QoN No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/Agency	Date Rec'd
			<p>the 2006-07 budget (including 2006-07 additional estimates and Bill 5 and 6 funding requests.)</p> <p><b>Output 1.3</b> (<i>analogue transmission and distribution</i>) provide the unspent funds against the 2006-07 budget (including 2006-07 additional estimates and Bill 5 and 6 funding requests.)</p> <p>For <b>Output 1.4</b> (<i>digital transmission and distribution</i>) provide the unspent funds against the 2006-07 budget (including 2006-07 additional estimates and Bill 5 and 6 funding requests.)</p> <p>Indicate whether these unspent amounts will lapse at the end of the financial year or be rephased or be reallocated across the forward estimates. Indicate the revised funding profile. On the basis of current projections list the ten biggest expected underspends (appropriately described) against the 2006-07 budget (including 2006-07 additional estimates and Bill 5 and 6 funding requests)</p> <p>Indicate whether these amounts will lapse at the end of the financial year or be rephased or be reallocated and indicate the revised funding profile.</p> <p>What transfers of more than \$5m in any one year were made from administered to departmental expenses and from departmental to administered expenses over the past two complete financial years?</p> <p>What is the position in 2006-07?</p>		
130	Tabled	Conroy	<p><b>Crosby Textor</b></p> <p>Has Crosby Textor undertaken any services for SBS such as market research, public opinion polling, strategic counsel, campaign and communications services, or any other services?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If so, what were they?</li> <li>When were they undertaken?</li> <li>What was the cost?</li> <li>Was a report produced?</li> <li>If so, would you please table the report?</li> </ol> <p>Is Crosby Textor undertaking any services for SBS such as market research, public opinion polling, strategic counsel, campaign and communications services, or any other services?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If so, what are they?</li> <li>When did they begin?</li> <li>Is a report to be produced?</li> <li>What is the agreed cost?</li> </ol> <p>Is Crosby Textor in contract negotiations with SBS to provide market research, public opinion polling, strategic counsel, campaign and communications services, or any other services?</p>	SBS	07/09/07
131	Tabled	Conroy	<p><b>Government Advertising Campaigns</b></p> <p>What sum, as a total figure, was spent, or will be spent, on advertising campaigns in:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2006-2007; and</li> <li>2007-2008?</li> </ol> <p>Identifying each campaign by name, what sum was spent on each advertising campaign that forms the basis of the total figure given to the above question in:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2006-2007; and</li> <li>2007-2008?</li> </ol>	SBS	07/09/07

QoN No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/Agency	Date Rec'd
			<p>What was the purpose of the advertising campaigns?</p> <p>What was the total estimated budget and breakdown of campaign costs, including market and other research, creative, pre-production, production and media purchasing for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Television (TV) placements;</li> <li>Radio placements;</li> <li>Newspaper placements;</li> <li>Mailouts;</li> <li>Internet;</li> <li>Websites; and</li> <li>Any other placements?</li> </ol> <p>On what dates were the individual campaigns identified in the answers to the questions above referred to the Ministerial Committee on Government Communication (MCGC) for approval and on what dates were the necessary approvals granted?</p> <p>For campaigns that have already been completed, on what date did the campaigns start and on what date did they finish?</p> <p>For campaigns that are currently in progress, on what date did the campaigns start and on what date did they finish?</p> <p>For campaigns that are yet to commence, what is the projected date of commencement and anticipated duration of the campaigns?</p> <p>For each campaign identified in the answers to questions above, what market research, including opinion polling and evaluation following the conclusion of the campaign (if applicable) was undertaken?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have any cost-benefit assessments been done to assess the returns from opinion polls, focus groups or other market research?</li> </ol> <p>For each campaign identified in the answers to the questions above, who was the successful tenderer for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The advertising; and</li> <li>The market research?</li> </ol> <p>Please outline the tender process for each campaign identified in the answers to the questions above including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of tenders received;</li> <li>The timeline from when invitations to tender were issued through to the issue of the tender, including the date on which submissions closed and the date on which the decision on the successful tenderer was made; and</li> <li>On what basis was the tender given?</li> </ol>		
132	ECITA 63	Conroy	<p><b>ABC Audio Books</b></p> <p>Senator CONROY—I think you are about to become aware of some more. Over the last five years, how many times has the production of talking books not lost money?</p> <p>Mr Scott—I do not have that detail in front of me but I can get that to you on notice.</p>	ABC	07/09/07
133	ECITA 65	Conroy	<p><b>ABC Commercial</b></p> <p>Senator CONROY—The division made a loss, it is being</p>	ABC	18/02/08

QoN No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/Agency	Date Rec'd
			closed down, and there are possible redundancies? Mr Scott—It is too early to say yet. We are looking at alternatives. But it had been losing money. Senator CONROY—Are we talking \$10,000, \$50,000, \$100,000? Mr Scott—No, more than that. I can get the detail to you.		
134	ECITA 71	Fierravanti -Wells	<b>FOIs</b> Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—Can you take on notice the number of FOIs and the nature of those requests that the ABC has? Mr Scott—Absolutely. I am happy to do that for you.	ABC	07/09/07
135	ECITA 72	Fierravanti -Wells	<b>ABC Legal Services</b> Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—.....I noticed from your annual report that ABC Legal Services provided a comprehensive range of legal support, including a 24-hour prepublication advice. But I also note that you also have quite a substantial legal costs bill. Could you break that down for me and in particular include, if you can, some details of where those legal costs may have been incurred. I would be particularly interested to see if my friends at <i>The Chaser</i> have been responsible for any of this. Mr Scott—I would not have thought there would be too much of that. I can get the details for you.	ABC	07/09/07
136	ECITA 74	Wortley	<b>Automated Monitoring Boxes</b> Senator WORTLEY—I have one last question on that topic. How many of these automated monitoring boxes are placed on ABC premises? Mr Scott—We would have to check on that and get back to you.	ABC	07/09/07
137	ECITA 74/75	Wortley	<b>Local Radio Staffing</b> Senator WORTLEY—I would like to move on to local radio online staff positions. How many online producer positions have been allocated and approved? Mr Scott—I would have to check on that and come back to you. Senator WORTLEY—Can you do that today and get back to us today? Mr Scott—I will see what I can do on that. It should not take us a long time to get hold of that detail for you. Can I say we are delighted with what those positions are offering up in terms of service, not just to ABC local radio but to the backyard sites on the back of those as well. Senator WORTLEY—Do you know how many of those positions have actually been filled by permanent staff? Mr Scott—We would have to check on that for you. Senator WORTLEY—You do not have those figures? Mr Scott—No, I do not have them. Senator WORTLEY—Would anyone here have those figures? Mr Scott—I do not think so. Senator WORTLEY—Is it possible to get back just after dinner? Mr Scott—We can see if we can get hold of them for you.	ABC	07/09/07
138	ECITA 78	Conroy	<b>Advertising on Countdown Site</b> Senator CONROY—What sort of advertising did you accept on the site? Mr Scott—I do not have the details of that and I do not have the site up in front of me. We can check on that and let you know who advertised on the site and give you the details. Senator CONROY—Were there any constraints on who advertised on the site or did you just take anybody's money?	ABC	07/09/07 + 1 attach't

QoN No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/Agency	Date Rec'd
			Mr Scott—I will have to check on that.		
139	ECITA 80/81	Conroy	<p><b>Commercial Arrangement - Countdown Spectacular</b>  Senator CONROY—In relation to the <i>Countdown Spectacular</i> concerts, can you tell us what the commercial partnership arrangements are with the promoters?  Mr Scott—Can I get back to you on that? I do not have that detail.  Senator CONROY—Yes. The licensing work?  Mr Scott—Yes, I am happy to provide it.  Senator CONROY—Whatever arrangement you have and what your income streams are; I am just interested in them?  Mr Scott—Certainly. Yes, that is fine.</p>	ABC	11/09/07
140	ECITA 85	Fierravanti -Wells	<p><b>Editorial Guidelines</b>  Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—The important thing about your putting guidelines in place is that there are some benchmarks. There are some benchmarks that need to be met. ...  Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—Can you address the sorts of benchmarks in an answer on notice?  Mr Scott—I can outline the work that Mr Chadwick is doing, yes.  Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—That is good, thank you.</p>	ABC	07/09/07
141	ECITA 85/86	Kemp	<p><b>Bias Complaints – Senator Alston</b>  Senator KEMP—... There was a very famous case which I think Murray Green will be very familiar with. There were complaints by Senator Alston in relation to matters of bias. There were 43 complaints, is that right? I think 16 were ultimately, after a somewhat tortuous road—  Mr Green—Originally 68.  Senator KEMP—Yes, there were 68 complaints. How many were finally upheld as a result of that?  Mr Green—It went through a number of iterations.  Senator KEMP—We are all aware of that.  Mr Green—It ended with ACMA finding four—  Senator KEMP—There were slightly more than that, from memory. Seeing these were serious breaches of the code, I wonder whether Mr Scott can tell us what happened to the journalists involved.  Mr Scott—I would have to take that on notice. That was some years ago and well and truly predates me at the ABC.  Senator KEMP—Mr Green might know because he was very much involved with all of that.  Mr Green—The presenter of the program at the time is no longer working with us. The other two matters that were raised I would have to get back to you on.</p>	ABC	07/09/07
142	ECITA 87	Wortley	<p><b>Training of Program Producers</b>  Senator WORTLEY—What training is being provided for these program producers before they provide written material online?  Mr Scott—I would have to check on that specific, but I know that in our newsrooms training at all those levels is, in fact, provided. But if you have any specifics that you want to raise with me, I am happy to do so.  Senator WORTLEY—I would be happy to receive that information from you regarding the training that is being provided to these program producers who are required to provide online content.  Mr Scott—Just for our news site or other sites as well?  Senator WORTLEY—Specifically relating to news and features.  Mr Scott—Yes....</p>	ABC	07/09/07

QoN No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/Agency	Date Rec'd
			<p>Senator WORTLEY—The other thing I would like to know, and you may have the answer to this now—if you do not perhaps you can find out—is this: when these people were employed as program producers were they told at the time that they were going to be required to provide online content?</p> <p>Mr Scott—I will come back to you on that.</p>		
143	ECITA 87	Wortley	<p><b>Staffing Figures</b></p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—...Just a general question: how many journalists and production staff are currently employed on a fulltime ongoing basis? How many are employed on fixed-term contracts and how many were employed as casuals against permanent positions?</p> <p>Mr Scott—We will have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—Can you also provide the information state by state and include the territories in that?</p> <p>Mr Scott—Okay.</p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—We sought that information two years ago, I think it was, so an update on that. Also, could you provide a breakdown for each of the regional sites and include their point level?</p> <p>Mr Scott—For the regional?</p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—The regional sites.</p> <p>CHAIR—The point level?</p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—The point level, yes, the band point level.</p> <p>Mr Scott—Right.</p>	ABC	07/09/07 + 1 attach't
144	ECITA 87/88	Wortley	<p><b>Staffing under RPI</b></p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—...The next question again relates to the regions: how many city based ABC staff, either permanent or casual, are being paid fully or in part from funds made available under the regional production initiative?</p> <p>Mr Scott—We will check that out and come back to you.</p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—Yes, because my understanding was that that was supposed to be for the regions and—</p> <p>Mr Pendleton—How many of the regional staff?</p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—...But how many city based ABC staff, either permanent or casual, are being paid fully or in part from funds that were dedicated from the regional production initiative? You would not know?</p> <p>Mr Pendleton—I would not know it now and it changes all the time.</p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—Just while you are getting those figures, I think in the annual report 70 people were put down as being rural reporters.</p> <p>Mr Pendleton—Yes.</p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—If that is correct, or if—</p> <p>Mr Scott—We will be able to check the details on that for you.</p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—Yes. Would you be able to find out how many of the people employed in those 70 positions are permanent and how many are employed on a casual or short-term contract basis?</p>	ABC	18/02/08
145	ECITA 88 X-Ref tabled	Webber	<p><b>WA Regional Weather Reports on ABC Radio</b></p> <p>Senator WEBBER—...I have been contacted by a number of constituents because they are concerned about the recent decision to cut the amount of time. It has gone from six minutes twice during a morning broadcast to a two-minute one. So they are not getting the detailed regional information that they used to get. You may need to take these on notice</p>	ABC	18/02/08



QoN No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/Agency	Date Rec'd
			as to when the decision was made. <b>Mr Scott</b> —Yes. We can come back to you on that.		
146	ECITA 90	Conroy	<b>Cost of Producing Drama</b> Senator CONROY—Can you tell me what has been the increase in the cost of producing drama between 1995 or 1996 and now? <b>Mr Scott</b> —I will certainly have to take that on notice.	ABC	18/02/08
147	ECITA 90/91	Conroy	<b>Drama Budget</b> Senator CONROY—...I want to know what your spend is as opposed to a projected leverage or number of hours. <b>Mr Scott</b> —We are contributing \$22 million to these productions this year—\$10 million from the fund and additional money on top of that. Senator CONROY—Can I get details of the breakdown? <b>Mr Scott</b> —I can get details of the breakdown. Senator CONROY—Yes. In answer to question on notice 30 in October-November 2005 you reported spending per calendar year on drama in 2000 at \$22.7 million; in 2004 it was \$5.44 million. Can I get the figure of your dollar spends, as opposed to leveraged outcomes or hours, for 2005-06 and what your projected spend is for 2007-08? <b>Mr Scott</b> —Yes. I do not have the details in that form. Senator CONROY—I am happy for you to take that on notice. ... Senator CONROY—When you give me those 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008 projections, could you break them down with the base and the tied funding that you have just received? <b>Mr Scott</b> —Yes, fine.	ABC	18/02/08
148	ECITA 91	Conroy	<b>Licence Fees – ABC Programs</b> Senator CONROY—...In answer to question on notice 33, again in October 2005, the ABC reported that over the previous six years licence fees for non-ABC produced programs had increased. Can you tell me how much the licence fees have increased by since 1995-96? I am happy for you to take that on notice. <b>Mr Scott</b> —Yes. Senator CONROY—And can you tell me whether the ABC received any additional funding to offset the increase in licence fees during that time? Again in answer to question on notice 33 in October 2005—	ABC	18/02/08
149	ECITA 91	Conroy	<b>Decline in ABC First Run Programs</b> Senator CONROY—...Can you tell me how great the decline of first-run programs at the ABC has been since 1995-96? For example, what has happened to first-run drama in hours and what has happened to documentaries in hours? Also, was this reduction in drama and documentaries driven by, for instance, budgetary constraints or programming decisions? You can take that on notice. <b>Mr Scott</b> —Yes.	ABC	18/02/08
150	ECITA 91/92	Conroy	<b>Repeat Programming</b> Senator CONROY—In October 2005, again, the ABC reported that its ability to increase the level of unduplicated broadcast hours and initiate innovative content and localism had been constrained—that is, that it has to repeat more programs more often. Could you tell me why that is? Is that still the case and, if so, why? <b>Mr Scott</b> —I can come back to you with that. ... Senator CONROY—Can you tell me what statistical measures are available that demonstrate that constraint over the period 1995-96 to now? <b>Mr Scott</b> —Yes.	ABC	18/02/08

QoN No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/Agency	Date Rec'd
151	ECITA 96	Ronaldson	<p><b>Maintenance of Programming Balance</b>  Senator RONALDSON—I would like to go back again to the issue that Senator Conroy raised. Your response—probably not unreasonably in a political sense—was that over a period of time there might be a high-audience time slot where a view was made that it was not impartial and it was biased, and that might be addressed at a later stage. But they are not the same rules for non-political bodies or non-political discussions. I want to get a response from you—and you offered to give one before—as to what percentage of these acknowledgements are actually put in a context where the same viewing or listening audience that may have heard the original lack of impartiality, or lack of balance, would have been accessing the acknowledgement, however that was delivered?  Mr Scott—We can do that.</p>	ABC	07/09/07
152	ECITA 98	Ronaldson	<p><b>Religion Report – Interview with Lenny Brenner</b>  Senator RONALDSON—I take it from that that the decision was made that there had been a breach of editorial policies and the matter needed to be addressed?  Mr Scott—I do not have the precise wording there, because breach of editorial policies is a formal finding. I think our radio executive reviewed the programs as they had finally been aired, and not as they had been planned, reviewed those transcripts and decided that it would be appropriate to put further voices to air.  Senator RONALDSON—I am not actually attacking the decision to review it.  Mr Scott—No, I appreciate that.  Senator RONALDSON—But what I am putting to you is that it was viewed as not being balanced and it needed to be balanced. Therefore, if that was the situation, it was in breach of editorial policy, so what action was taken in relation to Mr Crittenden?  Mr Scott—I do not have advice on that. That is why I am not being precise in my answer to you on that.  Senator RONALDSON—Do you want to take that on notice?  Mr Scott—Yes, I can take that on notice.</p>	ABC	07/09/07
153	ECITA 98/99	Ronaldson	<p><b>Sacred Site Website</b>  Senator RONALDSON—Is the Sacred Site an ABC sponsored website?  Mr Scott—An ABC website? I will need to check that. ...  Senator RONALDSON—Can I just ask you to have a look at this document, please? ...  Mr Scott—I have not seen this before. It would appear to be a page from the <i>Compass</i> website, but I have not seen it before and I would like to investigate it further.  Senator RONALDSON—Sure.</p>	ABC	07/09/07
154	ECITA 100	Conroy	<p><b>Production Figures</b>  Senator CONROY—Compared to the 1995-96 period, can you tell me what proportion of TV production, in hours and dollars—other than news and current affairs programming and <i>Rage</i>—is now fully ABC produced, coproduced or fully externally produced?  Mr Scott—We will do our best.  Senator CONROY—Take that on notice?  Mr Scott—Yes.</p>	ABC	18/02/08
155	ECITA 103	Conroy	<p><b>News Radio Programming</b>  Senator CONROY—Is it true that News Radio has recently decided to increase the transmission of BBC programming</p>	ABC	18/02/08

QoN No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/Agency	Date Rec'd
			<p>on News Radio on weekends and at other times?            Mr Scott—I would have to check that.            Senator CONROY—How many hours of BBC material and other non-Australian content are broadcast on News Radio?            Mr Scott—I will take that on notice.            Senator CONROY—Has this amount of BBC and other non-Australian material being broadcast changed in the past five years?            Mr Scott—I will have to check that.            Senator CONROY—...I am just looking for an hour-on-hour comparison. Has a decision been made to increase that?            Mr Scott—I will get back to you on that.</p>		
156	ECITA 105	Conroy/ Eggleston	<p><b>Rollout of News Radio</b>            Senator CONROY—When do you start rollout?            Mr Pendleton—October/November is when it starts. They are pretty much running or aiming for three a month and running right through until the 74 services are done. ....            CHAIR—I am interested in that. Is it possible for you to table a list of all 74 stations?            Mr Pendleton—Certainly, yes.            CHAIR—Thank you. While Senator Conroy is having a discussion, how many of these stations are in Western Australia?            Mr Pendleton—I might have to take that on notice.</p>	ABC	18/02/08
157	ECITA 105/6	Kemp	<p><b>News Radio Content</b>            Senator KEMP—How much of the content is foreign—tapes from the BBC and Deutsche Welle Radio?            Mr Scott—On digital radio?            Senator KEMP—On News Radio.            Mr Scott—The senator asked for the percentage of that, and I just want to come back and look at that. ...We will get the precise percentages....            CHAIR—But you also, apart from the BBC, have Deutsche Welle, Radio Netherlands and US public radio?            Mr Scott—That is right. Yes, and National Public Radio.            CHAIR—I think you have Radio Canada at times, do you not?            Mr Scott—Yes. We mix it up, but on the weekend there is a lot more of the BBC stuff.            CHAIR—If you are going to tell us the percentage for the BBC, could you add in the others as well?            Mr Scott—Absolutely.</p>	ABC	07/09/07
158	ECITA 106	Conroy	<p><b>Staffing for Digital Services</b>            Senator CONROY—...How many staff are currently engaged in preparing and implementing ABC digital services?            Mr Scott—I would have to check.            Senator CONROY—Can you take that on notice?            Mr Scott—Yes.</p>	ABC	18/02/08
159	ECITA 107	Conroy	<p><b>Complaints of Bias to ABC Board and Executive</b>            Senator CONROY—...Can you tell me how many complaints about editorial performance or complaints about bias were received in the last two years by board members, the managing director, executive directors or the program makers? Perhaps you can take that on notice.            Mr Scott—Perhaps I had better.</p>	ABC	18/02/08
160	ECITA 108	Conroy	<p><b>Complaints received through Estimates Process</b>            Senator CONROY—Have any complaints that have come through Senate estimates resulted in an investigation into or a change in the editorial position of the ABC? ...            Mr Green—We will have to take that on notice.</p>	ABC	07/09/07

QoN No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/Agency	Date Rec'd
161	ECITA 109	Conroy	<p><b>Changes to Annual Reporting</b>  Senator CONROY—It would appear that the 2006 annual report does not contain information that it has in previous years, comparing the ABC's operational appropriation in real terms with 1985-86, the high point of ABC funding. Why is this information no longer included and presented in an accessible way for the public in the 2006 report?  Mr Pendleton—We did not include that in the most recent annual report. It was data that we had been running to encourage a review of the adequacy of our funding, which we had been calling for for some time. That review has now been undertaken and the issue in our minds has been addressed, so we have moved on.  Senator CONROY—I would have thought that would have been a very positive comparison, then, to have had in the 2006 report?  Mr Pendleton—It probably would have.  Senator CONROY—Can you tell me whose decision it was to remove this information from the 2006 report?  Mr Pendleton—I would have to take that on notice.</p>	ABC	07/09/07
162	ECITA 109	Conroy	<p><b>ABC Appropriation - Comparison</b>  Senator CONROY—Can you tell me what the ABC's operational appropriation figures are for this year in real terms compared with 1985-86? You have got to produce it anyway. What is this year's figure?  Mr Pendleton—For the current appropriation?  Senator CONROY—I am asking for the ABC's operational appropriation figures for this year in real terms compared with 1985-86—in other words, if you actually put it on the table and add this year's.  Mr Pendleton—I have not got that. I will have to take that on notice.</p>	ABC	18/02/08
163	ECITA 111	Conroy	<p><b>Complaints about <i>The Glasshouse</i> by Government</b>  Senator CONROY—In response to No. 115, the ABC states that its records indicate it has received five written complaints about <i>The Glasshouse</i> by Liberal and National party politicians and that five questions have been asked on notice since 2004 by Liberal and National party senators. ... Who are the five Liberal and National politicians? ...  Mr Scott—I would have to take that on notice.</p>	ABC	18/02/08
164	ECITA 112	Conroy	<p><b>Outside Broadcast Vans</b>  Senator CONROY—What is the cost of hiring an OB van?  Mr Pendleton—I would have to take that on notice.</p>	ABC	07/09/07
165	ECITA 113	Conroy	<p><b>Details of Unspent Funds</b>  Senator CONROY—For Outcome 1, informed, educated and entertained audiences, and output 1.1, distinctive radio programs, can you provide the unspent funds against the 2006-07 budget, including 2006-07 additional estimates and Bill Nos 5 and 6 funding requests? I would like to find out what the unspent funds were.  Mr Pendleton—Unspent funds? What are you reading from?  Senator CONROY—My question.  Mr Scott—Are you quoting from a document?  Mr Pendleton—From the PBS?  Senator CONROY—I am presuming this is from the PBS.  Mr Pendleton—Portfolio budget statement?  Senator CONROY—Yes. I am after your unspent funds against the 2006-07 budget, including the 2006-07 additional estimates and Bill Nos 5 and 6 funding requests. Does that make sense?  Mr Pendleton—I know what the PAES numbers were and</p>	ABC	18/02/08

QoN No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/Agency	Date Rec'd
			<p>what the recently announced budget is.  Senator CONROY—I am looking for the unspent funds.  Mr Pendleton—Any unspent funds within the 2006-07 appropriation are pretty minor. They are either capital in nature—  Senator CONROY—I am happy for you to take it on notice.  Mr Pendleton—I appreciate that.  Senator CONROY—I would also like the unspent funds for output 1.2, television programs of wide appeal, against the 2006-07 budget, including, again, the additional estimates and Bill Nos 5 and 6 funding requests. That is outputs 1, 1.1 and 1.2.  Mr Pendleton—Do you want them as at today, given that we are still within the current financial year?  Senator CONROY—Today or whatever day you are doing them up.  Mr Pendleton—What we are forecasting that to be?  Senator CONROY—Yes, and the same for output 1.3, outcome 2, output 2.1, outcome 3 and output 3.1.  Mr Pendleton—Outcomes 2 and 3 for the analogue and digital transmission are tied funds. Any unspent funds are just returned.  Senator CONROY—Could you indicate whether these unspent amounts will lapse at the end of the financial year or be rephased or reallocated across the forward estimates and indicate the revised funding profile?  Mr Pendleton—With outcome 2 if there is any—  Senator CONROY—I am happy for you to take that on notice</p>		
166	Tabled	Conroy	<p><b>ABC Budget</b>  For <b>Outcome 1</b> (<i>informed, educated and entertained audiences</i>), <b>Output 1.1</b> (<i>distinctive radio programs</i>) provide the unspent funds against the 2006-07 budget (including 2006-07 additional estimates and Bill 5 and 6 funding requests.)  For <b>Output 1.2</b> (<i>television programs of wide appeal</i>) provide the unspent funds against the 2006-07 budget (including 2006-07 additional estimates and Bill 5 and 6 funding requests.)  For <b>Outcome 1.3</b> (<i>new media services including internet and broadband</i>) provide the unspent funds against the 2006-07 budget (including 2006-07 additional estimates and Bill 5 and 6 funding requests.)  For <b>Outcome 2</b> (<i>maintain scale and quality of satellite and analog radio and television services</i>), <b>Output 2.1</b> (<i>ABC satellite and analog terrestrial services</i>) provide the unspent funds against the 2006-07 budget (including 2006-07 additional estimates and Bill 5 and 6 funding requests.)  For <b>Outcome 3</b> (<i>access to ABC digital television services</i>) <b>Output 3.1</b> (<i>implement the roll out of digital television</i>) provide the unspent funds against the 2006-07 budget (including 2006-07 additional estimates and Bill 5 and 6 funding requests.)  Indicate whether these unspent amounts will lapse at the end of the financial year or be rephased or be reallocated across the forward estimates. Indicate the revised funding profile.  On the basis of current projections list the ten biggest expected underspends (appropriately described) against the 2006-07 budget (including 2006-07 additional estimates and Bill 5 and 6 funding requests)  Indicate whether these amounts will lapse at the end of the</p>	ABC	18/02/08

QoN No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/Agency	Date Rec'd
			<p>financial year or be rephased or be reallocated and indicate the revised funding profile.</p> <p>What transfers of more than \$5m in any one year were made from administered to departmental expenses and from departmental to administered expenses over the past two complete financial years?</p> <p>What is the position in 2006-07?</p>		
167	Tabled	Conroy	<p><b>Crosby Textor</b></p> <p>Has Crosby Textor undertaken any services for the ABC such as market research, public opinion polling, strategic counsel, campaign and communications services, or any other services?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If so, what were they?</li> <li>When were they undertaken?</li> <li>What was the cost?</li> <li>Was a report produced?</li> <li>If so, would you please table the report?</li> </ol> <p>Is Crosby Textor undertaking any services for the ABC such as market research, public opinion polling, strategic counsel, campaign and communications services, or any other services?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If so, what are they?</li> <li>When did they begin?</li> <li>Is a report to be produced?</li> <li>What is the agreed cost?</li> </ol> <p>Is Crosby Textor in contract negotiations with the ABC to provide market research, public opinion polling, strategic counsel, campaign and communications services, or any other services?</p>	ABC	07/09/07
168	Tabled	Conroy	<p><b>Government Advertising Campaigns</b></p> <p>What sum, as a total figure, was spent, or will be spent, on advertising campaigns in:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2006-2007; and</li> <li>2007-2008?</li> </ol> <p>Identifying each campaign by name, what sum was spent on each advertising campaign that forms the basis of the total figure given to the above question in:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2006-2007; and</li> <li>2007-2008?</li> </ol> <p>What was the purpose of the advertising campaigns?</p> <p>What was the total estimated budget and breakdown of campaign costs, including market and other research, creative, pre-production, production and media purchasing for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Television (TV) placements;</li> <li>Radio placements;</li> <li>Newspaper placements;</li> <li>Mailouts;</li> <li>Internet;</li> <li>Websites; and</li> <li>Any other placements?</li> </ol> <p>On what dates were the individual campaigns identified in the answers to the questions above referred to the Ministerial Committee on Government Communication (MCGC) for approval and on what dates were the necessary approvals</p>	ABC	07/09/07

QoN No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/Agency	Date Rec'd
			<p>granted?</p> <p>For campaigns that have already been completed, on what date did the campaigns start and on what date did they finish?</p> <p>For campaigns that are currently in progress, on what date did the campaigns start and on what date did they finish?</p> <p>For campaigns that are yet to commence, what is the projected date of commencement and anticipated duration of the campaigns?</p> <p>For each campaign identified in the answers to questions above, what market research, including opinion polling and evaluation following the conclusion of the campaign (if applicable) was undertaken?</p> <p>a. Have any cost-benefit assessments been done to assess the returns from opinion polls, focus groups or other market research?</p> <p>For each campaign identified in the answers to the questions above, who was the successful tenderer for:</p> <p>a. The advertising; and</p> <p>b. The market research?</p> <p>Please outline the tender process for each campaign identified in the answers to the questions above including:</p> <p>a. The number of tenders received;</p> <p>b. The timeline from when invitations to tender were issued through to the issue of the tender, including the date on which submissions closed and the date on which the decision on the successful tenderer was made; and</p> <p>c. On what basis was the tender given?</p>		
169	Tabled	Campbell	<p><b>Cutbacks in News Bureau staff</b></p> <p>How many positions have been cut from international bureaus over the past 11 years?</p> <p>Has the cutback reduced the ability of NC to report on world events?</p> <p>Has this been driven by a desire to change editorial direction or as a cost saving measure?</p> <p>Does the ABC now rely more on other news organisations for their stories?</p>	ABC	07/09/07
170	Tabled	Campbell	<p><b>Forms of Employment</b></p> <p>Is there a deliberate policy of casualising the ABC workforce?</p> <p>How many ongoing, casual and fixed term employees have been employed in each year since 1995/96?</p>	ABC	18/02/08
171	Tabled	Campbell	<p><b>Learning</b></p> <p>What has been the expenditure on salaries and overheads for the ABC Learning Department for the past 5 years?</p> <p>What performance standards have been set for the Dept against which its performance could be measured?</p> <p>Has the division met those performance standards and in which areas has it failed to meet those standards?</p> <p>Did this failure result in the ABC undertakings a review of the learning function?</p> <p>Who undertook the review?</p> <p>What process was used to select the consultant to undertake the review?</p> <p>What the cost of the Learning Review</p> <p>Has this report released and if not, why not?</p> <p>What were the key recommendations of that review?</p>	ABC	18/02/08

QoN No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/Agency	Date Rec'd
			Does the ABC Executive endorse the recommendations of that review? If not why not?		
172	Tabled	Campbell	<p><b>Performance against Training Targets</b>  In answer to QON 154 in SE May 2006, the ABC reported the monies it had spent on training activities per division. What criteria or definitions are applied to determine whether an activity is actually a training or learning activity? Has an audit ever been conducted of the training expense to ensure that the activities described as training are in fact training? (There are stories about managers being forced to write off downtime as a training expense)</p>	ABC	07/09/07
173	Tabled	Campbell	<p><b>Local Radio Awards Training</b>  In answer to QON 153 in SE May 2006 the ABC reported that \$69,347 had been spent on travel and accommodation for local training awards. The answer also stated that \$31,677.22 had been spent on the two day training forum. Does this mean that the total cost of the forum was over \$100,000?  Why was the forum treated as a training expenditure?  Was any accredited training undertaken at the forum?  Which of the sessions at the forum had an accredited trainer present?  Am I correct in assuming that the employees invited to the awards were regarded as the better broadcasters?  Why are the better broadcasters being targeted for training at the expense of spending the training budget on less experienced broadcasters who presumably would have a greater need for training?  What was the total expenditure on training in local radio last year?  What is the total training budget for ABC Radio?  How much of this budget was spent last year (or this year if figures are available) on training in each of the networks and how much of this expenditure has been on accredited training?</p>	ABC	07/09/07
174	Tabled	Campbell	<p><b>News room staff</b>  Cadets/trainees: How many journalist cadets/trainees have been employed by the ABC for each year since 1995/96? Has the ABC been dumbing down its newsrooms? Has the ABC decided to change the mix of its journalists by employing more junior journalists?  What was the number of journalists employed by each classification band in 1995/6 and for each year since then? (By either financial year or calendar year, whichever form the ABC maintains its records)</p>	ABC	07/09/07 + 1 attach't
175	Tabled	Campbell	<p><b>Bullying Policy</b>  How many complaints have been dealt with through the anti-bullying policy in the last year?  How many cases were referred to mediators?  What was the total cost of these referrals?  How many cases were formally investigated?  What was the total cost of these investigations?  Which firm does the ABC use to conduct its formal investigations?  Was there a tender process undertaken to select the provider?</p>	ABC	07/09/07
176	Tabled	Webber	<p><b>WA Statewide Regional Radio Regional Weather Reports:</b>  When was the decision made to cut the time of the Western Australian Sunday morning statewide weather report?  Who was directly involved in making this decision?</p>	ABC	07/09/07



QoN No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/Agency	Date Rec'd
			<p>In reference to Mr Alan Sunderland's letter to me of 15 May 2007, why did it become necessary to review the workloads of the journalists who prepare and provide the weather report? Had the journalists concerned complained directly about their workloads?</p> <p>In reference to the same letter, how did the ABC determine that it was "no longer sensible or feasible" for journalists to compile the local weather report?</p> <p>Did the ABC determine the amount of time it took the journalists to compile and provide the local weather report? If so, can this information be made available to the Committee?</p> <p>Did the ABC determine that the amount of time it took journalists to compile and provide the local weather report was negatively impacting on their other work? If so, could details please be provided to the Committee?</p> <p>How did ABC management consult with their staff when making this decision? How many times did management meet with the staff directly responsible for the weather reports and when did these meetings take place?</p> <p>Did the staff support this decision taken by management? What measures are being taken by the ABC to ensure that this decision does not reduce the amount of information provided to ABC listeners in regional Western Australia?</p>		
177	Tabled	Fierravanti-Wells	<p><b>ALP Candidates</b></p> <p>What date did Ms McKew resign from the ABC? What entitlements was she paid when she left the ABC? Did she have leave and was she paid out any leave when she left?</p> <p>What date did Mr Bailey resign from the ABC? What entitlements was he paid when he left the ABC? Did he have leave and was he paid out any leave when he left?</p>	ABC	07/09/07
178	Tabled	Fierravanti-Wells	<p><b>ABC Staff and Politics</b></p> <p>In evidence Mr Scott made reference to a series of persons who entered politics but had previously or subsequently worked at the ABC. Please provide details regarding the following persons' employment, consultancy or other engagement/arrangement at the ABC:</p> <p>Mike Bailey  Ian Baker  Jim Bonner  John Bowler  Alan Carpenter  Bob Carr  Peter Collins  Bob Debus  Mary Delahunty  Pru Goward  Gary Hardgrave  Clare Martin  Barbara McCarthy  Maxine McKew  Neville Oliver  Diana Warnock</p> <p>Please advise the period/s of time that they worked at the ABC, the section/s in which they worked and their responsibilities at the ABC.</p>	ABC	07/09/07
179	Tabled	Fierravanti-Wells	<p><b>'Cooling Off' Period</b></p> <p>During the hearing I made reference to a "cooling-off" period. Has the ABC given consideration to some cooling off period for its staff before they go into politics? Say of at least 2 years?</p>	ABC	07/09/07

QoN No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/Agency	Date Rec'd
			Given the importance of the need for balance and the perception of no bias at the ABC, and in light of recent controversy on this issue, surely this is now a necessary amendment to your legislation? What action, if any, has the ABC given to this consideration. If not, why not?		
180	Tabled	Fierravanti -Wells	<b>ABC – Anti IR Campaign</b> Since the introduction of <i>Workchoices</i> , the <i>7.30 Report</i> has run almost 50 stories covering industrial relations issues, mostly with an anti-Howard Government slant. This has also been the case with other programs such as <i>Lateline</i> , <i>AM</i> and <i>PM</i> . How can the ABC maintain that it is not running an active campaign?	ABC	07/09/07
181	Tabled	Fierravanti -Wells	<b>Employment Conditions – Mr Kerry O’Brien</b> In relation to Mr Kerry O'Brien on the <i>7.30 Report</i> , please provide an outline of the conditions of his workplace agreement including the periods of time he is required to work or be on air and his salary level.	ABC	07/09/07
182	Tabled	Fierravanti -Wells	<b>Workplace relations at the ABC</b> I envisage that many people at the ABC have been on packages involving workplace agreements with ABC management before <i>Workchoices</i> was introduced. Surely there is an anomaly in the ABC preaching to the public over the possible negative impacts of <i>Workchoices</i> when the ABC's own staff is free to negotiate their own workplace agreements? How many people are on workplace agreements at the ABC? Your 2005-06 Annual Report refers to fixed-term contracts (p.51). How many fixed term contracts are there at the ABC? Please provide a full breakdown of all staff and an outline of the nature and category of its employees incl. the nature of the agreement, salary levels, pay rates, conditions attached to those agreements.	ABC	07/09/07 + 1 attach't
183	Tabled	Fierravanti -Wells	<b>Use of Recruitment Companies</b> The 2005/06 annual report refers to the use of recruitment services companies of over \$500,000. Please provide details of the nature of the services provided.	ABC	07/09/07
184	Tabled	Fierravanti -Wells	<b>Use of Consultants</b> The 2005/06 Annual Report refers to \$2.4 million spent in the usage of consultants. Please provide details of each of these consultancies. The expenditure on consultants is in addition to the almost \$287 million in wages and salaries. What do these consultants do that your ABC employees cannot do?	ABC	07/09/07
185	Tabled	Fierravanti -Wells	<b>TV Production</b> A major concern is that in 2006 the Federal Government made \$30m available over three (3) years for Australian production. Will this money be wasted on the ABC's bloated bureaucracy, high production overheads and low productivity in house production? What steps has the ABC taken to consolidate and maximise its effectiveness? What percentage of the ABC's TV Budget is taken up with costs for maintaining its internal production and human resources costs? Are Television Producers and production staff maintained on the ABC payroll whilst not fully engaged in production activity? Why aren't such personnel engaged on more flexible arrangements such as a fixed term contracts for the duration	ABC	07/09/07

QoN No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/Agency	Date Rec'd
			<p>of the program?</p> <p>Is this group referred to as the Producers Pool?</p> <p>Is the Producer's Pool an agreed industrial arrangement with the CPSU and prior to that the ABC Staff Association?</p> <p>The Government has provided the ABC with \$10M for three (3) years for first release Australian production. Are Producers not currently directly engaged in making television product being funded from the \$30M?</p> <p>Why have ABC Television and Human Resources managements areas allowed such unproductive work practices to exist?</p> <p>Is it true that the Producers Pool has existed since the early 1980s? Did it exist as far back as the 1970s?</p> <p>What does the ABC intend to do to reduce this surplus and increase the level of Australian first release programming?</p> <p>Does the ABC need additional support from Government for redundancy if the ABC if there is surplus personnel?</p> <p>Could you guarantee that such additional support would lead to more Australian made programmes being commissioned by the ABC?</p>		
186	Tabled	Fierravanti -Wells	<p><b>Rippon Lea</b></p> <p>What progress has been made on the sale of the Rippon Lea site in Melbourne?</p> <p>Do you intend the replace the Rippon Lea Television production facilities at Southbank? – If so, why is the ABC making a capital investment in what will be under utilised production facilities? Would the money not be better spent by engaging the market and contracting independent production facilities which can compete to provide the ABC with studios and personnel?</p>	ABC	07/09/07
187	Tabled	Fierravanti -Wells	<p><b>Legal Costs</b></p> <p>Further to the question regarding the 24-hour legal services provided within the ABC, please provide details of the nature of the "comprehensive range of legal support to the Corporation, including pre-publication advice on a 24-hours, Australia-wide basis to all divisions ..." incl. details of the sort of legal support given.</p> <p>I note the legal costs of \$2.6 million in the 2005/06 annual report. Please provide a breakdown of these costs including details of any litigation etc.</p> <p>Given the "comprehensive range of legal support to the Corporation, including pre-publication advice on a 24-hours, Australia-wide basis to all divisions ..." why then does the ABC have such a high legal costs bill?</p>	ABC	07/09/07
188	Tabled	Fierravanti -Wells	<p><b>Independent Australian Jewish Voices</b></p> <p>I refer to correspondence forwarded to the ABC on this issue, including from Mr Michael Danby MP and Professor Kirsner questioning the professionalism of Ms Emma Alberici and Tony Eastley and the ABC regarding the reporting of a petition launched by the Independent Australian Jewish Voices.</p> <p>Why did the ABC fail to provide balanced coverage of a counter-petition co-launched by Prof. Kirsner and which had been given other media coverage?</p>	ABC	07/09/07
189	Tabled	Fierravanti -Wells	<p><b>Usage of language such as "It is understood", "It's understood" etc.</b></p> <p>A search of News on the ABC site reveals the phrase, "It is understood" or "It's understood", and "It is believed" or "It's believed" to have been used thousands of times. Who "understood" and who "believed"?</p> <p>What section of the ABC News charter allows the use of</p>	ABC	07/09/07

QoN No	Hansard ref.	Senator	Question	Division/Agency	Date Rec'd
			anonymous sources with hide-all passive verbs? The ABC's responsibility is to deliver sourced, factual news to us in clear, simple English, not sloppy, lazy, make-it-up "journalism" full of cliches and meaningless adjectives. The credibility of ABC News demands it.		
190	Tabled	Fierravanti -Wells	<b>NSW Election coverage – ABC Illawarra</b> Please provide details of coverage given to local candidates in Illawarra seats, including Independents. Please include details and times that candidates were afforded air-time on ABC Illawarra.	ABC	07/09/07
191	Tabled	Fierravanti -Wells	<b>Occasional breaches</b> In answer to Question 121, the answer is farcical regarding adherence to the style guide. "Our troops" in Iraq resulted in three memos from Mr Cameron and threatening consequences to people. So why have the 1,200 other examples of breaches been dismissed as "occasional"? At an earlier Estimates, Mr Green said 150 breaches over 6 months would constitute a matter for concern. Why is 1,200 over 3 years not equally a matter for concern? And your contention that this is just a matter of "occasional lapses" is wrong. For instance, Ali Moore on <i>Lateline Business</i> consistently refers to "our market", with the latest example being as recently as this week, on 23 May 2007. Given the large number of similar examples of this breach by Ms Moore tendered at previous Estimates, has she been reminded of the style guide requirements?" In relation to your answer to Question 127, I note that the ABC observed that many Cubans were fearful he wouldn't return, thus taking the left-wing view, rather than saying "many Cubans are hoping he doesn't return". Is this another example of the pro-left culture at the ABC? In relation to your answer to Question 131, is the usual practice to patch up mistakes? Is this common? Please advise of other instances where the ABC has done this.	ABC	07/09/07
192	Tabled	Fierravanti -Wells	<b>Incorrect coverage</b> I refer to the transcript below. Which figure is correct 7,000 or 700,000? How did the programme get something so important, so wrong. As previously asked, what is going wrong with the process of checking on radio current affairs? <i>ELEANOR HALL: There are calls today for stronger public warnings to be made about the risks of investing in property development companies.</i> <i>The Estate Property Group and its fundraising arm Australian Capital Reserve have been placed into voluntary administration, owing about 7,000 investors more than \$300 million.</i> <i>Most of the investors are believed to be older Australians who were lured by the promise of high interest payments and reassured that their investments were backed by real estate.</i> <i>But Ashley Hall reports, that they should have read the fine print.</i> <i>ASHLEY HALL: Investment market watchers say it was just a matter of time before the Estate Property Group and Australian Capital Reserve collapsed, owing more than \$330 million to about 700,000 investors.</i>	ABC	07/09/07
193	ECITA	Conroy	With reference to a third television advertisement that has	Strategic	18/02/08

<b>QoN No</b>	<b>Hansard ref.</b>	<b>Senator</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Division/Agency</b>	<b>Date Rec'd</b>
	121		been produced for the Regional Telecommunications Consumer Information Campaign, "...how much is being spent on that one?"	Development and Regional	
194	ECITA 130	Conroy	Okay. Is there an estimate of how many distribution outlets, roughly, will be covered by the people you are talking to? You must have an estimate of their footprint.	Content and Media	18/02/08
195	ECITA 134	Conroy	Who signs off on your international trips undertaken by you and by your staff?	Corporate and Business	01/08/07
196	ECITA 137/138	Conroy	Are you aware the Warmun community in the Central Kimberley Pilbara region recently lost their ABC signal?... As a result of this failure, and numerous other maintenance issues in the region, Pilbara and Kimberley Aboriginal Media, or PAKAM, made an application to DCITA—which is not part of the ABC—for the repair and maintenance of the broadcasting equipment on behalf of 14 communities to ensure that such failures did not occur. Can you confirm why that funding was refused? ...Can you give the Warmun community an assurance that their radio service will continue uninterrupted if basic repair and maintenance of their broadcast equipment is not provided for?	Content and Media	07/09/07
197	ECITA 138	Conroy	Nyoongar Radio in Western Australia shut its doors last year. Are you aware the closure was a result of a loss of funding of approximately \$50,000 over five years and a number of conditions and demands imposed by DCITA? DCITA met Nyoongar Radio on 25 July 2006 and agreed to a program funding agreement. However, the PFA was not received from DCITA by Nyoongar Radio until the Friday before they closed the doors. Why was that?	Strategic Development and Regional	23/08/07
198	ECITA 138	Conroy	Subsequent to Nyoongar Radio's closure, has any funding been allocated for another community radio service in the region?	Strategic Development and Regional	07/09/07
199	ECITA 144	Conroy	How much has been spent on [Digital Australia] recruitment?	Strategic Development and Regional	18/02/08
200	ECITA 144	Conroy	What is a band 3 position – upper or lower?	Corporate and Business	07/09/07