

**From:** [Janet Fife-Yeomans](#)  
**To:** [Nick Leys](#)  
**Subject:** Re: ABC Legal and Business Affairs  
**Date:** Tuesday, 27 July 2021 8:38:48 AM

---

s 11C

Janet

Sent from my iPhone

On 27 Jul 2021, at 8:23 am, Nick Leys <[Leys.Nick@abc.net.au](mailto:Leys.Nick@abc.net.au)> wrote:

s 11C

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** Janet Fife-Yeomans s 47F  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 8:19:45 AM  
**To:** Nick Leys <[Leys.Nick@abc.net.au](mailto:Leys.Nick@abc.net.au)>  
**Subject:** Re: ABC Legal and Business Affairs

Hi nick

s 11C

Janet

Sent from my iPhone

On 27 Jul 2021, at 7:34 am, Nick Leys <[Leys.Nick@abc.net.au](mailto:Leys.Nick@abc.net.au)> wrote:

s 11C

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** Fife-Yeomans, Janet s 47F  
**Sent:** Monday, July 26, 2021 16:23  
**To:** Nick Leys  
**Subject:** Re: ABC Legal and Business Affairs

Thanks for this  
 Janet

On Mon, 26 Jul 2021 at 15:52, Nick Leys <[Leys.Nick@abc.net.au](mailto:Leys.Nick@abc.net.au)> wrote:

And in response to your other questions:

1. Do these figures for 2020/21 financial year include the Christian Porter case? Yes

2. We take it that the annual expenditure for solicitors and barrister as per point 3 of our request is on top of the expenditure at point 1 as requested? So that would be an extra \$2.595 million on top of the \$7,093 million?  
**This is incorrect - the \$7.093 includes the budget for barristers and solicitors.**

---

**From:** Nick Leys  
**Sent:** Monday, 26 July 2021 3:51 PM  
**To:** Fife-Yeomans, Janet S 47F  
**Subject:** ABC Legal and Business Affairs

Hi Janet,

Please attribute to an ABC spokesman:

The ABC rejects any claim it allocates too many resources, either in staffing or cost, to its legal responsibilities.

Providing high-quality and courageous public interest journalism requires proper legal advice. And there are times when it is critical for the ABC – as for all media organisations – to be able to defend its journalism in the interests of press freedom.

With our colleagues at the Right to Know Coalition (RTK), which includes News Corp and Nine Entertainment, the ABC has continuously called for legislative reforms which could reduce this burden.

The ABC's in-house legal team is highly cost-efficient compared to other media organisations. The ABC employs approximately 26 in-house lawyers across its Legal and Business Affairs teams, a number that has not changed since 2011.

ABC Legal employs both lawyers and non-lawyers, including support staff, to ensure the ABC properly meets its responsibilities across a wide range of areas. These include litigation and disputes; pre-publication and training;

acquisitions and production; and technology, commercial and regulatory functions.

External legal fees vary from year to year but are consistently lower than those of commercial broadcasters.

Regards,

Nick



**Nick Leys**

Head of Communications

Strategy

**M: +61 413 621 484**

---

We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Australians and Traditional Custodians of the lands where we live, learn and work.

--

**JANET FIFE-YEOMANS**

Chief Reporter



2 Holt Street Surry Hills NSW 2010

**Ts 47F**

**Es 47F**

**W** [www.dailytelegraph.com.au](http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au)

Follow us online



---

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land in all states and territories on which we work and report. We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders past, present and emerging, and honour their history, cultures, and traditions of storytelling.

Proudly supporting [1 degree](#). A News Corp Australia initiative.



This message and its attachments may contain legally privileged or confidential information. It is intended solely for the named addressee. If you are not the addressee indicated in this message or responsible for delivery of the message to the addressee, you may not copy or deliver this message or its attachments to anyone. Rather, you should permanently delete this message and its attachments and kindly notify the sender by reply e-mail. Any content of this message and its attachments which does not relate to the official business of the sending

company must be taken not to have been sent or endorsed by that company or any of its related entities. No warranty is made that the e-mail or attachments are free from computer virus or other defect.

This message and its attachments may contain legally privileged or confidential information. It is intended solely for the named addressee. If you are not the addressee indicated in this message or responsible for delivery of the message to the addressee, you may not copy or deliver this message or its attachments to anyone. Rather, you should permanently delete this message and its attachments and kindly notify the sender by reply e-mail. Any content of this message and its attachments which does not relate to the official business of the sending company must be taken not to have been sent or endorsed by that company or any of its related entities. No warranty is made that the e-mail or attachments are free from computer virus or other defect.

This message and its attachments may contain legally privileged or confidential information. It is intended solely for the named addressee. If you are not the addressee indicated in this message or responsible for delivery of the message to the addressee, you may not copy or deliver this message or its attachments to anyone. Rather, you should permanently delete this message and its attachments and kindly notify the sender by reply e-mail. Any content of this message and its attachments which does not relate to the official business of the sending company must be taken not to have been sent or endorsed by that company or any of its related entities. No warranty is made that the e-mail or attachments are free from computer virus or other defect.