





Boyer Lectures

Cover: Chilli Heeler, mother of Australia's favourite dog *Bluey*, featured in this recreation of Max Dupain's famous 'Sunbaker' photograph. (Credit: Ludo)

Inside cover: ABC Chair Ita Buttrose AC OBE with Indigenous leader and 2022 Boyer lecturer Noel Pearson.



22 September 2023

The Hon Michelle Rowland MP
Minister for Communications
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Minister

The Board of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation is pleased to present its Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2023.

The report was prepared pursuant to section 46 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*, in accordance with the requirements of that Act and the *Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983*. It was approved by the Board on 6 September 2023 and provides a comprehensive overview of the ABC's performance and delivery in line with its Charter remit.

In the past year, the ABC marked its 90th anniversary. Australians from all walks of life and from all corners of the country joined with us to celebrate the unique contribution the ABC has made to Australia since our first radio broadcast went to air in July 1932. The anniversary was not only a chance to look back at the people and events that have shaped this country, but it was also an opportunity to look ahead.

In 2023 the ABC continues to play a vital role in keeping Australians informed and entertained, meeting the needs of all Australians, whether that be on our traditional broadcast channels or increasingly on the ABC's digital platforms where demand and growth is strongest.

The ABC has always been a leading innovator in digital media and that continues, with increased investment in our digital screen, audio and online services. This has meant the ABC is well placed to meet the needs of today's audiences and to keep abreast of future trends.

The Government's enhanced funding arrangements which included an increase to base funding, greater funding certainty for specific programs and an expansion of the ABC's services in the Asia Pacific, has enabled the ABC to further deliver on its Charter obligations.

This report details the ABC's achievements over the past 12 months and its delivery on the investment and contribution made by all Australians.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ita Buttrose'.

Ita Buttrose AC OBE
Chair



The Ferrone family in *Back in Time for the Corner Shop*.

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Foreword from the Chair

It has been a memorable year for the ABC. Australians joined in celebrations around the country to mark our 90 years as the national broadcaster. Congratulating the ABC, the Prime Minister said that over the years the ABC had brought us closer together as a nation, adding to our national identity, exposing hard truths, and celebrating triumphs. He described the ABC as one of the mainstays of Australian life and said it has woven so many great strands into the fabric of our nation.

The Prime Minister is right – we have. The ABC has endured because we have always adapted and evolved with the Australian public and the media environment in which we operate. As we move forward in our 91st year we need to ensure that the ABC is valued by all Australians into the future, as much as we have been for more than 90 years.

The world is vastly different to the one that faced us when we made our first wireless broadcast in 1932. Today's media landscape is dominated by the challenges of digital technology. It continues to impact on the way we deliver news, entertainment, information and education. Within five years most of the audience engagement with the ABC will be through our digital products. New strategies that will guide us as we make the transition to a fully integrated digital broadcaster are already underway.

They are included in the ABC's Five-Year Plan that covers the years 2023-28. The new Five-Year Plan, which the Board has unanimously endorsed, is an update on the first Five-Year Plan announced in 2020 and will coincide with the Government's new funding arrangements for the ABC announced in the 2023 Federal Budget. This included both an increase to the ABC's base funding and a commitment to a five-year funding cycle. Some 'specific purpose' funding was also rolled into the base funding providing greater certainty and flexibility for important programs.

The Government has also recognised the increasing importance of the ABC as the independent Australian voice in our region and has increased funding for the ABC's regional activities in the Pacific, Southeast Asia and India. We have moved swiftly and are already achieving substantial success with enhanced newsgathering and innovative programs like *The Pacific*, the flagship pan-Pacific news program for TV and video on demand.

For the successful outcome of the initiatives, we have underway and those yet to come, it is imperative that the ABC has leadership stability which is why the Board approved the extension of David Anderson's position as Managing Director for a further five years, effective from 1 July 2023. He will lead the ABC until 30 June 2028.

The ABC's first ever Arts Week, with the theme 'Art is everywhere', made its debut in August 2022 and celebrated the scale and vibrancy of different art forms around the country. ABC Arts collaborated with arts organisations across Australia to produce special programming that included such things as the music people stream through their headphones on their way to work, murals we walk past on our streets, movies, theatre, even paintings the children bring home from school to adorn many refrigerators. One of the highlights of the week was a fascinating documentary on Jeffrey Smart, one of Australia's greatest 20th century painters.

We welcomed two of Australia's much loved symphony orchestras back to ABC TV. ABC Classic partnered with the Melbourne Sydney Orchestra for a special concert to celebrate the 2023 Classic 100: Your Favourite Instrument, with performances from some of Australia's best classical musicians and artists. We also helped celebrate the Sydney Symphony's 90th anniversary, and the reopening of the Sydney Opera House Concert Hall, with a magnificent concert led by Chief Conductor Simone Young that included the world premiere of First Nation artist William Barton's *Composition of the Earth*. The ABC recorded and broadcast both events live on ABC TV, ABC classic and ABC listen for the enjoyment of hundreds of thousands of Australians. Both concerts were available afterwards on ABC iview for people to enjoy at a time of their choosing.

These are challenging but exciting times. As we negotiate this period of necessary change, we will continue to focus on our core objectives of achieving the highest quality productions and editorial standards in journalism and other content to maintain the trust of the Australian public and sustain our role as an essential contributor to Australian life. We are helped in achieving our goals with the support of our employees who are passionate about public broadcasting, and I thank them and management for their commitment and dedicated work.

It is with a sense of sadness I acknowledge that this is my last Annual Report as ABC Chair as my five-year term, which I have enjoyed, is ending early in 2024. I am truly honoured to have been Chair of this mighty institution.



Ita Buttrose AC OBE

Chair, Australian Broadcasting Corporation

ABC Chair Ita Buttrose and former ABC Pride Chair Manda Hatter leading the ABC Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras 2023 team.



The Board



Ita Buttrose AC OBE

Chair

7 March 2019 – 6 March 2024

Ita Buttrose has held executive and editing roles for major Australian media companies including Australian Consolidated Press, News Ltd and Fairfax, and has run her own media company, Capricorn Publishing. She has served on the boards of Australian Consolidated Press, News Corp Australia, and Television & Telecasters Pty Ltd. (Network TEN). She has worked in print, radio and television and has written 11 books. She was inducted into the Australian Media Hall of Fame in 2017.

A founding member and former president of Chief Executive Women, Ita is a committed community and welfare contributor. She chaired Arthritis Australia from 2003 to 2006 and later Alzheimer's (now Dementia) Australia from 2011 to 2014 and is now Patron of Dementia Australia. She is Patron of Macular Disease Foundation Australia, Emeritus Director of Arthritis Australia and Patron of the Parramatta Powerhouse Museum.

She has been a member of the Sydney Symphony Council since 2010. She is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



Peter Tonagh

Deputy Chair

13 May 2021 – 12 May 2026

Peter Tonagh has a background as a senior executive in large Australian media companies and as a partner of The Boston Consulting Group. More recently, he has a portfolio of roles, including board positions and advisory/mentoring roles with start-up organisations, many of which he was an early investor in.

Peter is the non-executive Chairman of Quantum Group Holdings Pty Limited, Optima Technology Limited and GTN Limited. He is also the Chairman of Bus Stop Films – a not-for-profit organisation supporting inclusion in the film and television industry.

Peter previously worked for News Corporation entities for nearly 14 years in senior executive roles across each of the key Australian businesses, including as Chief Executive Officer of each of Foxtel, REA Group and News Corp Australia.

Before joining the News Corp group, Peter spent 15 years with The Boston Consulting Group, working across Australia and New Zealand and throughout Asia.

Peter holds a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of New South Wales and a Master of Business Administration from INSEAD, Europe's leading business school, where he graduated on the Dean's Merit List. He recently completed the Harvard Business Analytics Programme.



David Anderson

ABC Managing Director

6 May 2019 – 30 June 2028

ABC Managing Director David Anderson has spent more than 30 years in the broadcast television and media industry. Prior to becoming Managing Director, David established himself as a creative leader in television production, responsible for commissioning some of the most successful Australian programs across all genres.

David has played a pivotal role in leading the ABC's transition into a modern digital media organisation, providing trusted on-demand content for the changing needs and expectations of audiences.

As Director of Strategy & Planning, David led the strategy to deliver more of the ABC's funding on content, products and services for audiences.

Prior to his appointment as Managing Director in May 2019, David held the position of Director Entertainment & Specialist. This broad portfolio spans the ABC's broadcast television networks, including on-demand products and services and all associated websites and apps, along with all ABC radio music networks, podcasts and specialist radio content.

David was a board member of Freeview Australia until June 2020 and a board member of Screenrights from 2012 to 2018.



Peter Lewis

Chair of the ABC Audit and Risk Committee

2 October 2014 – 1 October 2024

Peter Lewis is the Chair of McGrath Ltd, a member of the Advisory Board for Anacacia Capital, and an advisor for Gravity Media Group. He previously held board and advisory positions with Dealt Limited, 360 Capital ANI Management, Capitol Health Limited, International Grammar School Sydney, TXA Australia Pty Ltd, Norwest Productions Pty Ltd, Australian News Channel Pty Ltd, B Digital Ltd, Vividwireless Pty Ltd, and Yahoo 7 Australia. He has extensive experience in financial management for media companies and has been the CFO of Seven Network Ltd, Seven Group Holdings Ltd, Seven Media Group, and Seven West Media Ltd.

Peter is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia, a member of the Australian Society of Certified Practising Accountants, and a Fellow of the Governance Institute of Australia. He is Chair of the ABC Audit and Risk Committee.



Georgie Somerset AM

23 Feb 2017 – 22 Feb 2027

Georgie Somerset is a rural industry leader and strategist with a background in regional development across Australia. Based in Queensland's South Burnett, she is actively involved in the operation of the family beef business.

She has board experience across the not-for-profit, government and industry sectors as General President of AgForce Queensland Farmers, Deputy Chair of the Royal Flying Doctor Service (Queensland section), a director of the RFDS Foundation, the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal and the National Farmers' Federation, and as Chair of the Red Earth Community Foundation.

Georgie has served in a range of advisory councils, government review committees and board roles including the National Rural Advisory Council, the Regional Telecommunications Independent Review Committee and the National Foundation for Australian Women.

Georgie is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation and the Institute for Resilient Regions.



Mario D'Orazio

13 May 2021 – 12 May 2026

Mario D'Orazio has more than 40 years' experience in media as a journalist, including print as a reporter and columnist, radio as a producer and talkback presenter, and TV as a reporter, presenter and executive producer of news, current affairs programs and lifestyle programs.

He was managing director of Channel 7 Perth for more than seven years and has wide experience in commercial and not-for-profit boards including government, education and the arts.

He is the current Chair of the National Heart Foundation, the WA Academy of Performing Arts at Edith Cowan University and the Australian Institute of Management WA and is a board member of the Art Gallery of WA Foundation.

Mario chairs the ABC's People and Sustainability committee.



Laura Tingle

Staff-elected director

1 May 2023 – 30 April 2028

Laura Tingle has reported on Australian politics for more than 40 years and has worked for the ABC since 2018, having previously held senior positions in print media. She is the chief political correspondent for 7.30.

She has written four *Quarterly Essays*, won two Walkley Awards, and is President of the National Press Club of Australia.

Retiring Directors



**Joseph
Gersh AM**

11 May 2018 – 10 May 2023

Joe Gersh practised law for 20 years as a senior partner and has had significant business experience with a range of public and private companies. He is currently the founder and Executive Chairman of Gersh Investment Partners Ltd, a specialist real estate investment bank. He is also a director of The Sydney Institute and ASX listed entity Cromwell Property Group (CMW). From 2003–12, he was the inaugural Chair of the Australian Reinsurance Pool Corporation and was a member of the Payments System Board of the Reserve Bank of Australia between 1998 and 2013. Joe has also held numerous board positions in the arts community, including Deputy Chair of the Australia Council.



**Jane
Connors**

Staff-elected director

1 May 2018 – 30 April 2023

Jane Connors has been with the ABC for 30 years. Her previous roles included Executive Producer of the Social History Unit, Manager of Radio National and Head of Industry Policy and Strategy at ABC Radio. She has been a member of the Community and Public Sector Union since 1992. Jane has been an advisor with the Editorial Policies team since 2014. She has a PhD in Australian history and is the author of *Royal Visits to Australia*. She is currently a member of the Advisory Committee for the Centre for Media History at Macquarie University.



**Fiona
Balfour**

13 May 2021 – 31 January 2023

Fiona Balfour has a background in information technology. She has significant expertise in the aviation sector, information and telecommunication services, and distribution and logistics. Her current roles are as an independent non-executive director for Western Sydney Airport Co. and Airtrunk Holding Company Limited and as a nominee director for the Public Sector Investment Board of Canada at each of Land Services South Australia and Land Services Western Australia. Fiona was appointed as an Independent Director of Telstra PM Holdings Pty Ltd in July 2022.

She was the Chief Information Officer and member of the Executive Committee for Qantas Airways from 2001-06. She worked extensively with British Airways and the oneworld group of airlines throughout her many years with the Qantas Group. She was appointed the Chief Information Officer and member of the Senior Leadership Team for Telstra from 2006-07.

Purpose and vision



The ABC's **purpose** is to deliver valued services that reflect and contribute to Australian society, culture and identity.

Its **vision** is to be the home of Australian stories – accessible, bold, creative.

The ABC Strategy, set out in its Five-Year Plan, is supported by five **pillars**:

- Reflect contemporary Australia.
- Build a lifelong relationship with Australians.
- Continue to earn the trust that audiences place in the ABC, safeguarding ABC independence and integrity.
- Provide entertaining, culturally significant, and on-demand content.
- Make sustainable choices in allocating resources.

The Strategy identifies six **priorities** where the ABC will focus its efforts:

- Deliver personalised digital experiences.
- Remain Australia's best and most trusted source of news and information.
- Strengthen local connections.
- Prioritise quality over quantity.
- Invest in the workforce of the future.
- Be innovative, flexible, efficient, and accountable.

(On 9 June 2023, the ABC announced a new Five-Year Plan 2023–28 setting out an updated vision, pillars and priorities. It came into effect on 1 July 2023.)

Knowing The Score. Australian conductor Simone Young and Executive Producer Cate Blanchett.

The leadership team



David Anderson

ABC Managing
Director



Melanie Kleyn

Chief Financial Officer



Mark Tapley

Director Strategy



Leisa Bacon

Director Audiences



**Dharma
Chandran**

Chief People Officer



Ingrid Silver

General Counsel



Justin Stevens

Director News,
Analysis and
Investigations



Damian Cronan

Chief Digital &
Information Officer



**Chris
Oliver-Taylor**

Chief Content Officer



Simon Melkman

Editorial Director (a)

In 2023 the ABC Leadership Team also included Judith Whelan, Director Regional & Local, Jennifer Collins, Acting Director Entertainment & Specialist and Warwick Tiernan, Acting Director Regional & Local.

Where we are

For more information regarding the ABC's domestic and international offices, see Appendix 15 on page 255.

International bureaux and news correspondents



Bangkok



Beijing



Beirut



Istanbul



Jakarta



Jerusalem



London



New Delhi



Port Moresby



Taipei



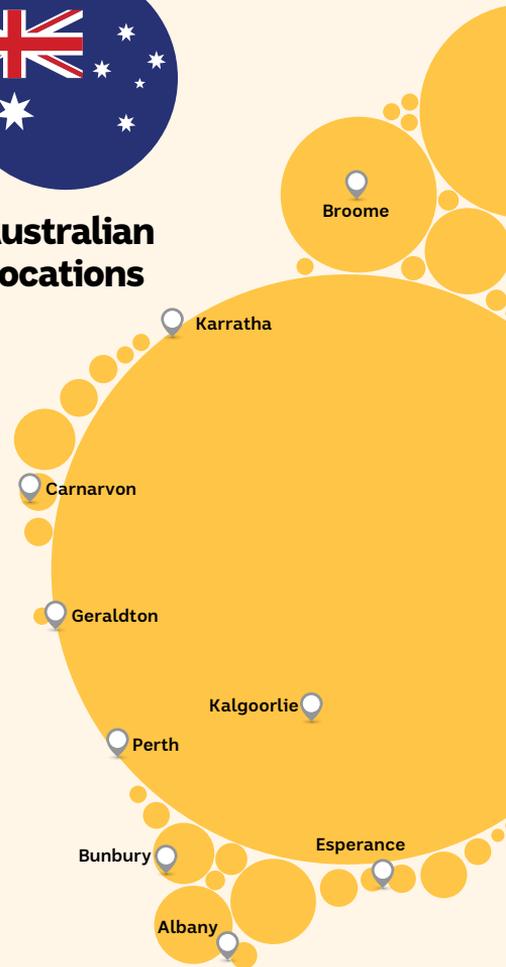
Tokyo



Washington



Australian locations





What we do

On the radio

ABC NEWS on radio

a national, 24-hour radio news network

National radio networks¹

RN, ABC Classic, triple j

Capital city Local Radio²

available from all eight capital cities

Regional Local Radio³

available in regional locations around Australia

Digital Radio⁴

Double J, ABC Classic 2, ABC Jazz, ABC Country, ABC Sport, triple j Unearthed, and ABC KIDS listen⁵

ABC Radio Australia

a new, information and entertainment service for the Pacific region

On your screens

ABC TV

the ABC's primary television channel

ABC Kids / ABC TV PLUS

television for preschoolers until 7.30pm, then a broad range of documentaries, entertainment and arts programs for adults

ABC ME

a dedicated children's channel

ABC NEWS on television

broadcasting national and breaking news 24 hours a day

ABC NEWS Digital

in-depth journalism content, analysis and opinion

abc.net.au

your gateway to ABC news, information, and entertainment

ABC iview

the ABC's online television catch-up and streaming service – available in Kids and international versions

Streaming radio

on ABC listen, ABC KIDS listen and via ABC websites

Apps

for smartphones and tablets

Commercial

Content sales and distribution

ABC TV content and format licensing, and library sales, ABC NEWS syndication

ABC Music and Events

record label commercially releasing music and live events

Publishing and licensing

books and audiobooks, magazines and a range of merchandise

ABC Studios and Media Productions

provision of production services to the market

International

ABC Australia and ABC Radio Australia

television, radio and online services for audiences across the Indo-Pacific and around the world

ABC International Development (ABCID)

partnering with media, civil society and government organisations in the Asia-Pacific region, to assist in designing and delivering communication initiatives

¹ Also available in mainland capital cities as a digital radio service, and nationally via digital satellite services.

² Also available in mainland capital cities as a digital radio service. Some Local radio services are available via digital satellite subscription services.

³ 44 regional local radio services are available on AM or FM radio and via streaming. Some Local Radio services are available via digital satellite subscription services.

⁴ All available as DAB+ stations and streams, except ABC Classic 2 which is only available as a stream.

⁵ ABC Local Radio (metropolitan), RN, ABC Classic, triple j, triple j Unearthed, Double J, ABC Jazz, ABC Kids listen, ABC Country and ABC NewsRadio are also available as free-to-air digital television.

Snapshot of the ABC 2023



Tony Armstrong, presenter
of *Great Australian Stuff*.

The ABC Network was the number one ranked broadcaster in 2022-23, with a reach of 38% or 6.8 million people across the five-city metro population.

Mystery Road: Origin was **highest performing drama ever on ABC iview**, with series average based on the Total Audience of each episode of 495,000 during the 2022 calendar year.

ABC News Digital reached an average of 53% of Australians aged 14+ each month.

The ABC listen app achieved **4.1 million weekly streams** in 2022-23.

The return of *Bluey* S3, saw the opening episode 'Cubby' achieve **an ABC iview launch record** for the series and an **all-time broadcast record for the ABC Kids channel.**

Bluey has achieved the **highest total audience achieved by an Australian program** with the latest series achieving a series average based on the Total Audience of each episode of 10 million.

Thirty per cent of the Australian population aged 16-75 engaged with ABC's coverage of Sydney WorldPride.

ABC's New Year's Eve TV coverage reached over **3.4 million viewers** on broadcast TV.

Two million people watched *Fisk* Series 2 on ABC TV and ABC iview.

6.8 million Australians aged 16-75 engaged with the triple j's Hottest 100 of 2022.

ABC iview was the **number one ranked broadcaster video-on-demand (BVOD) service** in 2022-23 with a 32% share across the year.

ABC Radio reached an estimated **4.97 million people each week** in the five capital cities.

ABC YouTube channels averaged **10.3 million weekly views.**

The year ahead

The 2023–24 financial year marks the first year of the extended, five-year funding cycle for the ABC announced by the Australian Government in October 2022.

The Corporation enters this new funding period with a new ABC Five-Year Plan 2023–28 that will position it for the future by modernising its services and implementing a digital-first approach to commissioning, producing and distributing content. The ABC has a great history of innovating and evolving to meet the needs of all Australians for over 90 years, and we will continue to meet the changing needs of the nation into the future.

The Plan also reaffirms the ABC's commitment to a culture of inclusion and diversity and to the priority of reflecting and celebrating the many identities of contemporary Australia.

A central ambition of the Five-Year Plan is to better meet the needs of an Australian population whose media habits are increasingly fragmented across platforms and devices, and who enjoy more choices for watching and listening than ever before. Audiences for broadcast radio and television remain large, however they are in consistent decline, and Australians of all ages are embracing on-demand, social and other digital media. Broadcasting will always be important to the ABC and to the public. It is expected that over the next five years, we will reach the point at which audiences who prefer to access ABC content through digital platforms will outnumber those who access it through traditional broadcast platforms.

The Five-Year Plan's priorities will ensure that the Corporation will maintain its high-quality editorial standards, and ensure it is prepared to serve a digital-majority audience. In 2023–24, we will work to enhance our primary digital products — ABC News, ABC iview and ABC listen — to provide a seamless, personalised service that enables everyone to more easily discover content that is relevant to them. We will ensure that our content is accessible on major third-party platforms that Australians prefer.

However, digital-first does not mean digital-only. The ABC has long-term contracts for the broadcast of radio and television services and will keep faith with those who consume media via scheduled broadcasts. Any changes in these services over the life of the Five-Year Plan will be driven by the evolution of the ways in which Australians use media.

The Corporation will seek to be an essential part of everyday life for all Australians through news, information and entertainment that appeals to different ages and interests. It will be more local and better reflect contemporary Australia.

To enable it to deliver on the commitments of the Five-Year Plan, the ABC has simplified the structure of its content divisions from 1 July 2023.

Smart TVs and other connected-TV devices are becoming a new type of gatekeeper for Australian media services that can make it more difficult for the public to find the programs and services that the ABC creates for them. The Corporation has welcomed the Australian Government's commitment to introduce a prominence framework for television broadcasters' services in a streaming environment. It will continue to work with government on the implementation of such a framework during the coming year.

During the next year, the ABC will expand its international services, particularly for, from and about the Pacific. This expansion has been enabled by additional funding of \$32 million over four years to expand regional transmission, content production and media capacity training in the Indo-Pacific provided in the October 2022 Budget, and a further \$8.5 million over four years under the Indo-Pacific Broadcasting Strategy to expand transmission infrastructure in the Pacific that was announced in May 2023.

The Corporation will deliver more bespoke content for Pacific audiences on ABC Radio Australia and ABC Australia television, including the flagship pan-Pacific news program *The Pacific* (also available domestically on ABC iView and ABC News TV). It will further extend the FM broadcast footprint of ABC Radio Australia in the Pacific, in line with research showing that FM radio transmission is the most cost-effective medium with the highest potential to reach audiences in the region.

The ABC enters the 2023-2024 financial year confidently. Our talented and dedicated staff are well placed to deliver on the mission of the ABC. Together, we proudly and independently serve all Australians, located in every state and territory, across regional and remote Australia, ensuring we tell Australian stories, host the conversations that matter, and contribute to a sense of national identity.



David Anderson

Managing Director,
Australian Broadcasting Corporation

ABC Managing Director David Anderson addressing the International Women’s Day event in ABC Ultimo, March 2023.



This is the ABC

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Aunty Donna's Coffee Cafe cast members Mark Samuel Bonanno, Zachary Ruane and Broden Kelly.



News, Analysis & Investigations

In 2022-23, News, Analysis & Investigations pursued stories and investigated matters of national significance. Consistently delivering high-quality, in-depth journalism and comprehensive coverage of major events, ABC news and current affairs continued to play a leading role in raising and investigating issues.

Trusted news and information

High impact public interest journalism is at the heart of the ABC's work.

Indigenous Affairs reporter Bridget Brennan, together with Suzanne Dredge, Brooke Fryer and Stephanie Zillman, won the Melbourne Press Club Gold Quill for 'How Many More?', a *Four Corners* and Specialist Reporting Team co-production which explored the crisis of the nation's missing and murdered First Nations women. The first all-female Indigenous team to report a *Four Corners* story, their powerful work led to a national conversation and changes in the way domestic violence prevention and treatment is handled.

Four Corners won four Walkley Awards, including for 'Cosmetic Cowboys', an investigation of alarming practices in the cosmetic surgery industry. The program's reporting has led to real change in a broad range of areas, such as the banning of potentially deadly practices in juvenile detention, an overhaul of the national medical regulator, and an inquiry by NSW education.

Four Corners also won Australian journalism's highest honour, the Gold Walkley, for its powerful year-long investigation 'State Control'. Anne Connolly's ongoing reporting on the secrecy shrouding the hidden ordeals of vulnerable people under the control of the public trustee gave a voice to the voiceless and triggered reform, with changes being announced in Tasmania and recommended in Queensland and Victoria.

The Hobart newsroom conducted a year-long national crowd-sourced investigation into the abuse and mistreatment of children in state care that generated a number of important public interest stories. This work received a number of awards and reporter Katri Uibu was named Tasmanian Journalist of the Year.

In 2022, *Foreign Correspondent* celebrated 30 years of international journalism, marked with an anniversary special capturing some of the people and places that have shaped the world. The program continued to showcase the ABC's team of correspondents around the globe, with a key focus on the Indo-Pacific region, including reporting from Sri Lanka, Japan, South Korea, the Philippines, Thailand, Myanmar, Fiji and Papua New Guinea. Reports on the conflict in Ukraine and the recovery of Zimbabwe's rhino population highlighted the breadth of the team's storytelling.

Four years in the making, the *Australian Story* episode 'Making a Scene' with actor Claudia Karvan was the series' highest-rating episode for the year on both television and ABC iview. Karvan's candid and revealing interview about her family's mental health issues and her difficult relationship with her biological father resonated with audiences, while the digital story was the most successful article ever published by the program.

Across the year ABC News teams and journalists won numerous major reporting awards, including Journalist and New Journalist of the Year in Queensland, Journalist of the Year in Tasmania and the Northern Territory, Young Journalist of the Year in South Australia, and New Journalist of the Year in Western Australia.

The 2022 Walkley Press Photographer of the Year was awarded to Specialist Reporting Team photographer Brendon Esposito. Judges singled out his “high standard of professionalism, earning the trust of vulnerable people and getting into their inner circle to convey a sense of intimacy.” It is the first time an ABC employee has won Press Photographer of the Year.

Among other awards, ABC teams won a string of prizes for journalistic, visual, and technical excellence in online, video and audio news, Indigenous and multicultural affairs, sport, health, and business journalism, as well as innovation.

World News

The International team marked another eventful year. Foreign correspondents, producers and camera operators on the ground covered breaking stories, major sporting and geopolitical events and everything in between.

The ABC spent more time in Ukraine than any other Australian media organisation, continuing its presence as the war entered its second year. Teams were deployed from Australia and other bureaux to ensure this significant story remained front of mind for Australians.

The ABC’s permanent presence in Asia and the Pacific continues to be a point of difference from other media organisations, immersing Australian audiences in their own backyard. South Asia correspondent Avani Dias, who is based in New Delhi, led the coverage of the economic and political collapse in Sri Lanka. She was on the spot for the moment protesters stormed the presidential palace, obtaining exclusive interviews with key political players and leading activists and bringing Australian audiences a unique insight into the turmoil.

ABC News national regional affairs reporter Jane Norman with ABC crew.





ABC Indigenous Affairs Editor, Bridget Brennan

The ABC's permanent presence in Tokyo gave first-hand insight into the assassination of former PM Shinzo Abe. North Asia correspondent James Oaten was the only Australian broadcast journalist on the ground to cover this shocking event. He was also one of the first Australian journalists to arrive in Seoul to report on the horrific crowd crush at a Halloween celebration.

The Middle East team of reporter Allyson Horn and camera operator Haidarr Jones flew to Türkiye to cover its deadly quakes in which tens of thousands of people died. The tragedy continued to unfold as aftershocks and tremors forced people to survive in freezing conditions.

Donald Trump continued to dominate the headlines in America with his legal challenges. The Washington team covered every facet of the investigation into the handling of classified materials and his dramatic appearance in a New York court charged with 34 felony counts, including fraud. The team also provided world-class coverage of the overturning by the US Supreme Court of *Roe v Wade*, the landmark legal decision that protected the right to have an abortion and continues to reveal its cultural and social ramifications a year later.

The coverage of the death of Queen Elizabeth II was a major logistical and staff mobilisation project that reflected years of planning. Teams were sent from all over the world to mark the end of an era.

The ABC currently operates overseas bureaux in New Delhi, Bangkok, Beijing, Jakarta, London, Port Moresby, Tokyo, Washington. In addition, it has home-based reporters in Taipei, Jerusalem and Istanbul and a producer in Beirut.

Cost of Living

In the post-pandemic economic environment, ABC teams reported on the experiences of ordinary Australians and affected communities as the cost of living soared. The Business Team's new daily markets, business and economics news blog, launched in December 2022, continued to grow and engage audiences.

Political Coverage

ABC News teams' high-quality coverage of politics included two state elections. The comprehensive reporting on the March 2023 NSW election drew significant audience interest across platforms. ABC News led the editorial agenda during the campaign by releasing an in-depth, issues-based feature each Monday. These focused on the themes that mattered to voters, including wages and suburban infrastructure. Political reporters found the talent for these stories by directly engaging with communities in suburban and regional areas.

During the November 2022 Victorian state election, the News team worked hard to move away from the daily press conference-driven agenda and instead focus on the key issues for the electorate. The ABC ran five election specials, including on outer-suburban and health content, on all platforms, achieving standout results on digital and social.

Future ready

Building on and solidifying future audiences has been a focus of ABC efforts over the past year.

The first program aimed at high school students, *BTN High*, was launched to target an underserved demographic and help bridge the gap between the primary school audience of *BTN* and the adult audience of ABC News. In just a few months, *BTN High* helped to educate and inform millions of younger Australians, delivering stories directly relevant to teenagers and giving them a voice on the national stage. It also demonstrated the power of leveraging trusted ABC brands to reach new audiences.

ABC News makes vertical video to reach new and younger audiences on TikTok, Instagram and YouTube. During the year, some of the ABC's top young journalists and editors created bespoke vertical video that drew on the journalism of leading programs such as *Four Corners*, *Australian Story*, *7.30* and *Foreign Correspondent*. The team also trained others across News in how to create compelling vertical video content for younger audiences across platforms.

ABC News launched a TikTok account in December 2022 and within six months amassed 135,000 followers, 69 million video views and 4.6 million engagements. ABC News quickly overtook Australian news organisations to be the #2 national news TikTok account. The ABC News Instagram account is the #1 news brand on the platform with 10.8 million engagements, 855,000 followers and 89 million video views this financial year.

In mid-June, News announced initiatives to increase digital-first content and roles, including the formation of a Climate, Environment and Energy team and the creation of dedicated News Digital reporting roles to enable the quick scale-up of online reporting capacity for breaking news and big daily events. It also proposed changes to reshape the News current affairs, operations and national politics teams to introduce needed digital journalism skills.

Forging local ties

Connecting with local communities continued to be a strong focus for ABC newsrooms this year. News teams held engagement events with members of the African, Chinese, Indian, Pakistani, and Muslim communities, including newsroom visits, morning teas and roundtable meetings.

ABC reporters have continued to build strong connections with digital audiences by using the crowd-sourcing tool Zendesk, which helps deliver powerful, original and impactful public interest journalism and enhances connections with communities through content that reflects a broad range of views and experiences. Among the more than 40 projects using the tool were an award-winning investigation into child protection by the Tasmanian newsroom, ongoing COVID-19 and cost-of-living coverage, a national health investigation, an investigation of scams by 7.30 and the Specialist Reporting Team, and the cross-divisional ABC Birth Project, an online tool for parents-to-be in Australia which received thousands of responses to its callout for people to share their birth experiences.

ABC News also forged closer ties with communities by implementing 17 new formal partnerships while maintaining existing partnerships with 15 other organisations. Most of these partnerships focus on supporting the diversification of the ABC workforce, as well as News content. ABC relationships with tertiary institutions and schools provide pathways for new talent. Other partnerships focus on strengthening the news reporting of community and independent media organisations, especially Indigenous and culturally and linguistically diverse groups.

The ABC's regional bureaux joined the News division in July 2023, which will make its ability to connect communities even more powerful.

Evolving the digital audience experience

News digital innovation

ABC News renewed its focus on delivering new features and functionality to engage audiences, which are broader and more diverse than ever.

During the year, the ABC completed the changeover of its digital content management system, switching off Core Media 5 and allowing all content to be made and displayed on the more reliable and flexible Core 10.

Audiences of the ABC News App were given a richer experience with the introduction of 'featured video' and video carousels, allowing deeper engagement and greater discoverability of premier video content.

The team also experimented with live coverage, most notably in live blogs. Blogs and live coverage are integral to the future of News Online, allowing meaningful and instant interaction with audiences, helping nurture new audiences and enabling the ABC to break new ground in story functionality and formatting.

The ABC's commitment to breaking and live news coverage is key, with a focus on developing new formats which put transparency alongside speed and accuracy as guiding principles.

Audiences will have more ways to stay on top of the details, engage with the ABC and with each other and get a deeper understanding of what is and isn't known at any part of the breaking-news cycle.

Innovative storytelling

The Digital Story Innovations team won a Walkley Award for Innovation for its work using 3D techniques to tell immersive stories, including for the long-running series *Lawless loggers*, in which reporter Michael Slezak exposed evidence of widespread and systemic illegal logging and poor regulation. Compelling and informative visualisations were used to tell the stories.

Vertical video on social platforms such as Instagram and TikTok is crucial in ensuring stories reach new audiences. ABC state newsrooms expanded their successful vertical video trial to include a skills development phase. More reporters gained skills in vertical video making, ensuring a sustainable model to bring new, younger, and digital audiences content relevant to them in ways they consume it.

Reflecting contemporary Australia

Indigenous Affairs Reporting Team

The newly formed Indigenous Affairs team brings together the ABC's First Nations journalists to elevate Indigenous voices and stories in the national conversation. It helps ensure the ABC's coverage is constructive, accurate and representative and provides deep, best-informed coverage of First Nations stories across the country.

Indigenous voices and stories are at the forefront of the team's storytelling. The aim is to become the leading news source for Indigenous stories. Further, this team provides a touch point for all Indigenous journalists, helping the ABC attract and retain the best talent in Australian media.

ABC Northern Tasmania journalist and broadcaster Piia Wirsu with three wombat friends.



50:50 Equality

The 50:50 Equality project continued to support News in achieving greater relevance to and reflection of modern Australian audiences. Through talent diversity tracking, teams maintained balanced gender representation in stories while delivering more content aimed at female audiences through innovative storytelling projects and experimenting with distribution.

During the year, all News teams began tracking the representation of Indigenous, culturally and linguistically diverse Australians and people with disabilities with the aim of increasing representation of more diverse Australian experiences in ABC stories. These efforts are being supported through targeted community engagement.

Sarah Richards of the ABC Brisbane newsroom is a journalist whose lived experience with disability inspires and motivates many of her stories. She brings a unique perspective and connects on a personal level with the people she interviews, many of whom have never shared their stories with the media. Her work has impact.

Her story about a young boy with disability who could no longer access his grandmother's local park in Queensland after a council upgrade removed wheelchair access prompted the council to commit \$100,000 to fixing it. The council is also creating new rules about making parks more accessible for all children in the area.

Sarah filmed the story herself using a mobile journalism kit, even though she was unable to access the playground in her own wheelchair. It was a powerful way to demonstrate the downfalls of the playground's changes.

Harmony Week

ABC News was the content division sponsor of the 2023 Harmony Week campaign. As the sponsor, ABC News funded and appointed Naeun Kim to lead the ABC content coverage for a three-month period.

ABC News teams also played a key role in covering other significant events that reflect contemporary Australia such as the Garma Festival in the Northern Territory, Sydney World Pride and Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras.



“Being able to tell the seven-year-old featured in the story that he would be able to play at the park again, and that his voice mattered, meant everything for me as a journalist,” Sarah says.

ABC Journalist Sarah Richards.

Emergency broadcasting

Reporting about large-scale weather events was again a major focus for News teams, as Regional and State reporters worked together to provide comprehensive coverage for all Australians.

The ABC provided emergency information for 455 events across all states and territories, including major floods, severe storms, heatwaves, bushfires and a tropical cyclone. This was an increase on the 310 emergency events in 2021-22 and the largest number since the 2019-20 Black Summer.

The majority of emergency events were in Western Australia (171) and mostly involved small bushfires that lasted no longer than one day.

Severe weather events included major flooding in Tasmania and in northern Victoria/southern New South Wales in October. Both these events involved ABC Radio providing rolling emergency coverage to local communities as flood waters rose.

In early July, widespread flooding in New South Wales inundated Sydney suburbs. The Hunter, South Coast and the Central West region in northern NSW were flooded later in the year. The small town of Eugowra was swamped by a deadly flash flood in mid-November, with 150 residents rescued by air from their rooftops.

In partnership with Transport NSW, and as a result of a recommendation from the NSW Bushfire Inquiry, around 100 roadside signs carrying local ABC radio frequencies began to be installed in communities most prone to severe weather events in the latter half of 2022.

In Victoria, reporters provided up-to-the-minute coverage of unfolding flood emergencies in Seymour, Murchison, Charlton, Rochester, Shepparton, and Echuca in November, as well as covering the huge clean-up after shock overnight flooding in Melbourne's west.

South Australian news and regional teams covered a slow-moving flood disaster for more than six weeks as waters from the east inundated homes and towns from the border to the sea.

Many audience members expressed their thanks for the efforts of reporters and camera operators in the field who worked long days in tough conditions to ensure the stories of local communities were told.

In January 2023, the Kimberley region experienced WA's worst floods following ex-Tropical Cyclone Ellie. Fitzroy Crossing residents were evacuated, homes inundated, and roads and bridges damaged. As the disaster's scale became clear, more resources were deployed from Perth to relieve teams and sustain vital coverage.

In April, one of the strongest tropical storms to cross the Australian coast in recent years, Cyclone Ilsa, caused major flooding to communities in the Pilbara region. ABC Radio covered the event across nine days, including 12 hours of rolling coverage at the height of the storm.

Regional & Local

Around the nation, the ABC's storytellers celebrated regional and local communities and told the stories that mattered to them. The ABC's commitment to regional and local coverage keeps Australians safe in times of emergency and brings them together to mark important national events.

Local coverage of state elections

ABC Local Radio collaborated closely with ABC News to provide comprehensive coverage of the Victorian State Election in November 2022 and the New South Wales State Election in March 2023.

In Victoria, ABC Radio Melbourne and ABC Victoria's regional bureaux kept audiences up to date with major election announcements, broadcasting live from a number of key electorates. ABC *Melbourne Drive* presenter Raf Epstein and ABC's Victorian State Political Reporter Rich Willingham presented the *Matters of State* podcast series which ran throughout the five-week campaign and covered local as well as statewide issues.

Throughout the NSW Election campaign, Sarah Macdonald of ABC Radio Sydney's *Mornings* and ABC News State Political Reporter Ashleigh Raper presented the NSW edition of *Matters of State*, which also connected to a series of live outside broadcasts from key metropolitan and regional electorates. Both the Victorian and NSW election coverage teams worked closely with the ABC's Election Analyst, Antony Green, and his election team specialists.

Local Radio provided full live coverage of election results in both states, sharing resources with the ABC's television election coverage team.

Community engagement

Capital-city stations continued their successful community engagement broadcasts with Your Stories events held in outer-suburban locations around the country. In regional centres, Hello broadcasts were once again rolled out to communities that are often under-represented in media coverage. The Your Stories and Hello events took capital city and regional program teams outside their studios and into communities, focusing on the issues that mattered to local audiences.

Love Where You Live invited audiences in regional Australia to celebrate life in their towns and cities. The initiative was launched in March with 38 community outside broadcasts across regional Australia, including from Gordonvale in Queensland's Far North. Tilba in New South Wales, Violet Town in Victoria, Breadalbane in Tasmania, Mount Gambier's Blue Lake in South Australia and Castle Rock in Western Australia. An additional 11 outside broadcasts and 15 community events were held following the launch, elevating local issues to create national conversations and helping deliver greater impact for individual communities and championing change.

In March, ABC Radio Melbourne returned to Geelong for its second 'radio in residency', once again turning the spotlight on Victoria's largest regional city. The Residency, which is supported by Deakin University, saw all ABC Melbourne programs and presenters broadcasting live from a pop-up studio on the Geelong waterfront and at community events throughout the month.

In October and November, the ABC turned the spotlight on health, with programs and series across all platforms exploring Australia's collective and individual health and fitness. The ABC's capital-city radio network and 11 regional bureaux swung their support behind ABC Your Move, with outside broadcasts at community-led parkrun events on the last Saturday in October.

Serving the public interest

The ABC's investment in regional public interest journalism, rolled out in 2021-22, continued to deliver an increase in coverage of local regional events and issues, with up to 60 journalists placed into regional locations. Five mini-bureaux, supporting two journalists each, were opened in new locations at Batemans Bay, Carnarvon, Hervey Bay, Charleville and Warragul. To introduce the new offices to local audiences, an outdoor advertising campaign was run from July to November on the Fraser Coast and in the Warragul, Batemans Bay, Whyalla and Carnarvon regions.

The ABC is looking at how best it can support public interest journalism in rural and regional communities, with specific focus on fragile and underserved areas of the nation's local news ecosystems. This work is being done in partnership with Deakin University to find ways that news providers can work together to secure the sustainability of local news.

One innovative strategy to achieve this goal is to embed journalists in remote communities so they can tell the stories which are often overlooked by media. During the year, ABC Far North Queensland news reporters Mark Rigby and Holly Richardson spent two weeks as part of a remote communities program embedded in the Indigenous community of Kowanyama. Townsville reporter Jade Toomey and producer Jess Naunton spent a week in the Indigenous community of Palm Island and Julia Bertoglio and Emily JB Smith spent 10 days at the remote community of Juntjuntjara, 700 kilometres from Kalgoorlie.

Big events and memorable content

Regional & Local's Screen, Sport and Live Events team produced compelling content throughout the year, presenting a series of sporting documentaries and covering Australia's major sporting codes and major national events. The team also produced coverage of the death of Queen Elizabeth II and the coronation of King Charles III. More than 3.4 million people tuned in to watch Sydney's NYE concert and fireworks, and just under two million watched the ABC's coverage of Australia Day on 26 January, which included the WugulOra Morning Ceremony, the National Citizenship and Flag Raising Ceremony, the Governor-General's Australia Day Message and the Australia Day Live concert, as well as the Australian of the Year Awards on 25 January.

On 25 April, the ABC's Anzac Day coverage reached an audience of almost 1.9 million on ABC TV and 182,000 plays on ABC iview. In addition, the ABC listen app carried the Anzac Day services in all states and territories. The ABC provided live coverage of state and territory dawn services and the National Dawn Service from Canberra, as well as live coverage of the dawn services from Gallipoli and Villiers-Brettonneux.

A series of sports-related documentaries screened across the year to strong audience numbers, led by the two-part program on footballer Israel Folau, which achieved a series average based on the Total Audience of each episode of 465,000 viewers. *Harley and Katya*, a compelling story of Indigenous Australian, Harley Windsor, and Russian Katya Alexandrovskaya, who achieved unprecedented success as figure skaters, achieved a total audience of more than 590,000. Other documentaries in the series included *A League Of Her Own*, which followed the Queensland State of Origin Women's team, and *Ride* which told the story of two BMX racing champions, Sam and Alise Willoughby, who fell in love and conquered their sport until a training accident changed their lives forever.



A second series of the popular *Movin' to the Country* aired early in the year. The six episodes once again celebrated the entrepreneurs, innovators and dreamers who are transforming their regional communities. This series was filmed in regional Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia and Tasmania.

Long running series *Gardening Australia*, *Landline* and *Back Roads* continue to be recognised for their outstanding quality by audiences. *Landline* consistently receives among the ABC's highest scores for quality (97 per cent) and distinctiveness (96 per cent), while *Back Roads* scored 95 per cent for quality and 92 per cent for distinctiveness, and *Gardening Australia* 92 per cent for quality and 86 per cent for distinctiveness.

The Regional & Local screen team produced several one-off specials during the year. As a result of securing the much sought-after broadcast rights for an interview with *Hamilton* creator, Lin-Manuel Miranda, *In The Room with Lin-Manuel Miranda* and *Leigh Sales* went to air in March. The special was filmed before a live audience of 2,000 'Hamilfans' at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre's Lyric Theatre in Brisbane.

A special simulcast on ABC Television, ABC iview and ABC Classic was held in July to mark the 90th anniversary of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and the official re-opening of the Sydney Opera House Concert Hall. The special was co-hosted by ABC TV's Jeremy Fernandez and ABC Classic's Genevieve Lang.

A key focus for ABC Sport during the year was the continued development of Indigenous staff for AFL and NRL coverage. In October, *Territory Grandstand* provided commentary for the Women's NTFL matches for the ABC listen app and supplied audio to First Nations radio for national broadcast on Saturdays throughout the season.

Back Roads' presenter Heather Ewart.

Digital audiences

The ABC's coverage of AFL football coverage was made more accessible for fans with the introduction of streaming of all AFL matches on the ABC listen app and all ABC digital platforms, complementing the existing NRL streaming.

ABC Weather has been successful in reaching younger audiences with the launch of ABC Weather Shorts on TikTok and Instagram. Since December, presenters Tyne Logan and Luke Radford have published more than 170 weather explainer videos generating almost 8.5 million views, with a large portion of their audience under the age of 25.

The innovative and "skippable" *Story Stream*, which features compelling audio stories from around Australia, celebrated its one-year anniversary in June, having produced nearly 1,200 audio stories. Many of the stories came from ABC Local Radio programs and were reworked for an on-demand audience. Around 500 regional and capital-city content makers contributed.

Game changing podcasts

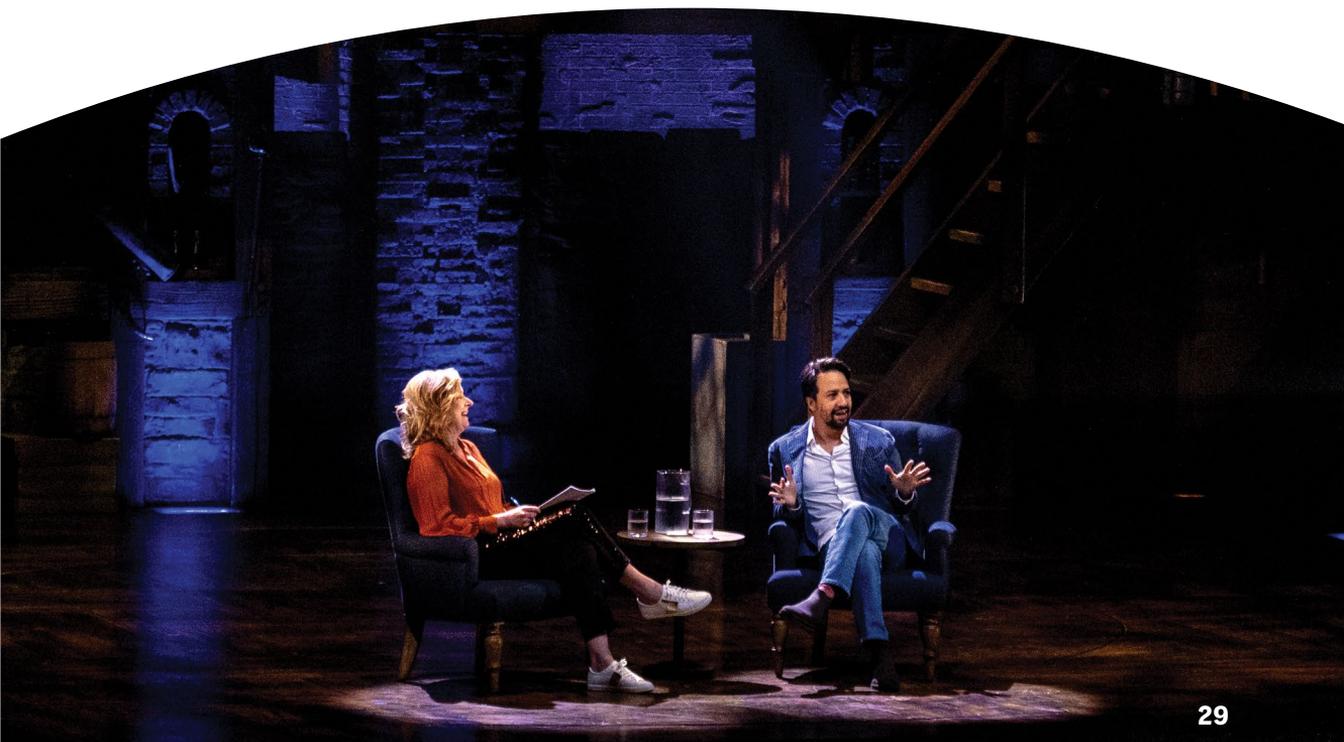
Regional & Local produced four engaging long-form podcasts covering a variety of topics from people living with disability to pop culture and the story behind a daring diamond heist.

Paralympian and broadcaster, Kurt Fearnley AM and ABC presenter Sarah Shands presented the *Let Us In!* Podcast, which uncovered some of the big issues confronting people with disability in modern Australia.

Described as a "hug for your ears", *Make Me Feel Good* launched in May with its pioneering approach to mood-based listening with stories collated by mood rather than topic.

Schmeitgeist is a new pop culture podcast from ABC Everyday which debuted in July 2022. Presented by Ange Lavoipierre, the series decodes the biggest trends of the day. It is a unique concept where the podcast is the hero, but bespoke vertical videos and agenda-setting digital articles are an equally vital part of the offer.

ABC presenter Leigh Sales with Hamilton creator and star Lin-Manuel Miranda, *In The Room*, ABC iview.



One of the biggest podcasts of the year was *The Pink Diamond Heist*, narrated by *Australia Wide* presenter Sinead Mangan. The series told the remarkable story of how millions of dollars of Argyle diamonds were smuggled out of one of the world's most secure mines in the 1980s, with Sinead looking back 30 years to find out who was behind the theft.

The ABC's flagship sport podcast, *ABC Sport Daily*, added a Friday episode to complete its weekly offer. It has achieved more than 1.5 million total downloads since launch.

Local podcast, the *Newcastle Hunter Catch Up*, generated content for ABC Local Radio as well as for digital features and social media. Stories from the *Catch Up* were played on 16 radio stations across the country, demonstrating the high-quality storytelling and universal themes covered.

Innies + Outies, which tells LGBTQIA+ stories of coming out or staying in, won Best External Media Campaign at the 2022 Australian LGBTQIA+ Inclusion Awards held in May. Special bonus episodes were produced for the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras and for Sydney WorldPride in February and March. Audience sentiment was overwhelmingly positive, with one listener saying the podcast "makes Australia a better place to be".

Connecting with regional communities

Takeover Melbourne, now in its third year, once again attracted hundreds of young Melburnians, inviting them to share their stories of life in their communities. Melbourne Lord Mayor Sally Capp and leaders from VicHealth and the Centre for Multicultural Youth celebrated the stories from the 28 winners at events held at the ABC Melbourne studios and at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI). Their stories were seen and heard on *ABC News Breakfast*, ABC Local Radio, *Behind the News* and Radio National.

The second regional 'takeover' event was held in Mildura in May. ABC producers worked with around 1,000 young people from Mildura and the Sunraysia region in the lead up to the Takeover Mildura summit, which featured stories and ideas from 35 local students on how to improve their community.

The ABC's Heywire Regional Youth Summit returned to Canberra in March with workshops for 39 participants selected from around the country. The week culminated in a Gala Dinner held at the National Museum of Australia that was attended by the Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories, Kristy McBain and the Minister for Youth, Dr Anne Aly. The Summit was followed by the announcement of the 2023 Heywire Youth Innovation Grants, supported by the Foundation for Rural Regional Renewal (FRRR). The grants of up to \$10,000 were made available to communities across Australia, to adopt, adapt and act on the ideas generated by Heywire Youth Summit.

Heywire's Trailblazers program was held in February, encouraging young regional leaders to share their stories on how to drive positive change in their communities. This year's cohort of 13 young people aged 18-28 came from regional towns in Western Australia, New South Wales, Queensland, Northern Territory, Tasmania and Victoria. Their winning stories were presented at a Parliament House event attended by the Minister for Communications, Hon Michelle Rowland MP, the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government, Hon Catherine King MP, and the Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories, Kristy McBain. It was hosted by *Landline* presenter, Pip Courtney. The ABC has renewed the program for another three years with support from the Regional Development section of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts.

Az Cosgrove from the Hunter Valley in New South Wales and Megan McLoughlin from Stone Well, South Australia, were named the 2023 recipients of the ABC's Regional Storyteller Scholarships. The scholarships, now in their sixth year, are supported by the Department of Social Services and provide content makers living with disability in regional Australia with the opportunity to work with ABC producers to develop their storytelling skills.

ABC Broken Hill made history with the first live ABC radio program broadcast using a StarLink connection, which connects to the world's largest low-Earth orbit satellite constellation to deliver high-speed, low-latency broadband internet to rural and remote locations. Local Editor Andrew Schmidt broadcast from two sites using the new technology – firstly from the Broken Hill Racecourse, followed by a cross from a music festival in Mundiville, 40 kilometres northwest of Broken Hill. The new technology is also being trialled for live television crosses and will allow live or same day radio and television broadcasts from remote communities.

ABC Radio Melbourne delivered the powerful long-form digital article *Name Them*, which gave names to those lost during the COVID-19 pandemic. The emotive piece drew a large audience and was the result of great collaborative work between the station's digital and radio teams and the digital ABC News team.

Accessibility in the spotlight

The ABC marked International Day of People with Disability (IDoPWD) by producing more than 500 pieces of content published and broadcast across all ABC platforms. The IDoPWD Content Commissioning Fund, funded by the Department of Social Services, supported 35 paid, professional positions within the ABC, for people with disability to host and co-host programs and to create content featured across ABC websites, radio, social media, ABC TV and iview. Highlights included a social media video on how to manage chronic fatigue syndrome, and an Auslan interpretation of the *Let Us In!* podcast.

To coincide with the International Day of People with Disability on 3 December, a content maker with a hearing impairment, Marissa Ker, worked with ABC Radio Brisbane to make the station's multi-platform content accessible to those who have hearing loss. Marissa created an online story about support for Auslan in Queensland schools that was then turned into a captioned social media reel.

Re-Frame 2022, which featured films made by and starring people living with a disability was broadcast as a key content initiative to mark International Day of People With Disability.

ABC Sport broadcast a live call of a wheelchair AFL match for ABC Sports Digital and the ABC listen app, with expert commentary from a member of the Hawthorn wheelchair football team and Access and Inclusion Facilitator, Jeremy O'Halloran. The team also broadcast the Wheelaroos State of Origin in July on ABC Radio.

Auslan versions of *Let Us In!*, a podcast focusing on the lived experience of people living with a disability and hosted by Kurt Fearnley AM and Sarah Shands, were published to YouTube, making it a truly accessible, bilingual offer.

2022 Heywire gala showcase video, delivered via ABC Australia's YouTube channel, included open captions to assist with accessibility.

The Deputy Chair of the ABC's staff-led disability network group ABC Inclusive, Bec Hogan, was recognised by the National Awards for Disability for her work in ensuring that people with disability can access ABC emergency information when needed.

ABC Everyday completed a review of the accessibility for all its content. The site published a series of six comic vignettes, *Conversations with Animals*, on the human and animal relationship, and the different ways of relating to each other and the everyday with alt-text and accessibility built in, providing access to a much wider audience using screen readers.

The New Year's Eve firework displays on ABC TV were audio-described for the vision impaired and available on the ABC listen app.



ABC Pride members marching at the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras 2023.

A show of Pride

The ABC's long history of supporting LGBTQIA+ Australians was reaffirmed with its role as the host broadcast partner for Sydney WorldPride and the 45th Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade.

To coincide with the 17-day Sydney WorldPride event, ABC platforms delivered audiences important discussions around LGBTQIA+ rights and issues in Australia and globally.

The party started on Friday, 24 February with the Live and Proud: Sydney WorldPride Opening Concert, broadcast from the Domain on ABC TV and ABC iview with live crosses on triple j.

The following evening, the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade was back on Oxford Street, after a two-year absence because of the Coronavirus pandemic, with more than 200 floats and the biggest international presence the parade has ever seen. Anchoring the parade was ABC News *Breakfast*'s Nate Byrne, *Behind The News* presenter Jack Evans and ABCQueer's Mon Schafter, supported by on-the-ground hosts including ABC News' Jeremy Fernandez.

Host, content creator and advocate Rudy Jean Rigg covered Sydney WorldPride across social media as the ABC's first-ever Queerespondent and shared LGBTQIA+ histories and festival top picks which were also included in the ABCQueer newsletter.

Other key highlights included Mardi Gras Fair Day on 19 February, with ABC Radio Sydney broadcasting live from Victoria Park at the best-loved free community event of the season. Prime Minister Hon Anthony Albanese MP was among the more than 50,000 people who walked across Sydney Harbour Bridge on 5 March. Wearing their brightest rainbow colours, they represented a strong international statement of visibility. ABC News and ABC Radio Sydney were there to cover the historic moment.



ABC Pride members marching at the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras 2023.

Coverage of the 2023 Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras saw significant audience growth with an average of 566,000 viewers for the ABC TV broadcast

As part of the celebration the Innovation Lab, News Digital Story Innovations and ABC Sydney WorldPride teams collaborated on an immersive retelling of the first Mardi Gras in 1978 that combined a 3D rendering of the route, archival footage and new video interviews with people who were there. The result was a new format for retelling and preserving historically significant stories for younger audiences. Fifty unique QR codes were also placed along the physical path of the first Mardi Gras with links to video interviews recounting the historical significance of each location.

The story was the most-read piece of Sydney World Pride content and the most-viewed content on ABC News digital platforms the week it was published, attracting more than 670,000 views.

Coverage of the 2023 Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras saw significant audience growth with an average of 566,000 viewers for the ABC TV broadcast (up 28% on the previous year) and reaching a total audience of 2.1 million people (up 30% from 2022). There were 195,000 plays on ABC iView (up 54% on the previous year) and strong engagement across digital and third-party platforms, with 7.1 million accumulated video views and more than one million engagements. ABC listen and host radio broadcaster triple j also recorded higher live streams for the night.



Takeover Mildura was held in May 2023, with young people “taking over” the local town and the ABC airwaves. The program is run in partnership with the Victorian Government, VicHealth and the Foundation for Regional and Rural Renewal.

In the lead-up, the ABC team worked on the ground with more than 1,000 students through storytelling workshops held across Mildura and surrounding areas. The workshops helped young people to understand the value of their stories and make sharing accessible to all students.

From the entries received, 36 winners were selected to work with ABC producers to turn their story into a broadcast-quality piece of media for play on the ABC. The young people’s stories were heard across the ABC including on triple j, ABC Local Radio, ABC News Digital, *Landline* and *ABC News Breakfast*.

During the week, close to 600 community members attended events showcasing the young people’s stories and their ideas for how

to make their community an even better place. The Takeover Gala Screening broke the record for the largest event hosted at the local cinema.

Thanks to a partnership with the Foundation for Rural Regional Renewal (FRRR), grants were made available to the Mildura community to implement the ideas created by the young people, including tangible employment opportunities.

Takeover winner Charlie summed up the week: “I had a really good time meeting new people, finding out a lot about NFP’s in our community and how to work with them to turn dreams into reality.”

Takeover winner Zac on Barkindji country on men’s business. Image: ABC Marc Eiden

Entertainment & Specialist

Australian stories for Aussie audiences. The ABC has a proud history as the home of Australian storytelling across comedy, drama, children's TV, documentary and special events. Across all platforms, the ABC reflects the many interests, needs and sources of enjoyment for Australians of all ages and locations.

Content with impact

Documentaries and news programs commissioned and produced by the Entertainment & Specialist division demonstrated again the ABC's commitment to trustworthy and enlightening news and information.

RN journalism programs consistently delivered news-breaking and agenda-setting interviews and stories that comprehensively analysed international and national news and current affairs. These played a pivotal role in the ABC's coverage of the 2022 Federal Election, natural disasters, the Voice to Parliament campaign, the Federal Budget, the Ukraine war and the 20th anniversaries of the Iraq war and the Bali bombing.

ABC RN also continued to provide trusted information to help audiences navigate contemporary life. A series from RN's *Law Report*, 'Know Your Rights', provided listeners with information regarding their legal rights in neighbourhood disputes. *Life Matters* produced 'Tiny Tasters', a six-part series with Alice Zaslavsky on eating for health at any age.

In 2022, triple j Hack teamed up with ABC Science at RN to tackle the climate crisis head on and create *Who's Gonna Save Us?* The show took a positive, solutions-focused approach that resonated with younger audiences, who consistently raise climate change as one of their primary issues of interest. The podcast has been recognised as a finalist in the Covering Climate Now 2023 Journalism Awards for the best climate journalism around the world.

With renewable energy a growing area of audience interest, ABC Science provided extensive coverage of issues relating to this topic. Digital articles explaining concentrated solar power, the world's first 'sand battery' and large-scale grid energy storage were among the most popular articles of the year.

ABC Kids listen weekly podcast *News Time* continued to be the best in class for introducing young Australians to the top five news stories of the week, with thoughtful and innovative reporting. Over the year, *News Time* regularly included reports on Indigenous issues, disability and rural living. In addition to the weekly episodes, *News Time* also produced special episodes, which in 2022 included spotlighting media literacy and giving voice to kids impacted by the Northern Rivers floods.

The 2022 Boyer Lectures with lawyer academic Noel Pearson were especially timely, addressing the forthcoming Voice referendum's historical, political and sociological context. These passionate and erudite lectures attracted nationwide attention with the first lecture televised on ABC TV and ABC iview in primetime.

Background Briefing continued to justify its strong reputation for breaking news and providing quality investigative journalism that evidences societal impact both nationally and internationally:

- ‘Under the Eye of Iran’ led to a parliamentary inquiry into human rights violations of Iranian Australians.
- The Western Australian public trustee model was overhauled following Anne Connolly’s investigation ‘Prisoner of the State’.
- Papua New Guinea police launched an investigation into PNG Ports following the two-part series ‘Dead Man’s Secrets’.
- WA Police re-examined the site of a murdered prospector after a new clue was revealed in ‘Grim Prospects’.
- The Cambodian Government called on Australian galleries to return suspicious cultural artefacts.

ABC Unravel podcast *Blood on The Tracks* focused on the death of Gomerioi teenager Mark Haines in Tamworth in 1988. Muruwari and Gomerioi journalist Allan Clarke spent years reporting on the efforts of the family to get justice. This work has been crucial in bringing fresh attention to the case and during the year a new inquest was announced.

Bay of Fires’ Marta Dusseldorp

Joining forces

The ABC partnered with the social entrepreneur organisation Doc Society and State and Territory funding agencies (Screenwest, VicScreen, Screen Tasmania, Screen Queensland and Screen Territory) to offer early career filmmakers an opportunity to create 11 short documentaries focusing on climate and environmental solutions. Filmmakers were paired with the wealth of expertise from the Factual team. Showcased at the Sydney Film Festival, the shorts show inspiring people and communities working on challenges facing our environment. *Power To Country* was Highly Commended for the Sustainable Future Award.

The Drama and Comedy teams engaged with local crews from locations previously under-represented in the Australian broadcast landscape. *Bay of Fires*, shot in and around Zeehan, Tasmania, created an industry boom for local crews. It was supported by the Tasmanian State Government and local businesses.

ABC Factual and Screenwest partnered to develop and commission a returnable series for Tuesday at 8pm on ABC TV and for ABC iview from a Western Australia producer. *New Leash on Life* began production in December 2022 and went to air in July 2023.



Two live events were held in Sydney and in Melbourne, with an online option, for *Magda's Big National Health Check*. More than 300 people attended, including influential leaders working to address health challenges across the NGO, community, education and policy sectors. *Magda's Big National Health Check* saw national treasure Magda Szubanski find out what are the major health challenges facing Australian society and how Australians need to work together as a community to improve their chances of a healthy life.

More than 300 people attended an in-person event in Sydney for *War on Waste S3*, with a further 400 attending the environmental impact campaign briefing events by webinar.

RN hosted sessions and presented coverage of important cultural events, meeting with audiences and connecting communities across the country. This included hosting and broadcasting conversations from the International Science Festival in Brisbane, the Perth Festival and Adelaide Festival, writers' festivals in Sydney and Melbourne and regional centres such as Byron Bay and Bendigo, and the Beaker Street Science and Arts Festival in Hobart.

The ABC's Top 5 residencies programs in Science, the Arts and the Humanities have built solid networks between leading researchers in various fields, RN programs, universities, and academic institutions throughout Australia. Past residents have used skills they learned at RN to become leaders in their fields of academia, law, journalism, publishing and innovation hubs.

Telling Australian stories

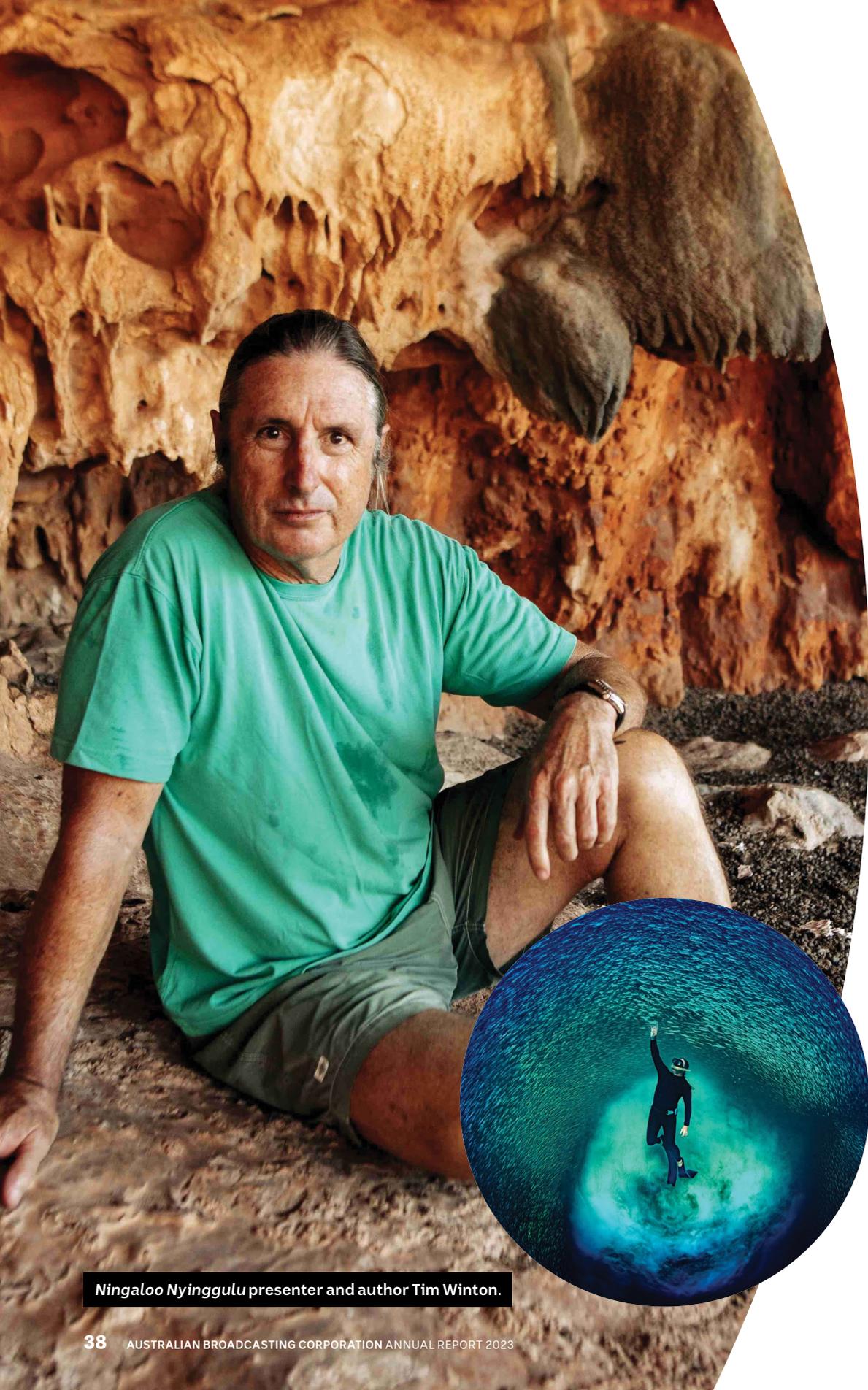
The ABC continues to tell great Australian stories that celebrate the nation's culture, reflect the country back to itself, and contribute to a sense of national identity across all platforms.

Drama & Comedy

Mystery Road: Origin was the most successful drama series in 2022-23 and became the highest performing drama series in ABC iview history, with close to 500,000 people watching the program on ABC iview. With input from a new generation of Indigenous filmmakers in front of and behind the lens, including the leading cast members, the director, the director of photography and the writing team, the series has been critically lauded. It received nine AACTA awards in 2022, including Best Drama Series, Best Direction in Drama or Comedy, Best Lead Actor and Best Lead Actress. The series received seven Logie Award nominations in 2023, including a Gold Logie nomination for Mark Coles Smith and a Silver Logie nomination for Most Popular Drama Series.

Savage River, a murder mystery miniseries led by Katherine Langford, was nominated for several awards, including four AACTA awards, winning Best Original Score. The series was nominated for Most Popular Drama, Miniseries, or Telemovie at the 2023 Logies and won best Miniseries at the 2023 SPA awards.

UK Drama acquisitions *The Split* and *Unforgotten* also performed well over the reporting period with an average audience of over 300,000 on ABC iview.



Ningaloo Nyinggulu presenter and author Tim Winton.

ABC Comedy saw strong success with the release of *Fisk Series 2*, starring Kitty Flanagan and Julia Zemiro. The series brought in huge viewership both across linear broadcast and ABC iview. The series outperformed the competition in the timeslot for all six broadcasted episodes, with an impressive 22.5% share and a series average based on total audience of each episode of 1.98 million. Both Flanagan and Zemiro were nominated for Most Popular Actress at the 2023 Logies for their performances in the series, with Flanagan winning the Logie. The series was also nominated for Most Popular Comedy Program and Most Outstanding Comedy Program.

June 2023 also saw the return of the much-loved ABC Comedy series *Utopia*. Last on TV in 2019, the series has performed extremely well across linear and ABC iview.

Entertainment

With its unique brand of political satire and humour, Shaun Micallef's *Mad as Hell* bid farewell to its adoring audience after 11 years and 15 seasons.

Hard Quiz continued to enjoy remarkable ratings success in its timeslot, a reflection of the popularity of both the format and host Tom Gleeson.

Gruen, hosted by Wil Anderson and featuring a panel of advertising experts, continued to engage and entertain audiences, while *The Weekly with Charlie Pickering* continued to deliver a winning combination of comedy and informative content.

Factual

Old People's Home for Teenagers was a compelling new take on the intergenerational experiment. The program saw older adults brought together with teenagers to see if it could transform the lives of older people and teens amid an epidemic of loneliness.

In *Ningaloo Nyinggulu*, celebrated author Tim Winton took audiences on a three-episode journey to Ningaloo Reef on WA's north-west coast that has inspired his work for decades, joining Traditional Owners, scientists and other experts to understand Ningaloo's incredible biodiversity.

Stuff the British Stole went from a smash hit podcast to a television series, to a global phenomenon with a new co-production (audio and screen) between the ABC and CBC/Radio-Canada. In *Stuff the British Stole's* third season on RN, host Marc Fennell went on a timely globe-trotting, emotional quest for the truth as he unravelled the twisted mysteries behind six iconic and priceless objects taken by the British Empire and met those who wanted them back.

In the year that Sydney hosted World Pride, *Queerstralia* revealed the untold and fascinating queer history of Australia.

Science

In August, a National Science Week campaign collaboration between *Catalyst* and RN to find Australia's Favourite Tree provided a case study for active audience engagement on a mass scale. More than 250,000 votes were registered, with the river red gum topping the poll.

The Birth Project was a major collaborative journalism initiative led by the RN science unit with News and R&L teams. A call-out for birth stories from around Australia drew close to 4,000 submissions from people relaying their personal experiences as parents or practitioners. Those case studies informed many stories across ABC RN, ABC News, ABC Health, and ABC Everyday with further TV, social, and podcast projects planned for 2023-24.

Arts everywhere!

As Australia's single most important cultural institution, the ABC has made an outsized contribution to the arts in Australia since its inception. This year the ABC presented its first ever Arts Week, a celebration of the scale and vibrancy of different artforms across the country.

Under the banner *Art is Everywhere*, Arts Week was an energising series of collaborations. The Australia Council for the Arts partnered with the ABC on an *Arts & Minds* talk series, with some episodes viewed or listened to more than 70,000 times. The ABC forged closer, ongoing ties with the Sydney Opera House, the Melbourne Theatre Company, Australian Theatre Live, Opera Australia, the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, the Australian Ballet, the Art Gallery of NSW, the Art Gallery of South Australia and Dark Mofo.

Big Weekend of Books returned for a fourth year, with ABC RN leading a celebration of books, readers and writing. It featured 30 fresh conversations with great authors. Highlights included interviews with Bonnie Garmus (*Lessons in Chemistry*), 2023 joint Pulitzer Prize winner Hernan Diaz (*Trust*) and Richard Fidler (*The Book of Roads and Kingdoms*) along with Scott Stevens' interview with Stan Grant (*The Queen is Dead*).

Music has always been central to the ABC in national life. Over the year, the ABC's various national music networks supported live music right across Australia and recorded around 450 live performances at pubs, clubs, festivals, concert halls and in the ABC studios. Standout events included *The Music Show* on ABC RN's annual live show at Womadelaide, triple j's support for Dylan Alcott's Ability Fest in November in Melbourne, triple j's very muddy July at Splendour in the Grass in Byron Bay, and triple j Unerthed's showcase of the next wave of talent at BIGSOUND in Brisbane. Via commissions and scholarships, ABC Jazz supported recordings of new Australian jazz talent.

ABC Classic remains the (virtual) classical concert hall for all Australia, broadcasting live performances from around Australia every day. The Classic 100 campaign in June 2023 appealed to audiences young and old as they voted on their favourite instruments from around the world. Hosted by Zan Rowe, Genevieve Lang and Jeremy Fernandez, in collaboration with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, *Classic 100: Your Favourite Instrument* was brought to life on stage and on ABC TV the depth, showcasing the skill and diversity of Australian musical talent.

The triple j Hottest 100 is a cultural institution and the biggest radio event in Australia. The 2022 countdown, which kicked off the 2023 calendar year, engaged an estimated 6.8 million Australians (aged 16-75) with its campaign and attracted 2,436,565 votes for the most popular songs of the year. The number one song according to triple j's audience was *Say Nothing* by Flume. Of the songs voted into the final 100, 57% were from Australian artists. The countdown continues to bring young audiences to the ABC, with 35% of 18-24-year-old Australians listening on the day and 61% engaging in some way with the campaign.

In 2022, Double J's weekly radio and podcast *Take 5* hosted by Zan Rowe debuted on screen on ABC TV. The long-running (since 2006) and acclaimed segment found new audiences with its compelling, moving conversations about music and life with performers, including Missy Higgins, Guy Pearce, Keith Urban and Tori Amos. *Take 5* achieved a series average based on the Total Audience of each episode of 782,000. The podcast has achieved 1.5 million downloads since 2021. Series 2 will be out in the second half of 2023.

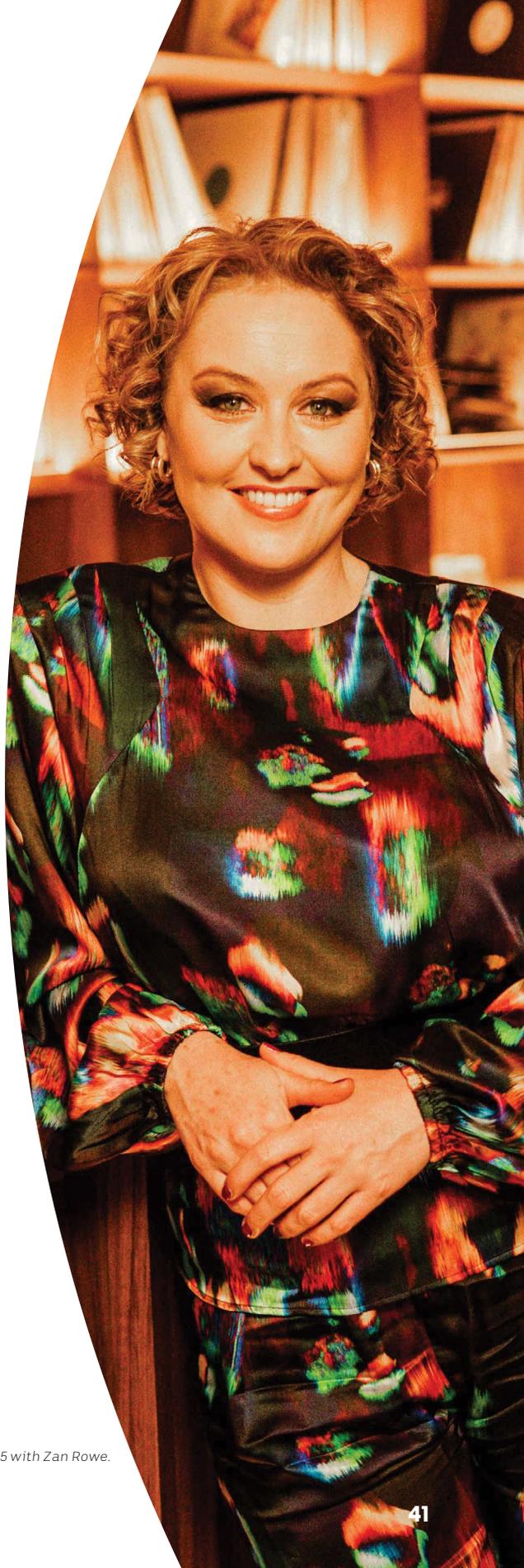
Embracing digital

The ABC expanded its gaming coverage footprint with ABC Gamer, launching a dedicated TikTok account that surpassed early expectations and amassed over 45,000 followers in five months. In June 2023, it was averaging more than two million total views per month. ABC Children also launched ABC tween and youth audience nostalgia-charged #abctok, which delivered a similarly strong performance on the ABC's Masterbrand TikTok account.

In 2022-23, triple j continued to evolve and prioritise social and digital content, with a focus on developing new, video-rich content formats across Instagram, YouTube and TikTok. For triple j's coverage of Sydney WorldPride and Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras in 2023, the team launched the ABC's first YouTube vodcast chat series, *D&M*, hosted by triple j's Mardi Gras parade hosts Abby Butler and Tyrone Pynor. *D&M* profiled LGBTQIA+ community leaders and creators, with inspiring conversations and shared lived experiences.

The ABC introduced autoplay previews to the ABC iView Apple TV app in June 2023. Autoplay previews are 30-90-second excerpts from a show that play automatically from specific placements. Other improvements to ABC iView include personalised recommendations for the audience with the addition of the 'Recommended for You' and 'Because You Watched' functions.

In May 2023, the ABC brought all its audio content together for the first time under its ABC listen brand, expanding from a mobile app to include a web presence. The new ABC listen website mirrors the layout and functionality of the ABC listen app and is the front door to the ABC's extensive audio programming, including live radio, news and music.



Take 5 with Zan Rowe.



Growing up with the ABC

Throughout the year, the ABC delivered children's content that captivated young hearts and minds. ABC Kids and ABCME reached 43% of Australians under the age of 15.

The warmth and honesty of *Bluey* reigned in Australia and around the world, making it Australia's most successful TV program ever. It was the No.1 show in Australia and the No.1 streaming show in the US on Disney. *Bluey's* share of broadcast viewing among pre-schoolers in Australia was around 84% and peaked at over 90% for some episodes.

The *Play School* team continued to work with great Australian talent including Michelle Lim Davison, Alex Papps, Miah Madden and Matt Backer, while *Reef School* featured Emma Watkins as narrator. The ABC began production of the long-awaited spin-off of the beloved show for adults, *Gardening Australia Junior*.

New ABC Kids iView program, *Beep & Mort*, brought puppet magic to the screen from South Australian Windmill Pictures, while 3D animators Cheeky Little Media brought back a third season of *Kangaroo Beach*, plus a new series of prehistoric comedy *Ginger & the Vegesaur*s.

ABC Me Best Fests delivered excellent school holiday viewing, with original Australian animation, comedies and dramas plus international franchises. *Mikki vs World Series 2* and *Soundtrack to my Teenage Zombie Apocalypse* offered new ways of approaching mental health issues — and survival tactics for a fictional zombie apocalypse. Tween-girl rock-band series *Turn Up the Volume* and horror comedy *Crazy Fun Park* gave Aussie tweens and teens coming-of-age stories with a twist.

Two entertaining series delivered a mix of adventure and comedy, while showcasing young Australian stars of the future. Zane Blumeris and Rehanna Lunn led the comedy two-hander *Wildlifers!*, made in Melbourne during COVID, while Cassandra Helmut settled into life at the Lodge as *The PM's Daughter*.

ABC Kids listen, the digital and on-demand radio station, programmed more than 8,700 hours over the year. One hundred hours of original content were produced including 75 new songs commissioned from 28 Australian artists. Podcasting expanded too, with great listening like *Imagine This*, *Little Yarns* and *Dino Dome*, plus *Play School Ears On*.

Crazy Fun Park cast members Stacy Clausen, Hannah Ogawa and Henry Strand.

Celebrating modern Australia

Creating content that reflects the lives of its audiences is an important part of the ABC's purpose. It aims for inclusive storytelling, creating opportunities for the next generation of content makers (before and behind the camera) to work alongside some of Australia's leading producers and directors.

In 2022-23, Entertainment & Specialist continued to deliver initiatives to the ABC's Elevate Reconciliation Action Plan and Diversity & Inclusion Action Plan, with a focus on workforce, inclusive products and services, and content. Some achievements have been:

- Extending audio description (AD) content to ABC iview, as well as broadcast, exceeding the hours requirements across Australian and acquired international content.
- Hosting a range of targeted placements across the Division, including three trainees in Entertainment & Specialist Teams, and hosting participants across our content teams through initiatives with AFTRS, Create NSW and Creatability, and the Australian International Documentary Conference.
- ABC staff participated in the industry-wide Screen Diversity and Inclusion Network (SDIN), and implemented The Everyone Project, a key initiative of the SDIN to benchmark and track representation across the screen industry. Kelrick Martin completed his two-year term as Co-Chair of the SDIN.

In August 2022, ABC Kids added to its wide-ranging bedtime collection with a lullaby that celebrates Indigenous language and culture. Written and performed by Emily Wurramara and produced by DOBBY, *Marringa Lullaby* was brought to life visually by Bacon Factory Films and Bent3Land Productions, with beautiful illustrations by Yuwi and Torres Strait Islander artist Dylan Mooney.

To celebrate National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day on 1 August, *Play School* invited children to share in a festival of songs and stories in its 'Yarning and Dreaming' special.

ABC Kids listen transformed its daily Acknowledgement of Country to feature children from around Australia speaking about the different Indigenous lands they live on and paying tribute to the Traditional Owners. The Acknowledgements play daily at midday and are a key feature of the ABC Kids smart speaker experience.

ABC Me's Kaleidoscope Project in partnership with Screen Australia created pathways for four culturally diverse, emerging film making teams to share stories from Australia's many rich and dynamic communities. Four films from emerging Australian creatives were chosen to appear on ABC Me and ABC iview.

The ABC Drama-commissioned series *In Our Blood* focused on the emergence of HIV in Australia, recreating a challenging flashpoint for those touched by that epidemic, including LGBTQIA+ people, sex workers and IV drug users. The story of the response was told through a contemporary queer lens, with music, humour and direct-to-camera pieces to underscore the strength and resilience of these communities. The series was filmed with all queer roles played by queer performers and a significant queer representation among the crew.

ABC Comedy worked with Aunty Donna, the Melbourne-based absurdist comedy troupe, to produce the six-part series *Aunty Donna's Coffee Café*. The series aimed to engage with a younger demographic, appealing to contemporary 'zoomer humour' and providing a fresh and unique series that is rare to find in Australian broadcast media. The team had a well-established social media brand, allowing for total socials views to exceed 20 million, inclusive of two million YouTube views and 7.1 million Instagram views.

Industry Engagement & Partnerships

Entertainment & Specialist has continued to foster strong relationships with the screen industry. It liaised with SPA and the screen agencies over a range of issues and has provided strong representation at the two major industry conferences and markets, Screen Forever and Australian International Documentary Conference, and guild and screen agency events.

The ABC and South Australian Film Corporation have initiated the Content Pipeline Initiative, which commits to commissioning content produced in South Australia with a fixed financial contribution from SA Government over the next three years to support continuity of work in the industry in the state.

In November, the ABC and CBC/Radio-Canada announced the continuation of their successful creative and commercial collaboration. Originally signed in June 2019, the renewed Memorandum of Understanding will allow the ABC and CBC/Radio-Canada to continue co-developing dramas, comedies, factual content, children's programs and podcasts, and to increase the reach and impact of this content.

The ABC/Screen West Factual Format Initiative saw three formats chosen to be developed for broadcast on ABC iview and the family-friendly 8pm Tuesday prime-time slot on ABC TV. The first series will broadcast in the second half of 2023.

ABC Factual welcomed the AIDC/ ABC Indigenous Documentary Placement, provided new opportunities for LGBTQIA+ via its AFTRS Factual Placement and partnered with the Australian Network on Disability to welcome a graduate with a disability into the Impact team via the Stepping Into Program, an initiative run by the Australian Network on Disability which offers paid work experience for university students with disability.

Critical industry placement opportunities were supported by the ABC Children's team. Young filmmaker Holly Hunter gained experience in a range of roles across commissioning and production in the ABC/ AFTRS Graduate Traineeship program. AFTRS Internship facilitators said ABC Children's was one of the most applied-for organisations within their graduate pool.

ABC Children's was also successful in its bid to be a host organisation for the Createability Internship Program run through Create NSW. The recipient worked within the *Play School* team as a Production Assistant from February to May 2023.

The E&S Operations team welcomed two trainees in targeted positions, one for an Indigenous person and one for a person living with a disability. The trainees undertook 12 months of intense learning across all aspects of operations in both Television and Radio/Audio and both will be employed as ongoing multi-skilled operators in their respective sites.

ABC's *Play School* and the South West Aboriginal Land Council (SWALSC) formalised a partnership to collaborate around creating opportunities for Indigenous voices, perspectives, languages, art and stories to be heard and valued in *Play School* through the series' Noongar doll, Kiya.

triple j Unearthed continued to tap into the emerging scene of artists and musicians from across the country, best observed in the five diverse artist-of-the-year nominations in the 2022 J Awards reaching all corners geographically and musically.

Sustainability

In 2022, the ABC joined industry body Sustainable Screens Australia (SSA) as a foundational member. This membership will provide access to tools and resources to aid the transition to more sustainable production practices within the ABC and in commissioned content.

Awards

ABC content was recognised with prestigious local and international awards. Some notable achievements included:

- *Love On the Spectrum*: Winner International EMMY (Best Non-Scripted).
- *Old People's Home for Teenagers*: AACTA (Best Factual Entertainment Program), Screen Forever (Best Series), NY Festivals TV and Film Awards (Gold in Documentary category, Social Issues).
- *I'm Wanita*: AIDC (Best Feature Documentary), Sydney Film Festival Winner Best Documentary.
- *Firestarter: The Story of Bangarra*: AACTA (Best Documentary), Walkley Awards (Best Documentary).
- *Ithaka: The Fight to Save Julian Assange*: Berlin Human Rights Film Festival (Audience Award Winner), DocEdge Festival, New Zealand (Best International Director).
- *Carbon: The Unauthorised Biography*: World Congress of Science and Factual Producers (Best Green Documentary).

In 2023, ABC Classic said farewell to Margaret Throsby, a true great of the ABC.

“If you had told me, when I joined the ABC in 1967 as a wet-behind-the-ears announcer, that I would continue working for the organisation for the next 55 years, I would have told you, the immortal phrase from *The Castle*, ‘You’re dreamin’!”, says Margaret.

She overcame major barriers to be the first woman since WWII to read the national news on ABC radio in 1975 and the first woman to read the news on ABC TV in 1978.

Over the last two decades, “Margaret Throsby’s Interviews” on ABC Classic gave extraordinary insights into the lives, work and musical interests of thousands of special guests. Margaret’s guest list included Prime Ministers, divas, trailblazers and humanitarians. A mentor to generations of young women across our radio networks, Margaret is an enduring, respected and cherished icon of the ABC.

ABC International

The ABC is committed to its Charter responsibility to transmit news, current affairs, entertainment and cultural-enrichment content to audiences outside Australia. This content encourages international awareness of Australia and Australian attitudes on world affairs and allows Australian expatriates and travellers to keep in touch with affairs at home.

ABC International Services incorporates two distinct divisions with complementary objectives and activities. **ABC International Broadcast and Digital Services (ABC IBDS)** offers high-quality content on television, radio and digital and social media with a particular focus on the Indo-Pacific region. **ABC International Development (ABCID)** supports public interest journalism through media capacity-building across the Indo-Pacific with a particular focus on Pacific media. The shared purpose of these two international teams is to be the pre-eminent Australian source of independent news, information, and media support to the Indo-Pacific region.

ABC International Broadcast and Digital Services

The ABC's international services are multiplatform and cover traditional broadcast media and digital on-demand and social channels to reach audiences far and wide in the formats they prefer. This year, the ABC increased the reach of its international programming through new partnerships and syndication agreements in key markets, including Papua New Guinea (PNG), Fiji, the Solomon Islands, the Republic of Marshall Islands, Palau, Timor-Leste, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Nepal. With additional Government funding, IBDS pursued the

In the October 2022 Budget, the Australian Government announced an increased investment in the ABC's international services through a special appropriation of \$32 million over four years. A further investment in regional distribution of \$8.5 million for four years from 2023-24 was announced in the May 2023 Budget.

ABC International Services will apply this funding to increase the reach of ABC and Australian content across the region, including through growing the number of ABC Radio Australia transmission sites in strategically important locations across the Pacific. International Services will also increase the volume of bespoke programming for target audiences and build media capacity with partners across the region.

expansion of the ABC Radio Australia FM transmission footprint in the Pacific and will deliver services in new locations in late 2023. The ABC launched a new digital service, ABC Pacific, in August 2022.

ABC Radio Australia

ABC Radio Australia is an international radio service available via FM in 13 locations in the Pacific and Timor-Leste. Selected high-value content produced for target audiences across the region is also available through local and regional radio services, including the National Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) in PNG, Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation (SIBC) and Radio New Zealand (RNZ) Pacific's shortwave service. ABC Radio Australia is also available globally as audio-on-demand and as a stream over the web.

Increased funding announced in the October 2022 Budget enabled the ABC to significantly scale up its Pacific-focused radio/audio content production. It launched a new schedule in May 2023 and new bespoke Pacific programs, including a new daily morning show, *Nesia Daily*, sport show *Nesian Footy*, music shows *In the Fale* and *On the Record*, and *Stories from The Pacific*.

As part of the ABC's 90th anniversary celebrations, IBDS commissioned and launched a history of ABC Radio Australia, *Australia Calling: The ABC Radio Australia Story*. Written and researched by ABC Radio Australia alumnus and academic Dr Phil Kafcaloudes, the book was launched in November 2022.

In 2022, *Pacific Break*, the Pacific's biggest music competition, returned to ABC Radio Australia. PNG-based singer Danielle made history as the first woman to win the competition.

ABC Australia

ABC Australia is the ABC's international television service, available in high definition via more than 100 rebroadcast partners in 38 countries and territories across the Indo-Pacific region. ABC Australia is available on partner platforms as a 24/7 channel. In addition, the ABC offers access to blocks of ABC programs that broadcasters can insert within their own schedules.

Danielle performs at Womadelaide 2023. Image: Colin Uren.

In 2022, *Pacific Break*, the Pacific's biggest music competition, returned to ABC Radio Australia. PNG-based singer Danielle made history as the first woman to win the competition.



Over the year, ABC Australia delivered specially made programming of strategic importance to Australia targeting regional audiences. These included the series *China Tonight* and *India Now*, which were produced by ABC News with funding support from ABC International Services. International also funded the ABC News team's documentary *Bradman and Tendulkar*, about two of cricket's greatest players. The documentary and its associated content reached over 3.2 million views, mainly from India-based audiences.

Under a funding agreement with the Australia Government's PacificAus Sports program, IBDS continued to work with ABC Sport to produce and broadcast *That Pacific Sports Show* for ABC Australia and *Can You Be More Pacific* for ABC Radio Australia audiences.



In April 2022, ABC Australia launched *The Pacific*, its new flagship pan-Pacific current affairs program. Designed and created by ABC News' Asia Pacific Newsroom team specifically for Pacific audiences, *The Pacific* is dedicated to covering the stories that matter in the region. The program draws on a network of journalists within Australia and across the Pacific with deep regional expertise.

RTTL English news team video editor Sonia Madeira

ABC International Digital Services

The ABC's digital content, including content developed by the ABC's Asia Pacific Newsroom's specialist Chinese-language and Bahasa Indonesia teams is served through **abc.net.au**, the ABC News app and third-party social media platforms, including Facebook, YouTube, Weibo and WeChat. Bahasa Indonesia digital news content is syndicated to major news platforms in Indonesia, including Tempo, Kompas, Detik and Republika.

In August 2022, in recognition of media consumption shifts in the Pacific towards mobile and digital platforms, ABC IBDS launched ABC Pacific, a new digital home for content relevant to Pacific audiences. It is now available to Australian and international audiences at **abc.net.au/pacific** and on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. ABC Pacific Facebook regularly reaches up to one million people a week.

ABC International Development

ABC International Development (ABCID) partners with media, civil society, and government organisations in the Indo-Pacific region, designing and delivering media development initiatives and research. It is entirely funded through donor agencies.

ABCID worked on a range of projects in 2022-23. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) selected ABCID to deliver the fourth phase of the Pacific Media Assistance Scheme (PACMAS) following a competitive tender process. PACMAS undertakes media capacity-building activities across Melanesia, Polynesia and Micronesia. In 2022-23, activities included economic reporting, women in media, parliamentary reporting, journalism fundamentals and mobile journalism.

The Media Development Initiative (MDI) is a DFAT-funded project focused on partnering with PNG media organisations to support content development and capacity building. In 2022-23, activities included the digitisation of historic content from the archive of the National Broadcasting Corporation of PNG, training provincial program makers in emergency broadcasting, supporting the revival of the Media Council of Papua New Guinea, and strengthening connections between the media and community service organisations.

Under the DFAT-funded Women in News and Sports initiative, ABCID trained and mentored women journalists across the Indo-Pacific to cover both community and major regional sporting stories and events.

Under the SAFE project, ABCID provided technical assistance on behaviour change communication initiatives across the Pacific on sexual and reproductive health issues. The project is funded by the Australian Government through the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

The Girls Online (GO!) Project, supported by the Australian Government Cyber and Critical Tech Cooperation Program, focuses on empowering young women in Tonga and Vanuatu to build resilience and address the challenges they encounter in the online sphere.

ABCID delivered three separate media development and behaviour change communications projects under the DFAT-funded Australian Humanitarian Partnership with its partner Oxfam: Disaster READY in Timor Leste, risk communications and community engagement on vaccination, including COVID-19, in PNG, and COVID-19 vaccine support in Laos.

The Philippines Emergency Broadcasting project, implemented by ABCID and funded through DFAT, developed Emergency Broadcasting Plans and Standard Operating Procedures for the emergency management information providers of the Philippines Government.

The additional funding for ABC International Services announced in the October 2022 Budget enabled ABCID to implement three additional programs. The Indonesia Media Development Program aims to strengthen the media sector in Indonesia by focusing on digital safety and resilience. Likewise, the Timor-Leste Media Development program aims to foster a strong media landscape in Timor-Leste and, in its first six months, delivered a key component of the initiative by enabling the launch of an English-language news program by the Timor-Leste public broadcaster, RTTLs. Finally, the Media Education for Development and Information Access (MEDIA) platform will house online resources and courses focused on journalism training and capacity-building. The invitation-only platform will be available to participants of ABCID-supported activities and media.

Digital and content innovation

The ABC recognises that audiences are rapidly adopting new technologies and platforms to find news and entertainment. It is imperative that the ABC responds to this shift by moving to a digital first model. This will be a significant driver of ABC operational decisions over the next five years.

JournalismAI Fellowship with London School of Economics

In 2022, members of the ABC's Innovation Lab and Digital Product teams participated in a six-month Fellowship with JournalismAI, a global initiative that empowers news organisations to use artificial intelligence (AI) responsibly. The ABC's involvement in the Fellowship was instrumental in encouraging and shaping the development of editorial and guidance on use of AI at the ABC, including the organisation's first privacy and ethics assessment for an AI project.

Supporting emergency broadcast teams

The Technical Services Distribution team has deployed new delivery technology to ensure local content is provided to areas impacted by emergency broadcasting. This is an important step to fulfil the ABC's responsibility to provide content for all Australians.

The teams in Technology Services and Master Control Room (MCR) have also started to replace hardware that is nearing end of its life and using newer solutions with increased flexibility. This has resulted in better resilience in the network and more support for ABC sites across the various capital cities and regions.

The MCR and Technology Services teams have embarked on trips to the regions to provide regular maintenance and training for the regional teams to improve their knowledge and skills with emergency broadcasting.

Refurbished studios

A national refresh of the 7pm News Bulletin television sets was completed in July 2022, with the Darwin studios being the final site to receive an updated set. It received a completely new set, including furniture, LED screens and lighting, aligning it to the national news style.

A trial of radio visualisation in the Brisbane studios has delivered new ways of engaging audiences. The latest in AI studio technology has provided an automated means of creating video content from radio programs. This video content from radio studios is being repurposed via social media and provides a greater wealth of content for sharing into ABC news streams across all platforms.

The ABC is actively evaluating the capabilities of virtual and augmented reality production as a means of making more efficient use of its studio facilities while delivering opportunities for enhanced visual storytelling and audience engagement. Several productions have been completed utilising virtual elements, and the technology will be deployed permanently into the ABC's new Parramatta studios as a pilot for potential rollout to further sites.

Personalisation

During the year, the ABC continued to drive the personalisation of key websites and apps. The rollout of content recommendations utilises several techniques, such as recommendations based on location, affinity segmentation and popular and trending content. A high conversion of audience discovery content from other related ABC content has been recorded as a direct result of the recommendations engine.

To meet the needs of delivering these personalised digital experiences, the ABC refreshed key platforms, including increasing computing power and storage, greater systems resilience measures and improved account security features.

Archive digitisation

The redesigned ABC Archives operating model better supports content makers who are serving changing audience needs. It creates an innovative and adaptive culture that leverages technology to enable more efficient content collection, management, discovery and reuse.

The ABC is moving away from legacy manual workflows and maximising the value of Archive content, making it discoverable and accessible for content makers through greater self-service and open access.

This transformation around the capture, management and access to content enables more streamlined delivery workflows. Metadata travels with content through its lifecycle and its creation is becoming a shared responsibility with content teams. Ensuring metadata is captured at the source enhances the value of ABC content, as well as the ability to discover and share.

The mass digitisation of more than two million media assets has allowed for greater self-service for content teams using CoDA. Where access was previously mediated, content makers can now access the archives from their desktop 24/7.

Indigenous Collections Team

Improving access to the ABC Archives Indigenous Collection has been a top priority of the Indigenous Collections Team over the past year. The Indigenous Collections team has researched the Archive to identify Indigenous content and started embedding Indigenous languages and knowledge into the catalogue records, creating a more discoverable collection. The team has also been assessing content rights in consultation with Indigenous people and their communities, who hold the cultural knowledge, to better inform the Indigenous content collection.

In February 2023, the 'Giving Back' program, *Kin-nect* began as a pilot project. The *Kin-nect* program connects Kin and Culture through the access of ABC Archives for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their communities.

By the end of the year, the program is expected to deliver more than 200 pieces of archival content back to communities and keeping places across Australia. This content is provided by email in a digital file format that is downloadable.

It will launch officially at the PULiiMA Indigenous Languages and Technology Conference in Darwin and is a key transformation piece in the ABC's new Elevate RAP.

Curatorial work is being undertaken on the ABC Indigenous Program Unit collection. It includes *Message Stick* and *Blackout*, both priority programs to have in the Archive for access by Indigenous communities and ABC Content Makers.

The ABC continues to build strong relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations. Collaborating with Elders and other cultural knowledge holders helps identify protocols attached to culturally restricted materials held in the ABC collection. This process enables best practice in caring for and managing collection content.

The ABC Manager of Indigenous Collections and Community Access has attended several conferences to speak about the work of the Indigenous Collections team, including at Queen Mary University in London, AIDC in Melbourne and the AIATSIS Summit in Perth.

Cybersecurity

The ABC continues to remain vigilant and closely monitor its technology environments for cybersecurity threats. It has invested in a range of tools, technology and services to manage this risk, while actions underway include security monitoring of systems, regular communications with the Australian Cyber Security Centre (ACSC), maturing and expanding major incident management response processes, vulnerability management across devices, operating systems and applications, and ongoing staff awareness and training.

TikTok Incubator

The TikTok Incubator project explored how the ABC could use TikTok in a resource-efficient and strategic way through the creation of an ABC Masterbrand account. Audiences aged between 14 and 29 represent the ABC's greatest reach challenge, as they are heavy users of digital platforms with a strong reliance on third-party services. As TikTok has a particularly high rate of use by this demographic, it is important for the ABC to build a presence in this space.

In its year-long existence, the @abc account delivered 618 pieces of digital-first content, amassing nearly 50 million views. It attracted a dedicated following of 123,000 users, of whom approximately 55% fell within the 18–24 age range. The TikTok Incubator project allowed the ABC to verify an audience appetite for a dedicated ABC News TikTok account, which successfully launched in December 2022.

The Talent Fund

The Talent Fund brings young creators with proven success in connecting with younger audiences into the ABC to work with content teams. In 2022–23, the Talent Fund strategically matched nine digital content creators with ABC teams, leading to a total of 16 million views of ABC content on third-party platforms, 70% of which were by individuals under the age of 30. The year's talent included popular creators such as Mary McGilivray (ABC Arts), Tom Forrest (ABC Indigenous) and Mary Grace Quigley (ABC Everyday) covering areas such as art history, skits and recipes.

In addition to the Talent Fund, ABC Innovation Lab also identified other digital creators to work with ABC teams, including Kirsten Banks (astrophysics), Aslan Pahari (history & religion) and Tilly Oddy-Black (comedy). Similarly, the Queerespondent project partnered popular creator Rudy Jean Rigg with ABCQueer and ABC Screen, Sport & Events to provide younger audiences with digital-first reports of the ABC's Sydney WorldPride coverage.

Virtual Voice Pilot

ABC Innovation Lab partnered with Microsoft to develop an ABC virtual voice and applied it in a 'text-to-speech' trial on the ABC News website to understand the audience appetite and potential applications for such technologies. The pilot added a 'listen to this article' option to selected news stories. Its success provided useful insights into the technology requirements and audience perceptions for the feature and has led to multiple related projects.

Podcast Transcription Pilot

During the reporting period, the ABC Innovation Lab evaluated a range of AI-powered transcription tools as a means of offering transcripts for all ABC podcasts. The six-month pilot compared the accuracy, costs and features of different transcription tools. It enabled selected podcast teams to regularly upload transcripts alongside new episodes, yielding insights from audiences and staff about their experiences. Innovation Lab also worked with the ABC Listen design team to design and test better web and app transcript experiences. AI-powered transcription will move into production in 2024, making ABC audio content even more accessible to all Australians.

Futurecast

The Futurecast event series, hosted by the ABC Innovation Lab, comprised future-focused workshops in which staff presented their visions for the ABC of 2032 ahead of the release of the new Five-Year Plan. The series was held in five locations around the country and engaged 220 ABC staff, 23 young creatives and 11 industry leaders. Staff heard from experts on many different aspects of the changing media landscape, including AI, news avoidance, gaming and changing youth audience habits and attitudes. They included Ashley Chang (YouTube), Lee Hickin (Microsoft), Sam Koslowski (Daily Aus), Jenny Tian (digital creator), Professor Sora Park (UC) and Lisy Kane (Girl Geek Academy).

In Limbo cast members Ryan Corr and Bob Morley.





Prime Minister Anthony Albanese with Bluey and Bingo.

The ABC celebrates 90

The ABC's 90th birthday in 2022 was a chance to celebrate the national broadcaster's contribution to the nation. The ABC has grown from 12 radio stations in 1932 into a multi-media organisation, broadcasting from more than 66 capital-city and regional locations, and around the world from 11 international bureaux.

Speaking at the ABC's 90th Anniversary Gala Dinner held in Ultimo's Studio 22, Managing Director David Anderson said the anniversary was an opportunity for all Australians to share in the ABC's rich history. "The ABC has been part of everyday life in Australia since 1932. It has played a big part in documenting our country's development and achievements over nine decades, and has grown and adapted to changing times, in step with the nation."

ABC Chair Ita Buttrose AC OBE said the organisation's 90th celebrations were about giving back to Australians. "The ABC is a very special Australian institution because it always has belonged to and been shaped by our listeners and viewers. We have spoken to, with, and for Australians, wherever they live,

for 90 years. They trust us and we value their trust. It has allowed us to build a long and stable relationship with our audience."

Prime Minister Hon Anthony Albanese MP outlined the ABC's crucial role in contributing to both social cohesion and a healthy democracy. "Confidence in our democratic system is underpinned by strong public organisations contributing accurate information and well-informed, carefully reasoned analysis... and one of those public organisations has to be the ABC," he said.

"A strong ABC is an insurance policy against the misinformation and disinformation chipping away at what we hold dear. Amid the rising tide of social media, the ABC is a beacon of trust."



Prime Minister Anthony Albanese with his partner Jodie Haydon and ABC Chair Ita Buttrose.

“A strong ABC is an insurance policy against the misinformation and disinformation chipping away at what we hold dear. Amid the rising tide of social media, the ABC is a beacon of trust.”

The Prime Minister also reinforced his Government’s commitment to a better-resourced, independent ABC and promised to review options for delivering greater financial sustainability to safeguard against political interference. “I want to take this opportunity to reiterate my Government’s vow to provide the ABC with five-year funding terms... and review options for delivering greater financial sustainability to safeguard against political interference. I want us to be a country at home with our own identity and a part of that is cherishing the ABC and respecting the ABC.”

To mark the significant occasion, the ABC ran special programming throughout 2022 across television, radio, online and social platforms, including a live national television special, *ABC 90 Celebrate!*

All Australians were invited to celebrate the milestone with community events and millions of people took up the ABC’s invitation. In the latter half of 2022, the ABC ran a range of specialist ABC 90 content, which included a NAIDOC Week special *Looking Black*, a live broadcast with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra to mark the re-opening of the Sydney Opera House’s Concert Hall, *Australia Calling: The ABC Radio Australia Story*, *Still We Rise* — marking the 50th anniversary of the Aboriginal Tent Embassy in Canberra — and a wide selection of retrospective features covering religion, drama, sport, comedy, music and news.

Audience data and analysis

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WILDLIFERS! stars Zane Blumeris and Rehanna Lunn.



Quality, distinctiveness and trust

The ABC Corporate Tracking Program provides insights into community perceptions and beliefs about the value of the ABC's contribution to Australian society. The ABC Corporate Tracking Program is conducted monthly, with an online methodology among a nationally representative sample of people aged 18-75 years.

Overall community sentiment towards the ABC has improved compared with last year. A large majority of Australians (81%) believe the ABC performs a valuable role in the Australian community, with 41% rating the role the ABC plays as "very valuable".

The respondents were asked about their views on the quality of ABC Television. Consistent with previous surveys, most Australians (76%) remain of the view that ABC television provides good quality programming, and 66% feel it does a "good job" in terms of the number of shows it provides that they personally like to watch. In contrast, 70% of respondents describe the quality of commercial TV as "good".

Respondents were asked about their usage of the ABC website and online services. Among those who have used ABC digital services in the past month, the vast majority (90%) believe the quality of content is "good", with 45% of ABC online users rating the quality as "very good". 87% of users also feel that ABC Online does a "good job" on the amount of relevant content it provides.

The ABC Corporate Tracking Study also explores public perceptions about the ABC's performance in relation to specific aspects of the Corporation's Charter. The majority of Australians remain of the view that the ABC is doing "a good job" fulfilling its various Charter obligations. 79% of respondents believe the ABC does a "good job" of being distinctively Australian, while 73% believe the ABC does a "good job" of being accurate and impartial when reporting news and current affairs.

Overall, 69% of Australians believe that the ABC does a "good job" covering country and regional issues compared with 59% for commercial media.

The ABC continues to outperform commercial media in the provision of news and information on country and regional Australia among both city-based (69%) and country and regional (69%) populations.

79% of Australian adults aged 18 – 75 years trust the information that the ABC provides; significantly higher than the levels of trust recorded for internet search engines like Google (69%), commercial radio (60%), commercial TV (58%), newspaper publishers (58%) and Facebook (32%)¹

¹ 2023 Source: ABC Corporate Tracking Study (n=6899); online methodology, ABC Audience Data & Insights. People 18 – 75 years

Measures of community satisfaction

Providing a quality service:		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
% of people who believe the ABC provides quality programming	Television	78	78	81	80	78	78	78	76
	Radio	62	63	65	62	58	56	56	56
	Online (among ABC Online users)	89	91	88	86	92	92	91	90
	% of people who believe the ABC is accurate and impartial when reporting news and current affairs	77	74	75	74	72	73	72	73
Providing a valuable service:		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
% of people who value the ABC and its services to the community		86	83	83	82	78	79	78	81
Meeting the ABC's Charter obligations		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
% of people who regard the ABC to be distinctively Australian and contributing to Australia's national identity		81	78	80	79	77	78	77	79
% of people who believe the ABC reflects the cultural diversity of the Australian community		79	78	80	76	76	77	76	78
% of people who consider the ABC:									
• encourages and promotes Australian performing arts such as music and drama		77	76	78	77	74	74	74	77
• provides programs of an educational nature		82	82	82	80	77	77	77	80
• achieves a good balance between programs of wide appeal and specialised interest		80	75	77	76	73	74	74	75
% of people who perceive the ABC to be innovative		73	69	72	72	69	70	70	72
Providing an efficient service:		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
% of people who believe the ABC is efficient and well managed		69	65	68	66	66	68	69	69

2023 Source: ABC Corporate Tracking Study (n=6899); online methodology, ABC Audience Data & Insights. People 18 – 75 years

2022 Source: ABC Corporate Tracking Study (n=4499); online methodology, ABC Audience Data & Insights. People 18 – 75 years

2021 Source: ABC Corporate Tracking Study (n=4572); online methodology, ABC Audience Data & Insights. People 18 – 75 years

Audience reach

Combined reach

The ABC's combined national audience reach across television, radio and online was estimated to be 65.4% over a period of a week in 2023², a decline of 4 percentage points compared to the ABC's net reach in 2022 (69.4%).³ This overall decline was driven by declines in radio reach and a softer news cycle post the COVID-19 Pandemic.

ABC digital products

ABC digital products experienced declines in 2022-23, off the back of heightened engagement during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021-22. ABC weekly users decreased by 23% on 2021-22, to an average of 13.04 million⁴. Declines in weekly users' year-on-year was primarily driven by growing news avoidance in a post-pandemic media environment and as people's heavy need for news during the pandemic reduced, the ABC's audience also reduced.

ABC News web has been the primary driver of overall network decline with weekly users averaging 7.7 million, down 30% year-on-year. To a lesser extent ABC News app softened, down 14% to 1.06 million weekly active users⁵.

The ABC listen app had steady weekly active users in 2022-23, with 452,000 weekly active users. This was 1% fewer users than in 2021-22. Average time spent per user remained high at just under 4 hours per week⁶.

The triple j app experienced a 17% decline in weekly active users, with 85,000 active weekly users in 2022-23. Users spent an average of 2 hours and 6 minutes per week in the app, which was 4 minutes below the 2021-22 average.

The ABC Kids listen app experienced strong growth during 2022-23, with 37,000 weekly active users. This was an increase of 61% active users compared to 2021-22. ABC ME app weekly active users softened to 40,000 in 2022-23, a decrease by 27% compared to 2021-22.⁷

Average Weekly Users

Property	2021-22	2022-23	% Diff
ABC Total	17,023,000	13,039,000	-23%
News Web (+AMP)	11,093,000	7,742,000	-30%
iView main	2,101,000	2,094,000	0%
News App	1,244,000	1,064,000	-14%
ABC Homepage	662,000	479,000	-28%
KIDS iView App	478,000	441,000	-8%
ABC listen App	456,000	452,000	-1%
Triple J App	102,000	85,000	-17%
ABC ME App	55,000	40,000	-27%
KIDS listen App	23,000	37,000	61%

Average Weekly Time Spent (minutes)

Property	2021-22	2022-23	% Diff
ABC Total	34.3	37.7	10%
News Web (+AMP)	8.2	9.0	10%
iView main	99.5	92.6	-7%
News App	54.4	44.3	-19%
ABC Homepage	9.3	7.5	-19%
KIDS iView App	77.4	66.0	-15%
ABC listen App	255.9	237.2	-7%
Triple J App	129.7	125.5	-3%
ABC ME App	83.5	75.1	-10%
KIDS listen App	150.7	147.8	-2%

Source: Google Analytics, 2021-22 (5 Jul 21 - 3 Jul 22), 2022-23 (4 Jul 2022 - 2 Jul 2023). ABC News Web: The period of 3rd - 30th April 2023 is excluded due to a tracking error. ABC News app: the period of 5th Dec 2022 - 5th Feb 2023 is excluded due to a tracking issue affecting android users.

² 2023 Source: ABC Corporate Tracking Study (n=6899); online methodology, ABC Audience Data & Insights. People 18 - 75 years

³ 2022 Source: ABC Corporate Tracking Study (n=4499); online methodology, ABC Audience Data & Insights. People 18 - 75 years

⁴ Google Analytics, 2021-22 (5 Jul 21 - 3 Jul 22), 2022-23 (4 Jul 2022 - 2 Jul 2023)

⁵ Google Analytics, 2021-22 (5 Jul 21 - 3 Jul 22), 2022-23 (4 Jul 2022 - 2 Jul 2023) Note: ABC News Web had the period of 3rd - 30th April 2023 excluded due to a tracking error. ABC News app, the period of 5th Dec 2022 - 5th Feb 2023 was excluded due to a tracking issue affecting android Users

⁶ Google Analytics, 2021-22 (5 Jul 21 - 3 Jul 22), 2022-23 (4 Jul 2022 - 2 Jul 2023)

⁷ Google Analytics, 2021-22 (5 Jul 21 - 3 Jul 22), 2022-23 (4 Jul 2022 - 2 Jul 2023)

Social media

ABC social media audiences remained strong in 2022-23, with continued growth in followers and subscribers across social platforms. ABC experienced year-on-year decline in engagement on Facebook, however demonstrated strong growth on Instagram and TikTok.

ABC’s average weekly reach on third party platforms in 2022-23 was 24.9%⁸, down from 27.4% in 2021-22. Third party reach declined over the past 12 months, as many Australians used ABC on third party platforms for information on the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021-22. This is evidenced by the peak third party reach result in December 2021 at 29.5%, driven by the Omicron outbreak of COVID-19.

YouTube

YouTube provides ABC with a platform to drive discovery and awareness of our content, and to reach younger audiences. Monthly unique viewers of ABC’s non-kids’ channels on YouTube declined by 6% to 16 million in 2022-23. Monthly watch hours also softened by 25%⁹.

Softening in YouTube unique viewers and watch time is off the back of strong audience engagement with ABC News content from

2019-20 onwards. However, during this time audience behaviours have changed. Smart TVs now make up 48% of non-kids watch time, making them the preferred device for watching live and on-demand ABC content¹⁰. Audiences are also engaging with ABC News’ long-form content, such as the ABC News in-depth channel and the ABC News live stream.

ABC Kids YouTube channels (ABC Kids, ABC ME, and Behind the News) had an average of 753,000 monthly unique viewers in 2022-23. Monthly unique viewers were down 23% and watch time was down 29% on the previous year. The most popular videos included *Bluey* highlights and trailers, a *BTN* explainer on North Korea, and videos associated with ABC Kids listen¹¹.

YouTube: ABC-managed non-kids channels

	2021-22	2022-23	% Diff
ABC Monthly Unique Viewers	17,117,000	16,139,000	-6%

YouTube: ABC-managed kids channels

	2021-22	2022-23	% Diff
ABC Monthly Unique Viewers	977,000	753,000	-23%

Top 5 Channels by Unique Viewers

Avg Monthly Unique Viewers					
	Channels	2021-22	Channels	2022-23	% Diff
1	ABC News In Depth	6,622,000	ABC News In-depth	6,312,000	-5%
2	ABC News Australia	6,273,000	ABC News Australia	5,677,000	-10%
3	triple j	2,513,000	triple j	2,645,000	5%
4	Q+A	963,000	ABC Australia	1,099,000	68%
5	ABC TV & iview	859,000	ABC TV & iview	744,000	-13%

⁸ 2023: ABC Corporate Tracking Program: (n=8410); online methodology, ABC Audience Data & Insights, August 2022 – June 2023 Base: Australians aged 18 – 75 years. 2022: ABC Corporate Tracking Program (n=4499); online methodology, ABC Audience Data & Insights. People 18 – 75 years

⁹ YouTube Analytics, Pan-ABC Non-Kids channels.

¹⁰ YouTube Analytics, Pan-ABC Non-Kids channels, global watch hours by device type.

¹¹ YouTube Analytics.

Top 5 Channels by Subscribers

		Subscribers			
Channel Ranking		2021-22	Channel Ranking	2022-23	% Diff
1	ABC News (Australia)	1,655,000	ABC News (Australia)	1,843,000	11%
2	triple j	1,601,000	triple j	1,671,000	4%
3	ABC News In-depth	1,043,000	ABC News In-depth	1,313,000	26%
4	ABC Science	247,000	ABC Science	266,000	8%
5	ABC Australia	198,000	ABC Australia	238,000	20%

Top 5 Channels by Views

		Avg Monthly Views			
Channel		2021-22	Channels	2022-23	% Diff
1	ABC News (Australia)	18,243,000	ABC News (Australia)	13,454,000	-26%
2	ABC News In-depth	11,268,000	ABC News In-depth	10,387,000	-8%
3	triple j	5,920,000	triple j	6,293,000	6%
4	abcqanda	1,824,000	ABC Australia	1,914,000	23%
5	ABC Australia	1,552,000	ABC TV & iview	1,265,000	-18%

Source: YouTube Analytics

Includes the following channels: ABC News (Australia); triple j; ABC News In-depth; ABC TV & iview; ABC Science; abcqanda; Behind the News; ABC COMEDY (inactive in FY22); ABC Australia; ABC ME; The Weekly (inactive in FY22); ABC Kids; Gardening Australia; ABC Indigenous; ABC Arts; Good Game; Spawn Point (to September 2021); ABC Gamer (previously Good Game); ABC Everyday (inactive in FY22); ABC Education; madashellabctv; ABC Chinese.

Facebook

Facebook remains a key platform for the ABC to reach new and lighter ABC audiences. Facebook is also an important referral channel, driving traffic to ABC websites.

Throughout 2022-23, the ABC continued its commercial agreement with Meta, which includes the publishing of ABC NEWS content on Facebook. Net revenue from the ABC's agreement with Facebook (and separate agreements with Google) has been reinvested into expanding ABC regional and rural coverage across Australia.

Referral traffic from ABC Facebook pages declined as links to news articles became less prominent on the platform¹². Following record high levels in 2021-22, engagements for ABC posts were down by 45% and views of ABC videos were down 58% on Facebook in 2022-23¹³. Other Australian news publishers also experienced declines in Facebook engagement during 2022-23¹⁴.

¹² Reuters Journalism, *Media and Technology Trends and Predictions 2023*.

¹³ Khoros

¹⁴ RivalIQ, 2021-22, 2022-23

¹⁵ Khoros, not de-duplicated

¹⁶ Khoros

Instagram

Instagram provides an opportunity to introduce new and younger audiences to ABC content through engaging and interactive visual storytelling. ABC Instagram accounts saw 9% growth in total followers in 2022-23. Most followers are Australian and aged under 45, with a skew towards women¹⁵. The triple j Instagram account had the largest number of followers in 2022-23 with 877,000, followed by ABC NEWS (859,000)¹⁶.

ABC experienced strong growth on Instagram throughout 2022-23, driven by increased audience appetite for vertical video content in Instagram Reels. ABC content teams were supported with strategic capability building investment to ensure we provide relevant content, in engaging formats, for younger audiences, especially those who do not use traditional broadcast services.

TikTok

ABC experienced significant growth on TikTok throughout 2022-23, with 279 million video views on the app. In December 2022, ABC launched the ABC News and ABC Gamer TikTok accounts. By the 30th of June 2023 these accounts accumulated 155,000 and 45,000 followers, respectively. These newly launched TikTok accounts and additional vertical video content pillars such as weather, science and the arts were supported through targeted content investment aimed at helping ABC grow reach and engagement with 18–29-year-old audiences.

ABC recorded a total of 279 million video views on TikTok in 2022-23, of which 89.1 million were from the ABC News account¹⁷.

Radio

Average weekly reach in the five city metropolitan markets for Total ABC Radio (including DAB+ stations) was 4.97 million people aged 10+ in 2022-23, down 417,000 listeners (or 7.7%) on the 2021-22 result. Audience share was down 5.2 share points on 2021-22 to 18.5%¹⁸. 56% of Australians believe the quality of programming on ABC Radio is “Very Good” or “Quite Good”¹⁹, which is unchanged from 2021-22²⁰.

DAB+

ABC’s DAB+ stations include Double J, ABC Jazz, triple j Unearthed, ABC Sport, ABC Country and ABC Kids Listen. Average weekly reach in the five city metropolitan markets for ABC DAB+ stations was 1.03 million in 2022-23, up 14% on 2021-22. Audience share of total listening was 1.9%, 0.1 share point above 2021-22²¹.

Local Radio

ABC Local Radio’s five city metropolitan average weekly reach was 1.87 million, down 15.2% on 2021-22. Audience share was 6.7%, down 2.9pts on 2021-22²². There were 1.8 million average monthly unique podcast downloads of ABC Local content in 2022-23, up 10% compared to 2021-22²³.

triple j

ABC’s national youth network triple j’s five city metropolitan average weekly reach among people aged 10 and over was 2 million in 2022-23, stable on the previous FY (2.05 million). Audience share was 4.6%, below 2021-22 (5.5%)²⁴. triple j recorded 1.54 million monthly unique podcast downloads in 2022-23, up 18% compared to 2021-22²⁵.

RN

RN’s five city metropolitan average weekly reach was 529,000 in 2022-23, down 21.6% on the 2021-22 result of 675,000. Audience share was 1.6% in 2022-23, down on 2021-22 (2.4%)²⁶. ABC RN recorded 10.2 million unique podcast downloads each month in 2022-23, down 1% compared to 2021-22²⁷.

ABC Classic

ABC Classic’s five city metropolitan average weekly reach was 781,000 in 2022-23, down 9.8% on 2021-22. Audience share decreased in 2022-23 to 2.2%, 0.5pts below its 2021-22 levels²⁸.

17 Khoros

18 GfK, Total ABC incl DAB+, P10+, five-city metro data, 5:30am to Midnight M-Sun. FY23: S5-8 2022 – S1-4 2023, FY22: S5-8 2021 – S1-4 2022.

19 ABC Audience Data & Insights, 2023 Corporate Tracking Study (August & December 2022; n=3034); online methodology, People 18 – 75 years.

20 ABC Audience Data & Insights, 2022 Corporate Tracking Study (n=4499); online methodology, People 18 – 75 years.

21 GfK, P10+, five-city metro data, 5:30am to Midnight M-Sun. FY23: S5-8 2022 – S1-4 2023, FY22: S5-8 2021 – S1-4 2022. Share of total listening.

22 GfK, P10+, five-city metro data, 5:30am to Midnight M-Sun. FY23: S5-8 2022 – S1-4 2023, FY22: S5-8 2021 – S1-4 2022. Share of total listening.

23 ABC Podcast Internal Measurement, Global downloads, incl. downloads to all MP3 files, July 2021-June 2022 and July 2022-June 2023. Excludes News briefings.

24 GfK, P10+, five-city metro data, 5:30am to Midnight M-Sun. FY23: S5-8 2022 – S1-4 2023, FY22: S5-8 2021 – S1-4 2022.

25 ABC Podcast Internal Measurement, Global downloads, incl. downloads to all MP3 files, July 2021-June 2022 and July 2022-June 2023.

26 GfK, P10+, five-city metro data, 5:30am to Midnight M-Sun. FY23: S5-8 2022 – S1-4 2023, FY22: S5-8 2021 – S1-4 2022.

27 ABC Podcast Internal Measurement, Global downloads, incl. downloads to all MP3 files, July 2021-June 2022 and July 2022-June 2023.

28 GfK, P10+, five-city metro data, 5:30am to Midnight M-Sun. FY23: S5-8 2022 – S1-4 2023, FY22: S5-8 2021 – S1-4 2022.

ABC NewsRadio

ABC NewsRadio five city metropolitan average weekly reach was 955,000 in 2022-23, down 4.3% from 998,000 in 2021-22. Audience share also declined to 1.5% (1.8% in 2021-22)²⁹. There were 6.8 million monthly unique downloads of ABC NEWS podcasts (including news briefings) in 2022-23, down 20% compared to 2021-22³⁰.

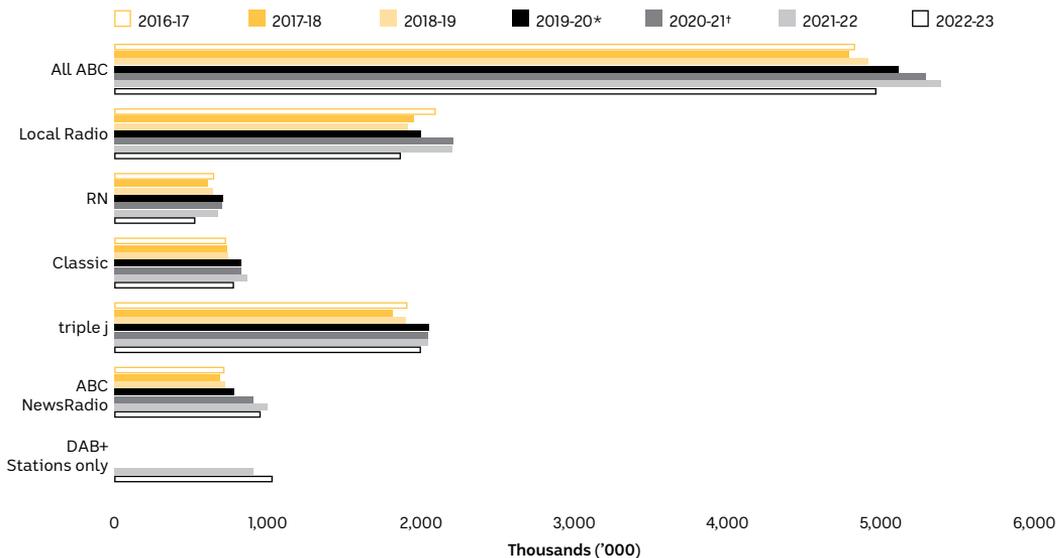
ABC Listen App

The Listen app provides access to both live ABC Radio services and ABC podcasts. Average weekly visitors to the app were stable over from FY22 to FY23 at 452,000 (-1%)³².

News and current affairs on radio

The News and Current affairs programs on Local Radio and RN reached on average 1.3 million people aged 10+ each week in the five city metropolitan market in 2022-23. This was down 19.9% on 2021-22³¹.

ABC Radio: Average Weekly Reach (000's) (All ABC incl. DAB+)



* 2019-20 based on Surveys 5-8 2019 and Surveys 1-2 2020 only

† 2020-21 based on Surveys 6-8 2020 and Surveys 1-4 2021

Surveys 3-5 in 2020 were cancelled due to Covid-19

FY22: S5-8 2021 – S1-4 2022, FY2020-21: S6-8 2020 – S1-4 2021

FY23: S5-8 2022 and S1-4 2023

Source: GfK, P10+, five city metro data, 5.30am to Midnight M-Sun

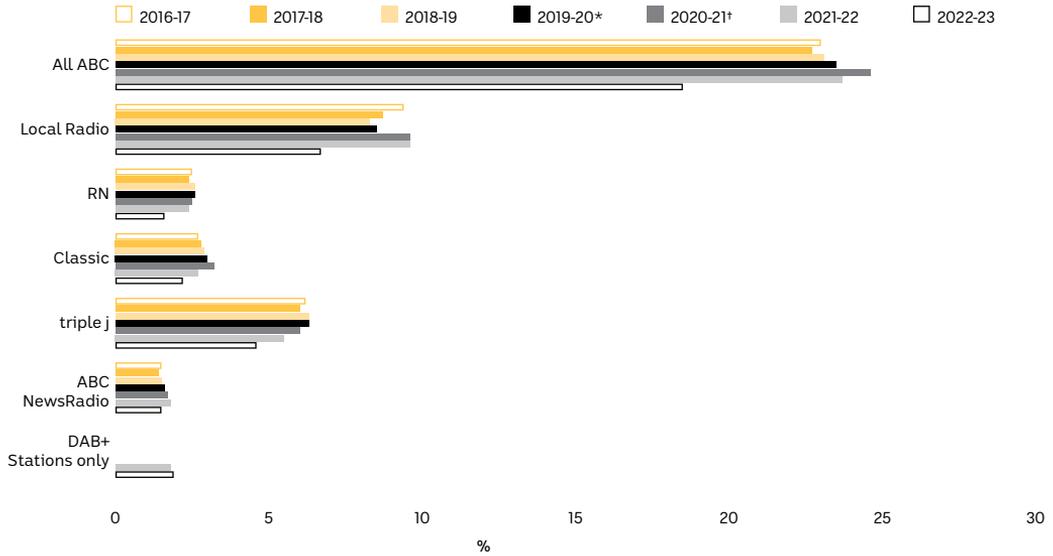
29 GfK, P10+, five-city metro data, 5.30am to Midnight M-Sun. FY23: S5-8 2022 – S1-4 2023, FY22: S5-8 2021 – S1-4 2022.

30 ABC Podcast Internal Measurement, Global downloads, incl. downloads to all MP3 files, July 2021-June 2022 and July 2022-June 2023.

31 GfK from S5 2021 – S4 2022 & S5 2022 – S4 2023 Includes Local Radio programs: *Early AM* (Mon-Fri 6am-6.15am), *7am News* (Mon-Sun 7am-7.15am), *AM* (Mon-Sat 8am-8.30am), *The World Today* (Mon-Fri 12md-12.30pm) and *PM* (Mon-Fri 6.30-7pm) & ABC RN programs: *AM* (Mon-Sat 7am-7.30am), *The World Today* (Mon-Fri 1pm-1.30pm), *PM* (Mon-Fri 5-5.30pm in FY21-22, Mon-Fri 5.30-6pm in FY22-23).

32 Google Analytics, 27 June 2021 to 25 June 2022, and 26 June 2022 to 24 June 2023.

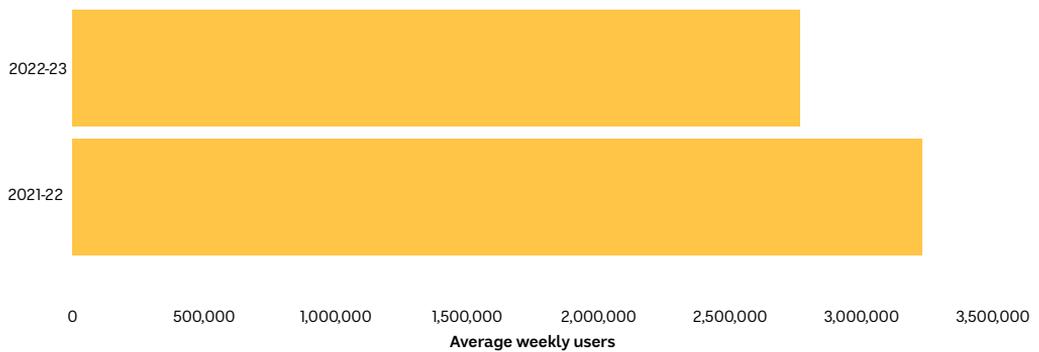
ABC Radio Share (%) (All ABC incl. DAB+)



* 2019-20 based on Surveys 5-8 2019 and Surveys 1-2 2020 only
 † 2020-21 based on Surveys 6-8 2020 and Surveys 1-4 2021
 Surveys 3-5 in 2020 were cancelled due to Covid-19
 FY22: S5-8 2021 – S1-4 2022, FY2020-21: S6-8 2020 – S1-4 2021
 FY23: S5-8 2022 and S1-4 2023

Source: GfK, P10+, five city metro data, 5:30am to Midnight M-Sun

ABC RADIO website and apps, average weekly users



Source: Google Analytics, 2021-2022 (27 June 2021 - 2 July 2022), 2022-2023 (3 July 2022 - 1 July 2023)

News and current affairs

News and Current Affairs

News audiences in 2022-23 softened following strong growth in the previous year driven by ongoing COVID-19 outbreaks, the major flood events in NSW and Queensland in early 2022, the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, the death of Shane Warne in March 2022, and the Federal Election in May 2022. News events driving audiences in 2022-23 included the deaths of Judith Durham and Dame Olivia Newton-John in August 2022, as well as the death of Queen Elizabeth II in September 2022, the NSW State Election in March 2023 and the Coronation of King Charles III in May 2023.

In 2022-23 ABC News and Current Affairs on ABC TV and ABC News channel reached 5.4 million average weekly metro and regional viewers, down 16% since 2021-22³³.

ABC News Digital reached an average of 53% of Australians aged 14+ monthly in April-June 2023. Comparison with previous years is not possible due to changes to the way this data is captured in 2023³⁴.

ABC News Digital

The ABC News website, ABC News app and ABC current affairs websites combined recorded an average of 8.7 million weekly users in 2022-23. This was a 30% decrease on the 2021-22 average³⁵. ABC News digital audiences have softened in a climate where many audiences have been impacted by news fatigue and news avoidance post-pandemic. Weekly users in 2022-23 peaked in early September 2022 following the death of Queen Elizabeth II.

ABC News Digital reached an average of 11.1 million Australians aged 14+ monthly in April-Jun 2023. Based on monthly audience, ABC News ranked second behind news.com.au³⁶.

News programs

Broadcast audiences for the ABC News 7pm bulletin softened from the previous year. The Monday-Friday edition achieved a combined metro and regional average audience of 813,000 (a decline of 15% on 2021-22), while Saturday averaged 696,000 (down 18%) and Sunday averaged 815,000 (down 12%)³⁷. *News Breakfast* (7-9am) broadcast audience declined after two consecutive years of growth. Across the ABC TV and ABC NEWS simulcast, the metro and regional audience declined by 16% to 249,000. With ABC iView audiences included, the series average based on the total audience of each episode for *News Breakfast* in 2022-23 was 262,000.³⁸

Current affairs programs

Australian Story achieved a series average based on the total audience of each episode of 1.1 million in 2022-23, with 1.4 million for the top episode 'A World of Their Own – The Seekers'. *Four Corners* recorded a series average based on the total audience of each episode of 982,000 total viewers on broadcast and ABC iView, with 1.6 million for the September 2022 episode 'Flight Risk'. In 2022-23, 7.30 achieved a series average based on the total audience of each episode, while *Foreign Correspondent* averaged 743,000 and Q+A averaged 433,000, based on the series average total audience of each episode.

33 OzTAM & Regional TAM Consolidated 28 Data 2021-22, 2022-23 (excl. wks 28 & 27 in 2021); Reach counts the total of people who watched at least 5 consecutive minutes of Australian ABC News and Current Affairs (excl. Media Watch) on ABC TV and ABC News channel each week across the period.

34 Ipsos iris Online Audience Measurement Service, April-June 2023, Age 14+, PC/Laptop/smartphone/tablet, Text only. Current methodology commenced from Jan 2023, so results cannot be compared with previous years. ABC News Digital brand is the unduplicated audience of the ABC News website, app, distributed content (such as Google AMP and Apple News), as well as abc.net.au Homepage, and ABC Everyday. There was a classification change for ABC News, from April 2023 ABC News includes abc.net.au Homepage to bring the content categorization of ABC News in line with other similar news publishers and websites. This represents a trend break for the ABC, so there will be no performance comparison to prior months.

35 Google Analytics view 9610; includes news website, AMP, news app and current affairs websites, 2021-22, 2022-23.

36 Ipsos iris Online Audience Measurement Service, April-June 2023, Age 14+, PC/Laptop/smartphone/tablet, Text only.

37 OzTAM & Regional TAM Consolidated 28 Data 2021-22, 2022-23 (excl. wks 27 & 28 in 2021)

38 OzTAM & Regional TAM Consolidated 28 Data 2021-22, 2022-23 (excl. wks 27 & 28 in 2021). OzTAM VPM. Total BVOD minutes. Total Audience methodology includes the sum of metro and regional viewing, first run episodes, encores and VPM; Series average based on the Total Audience of each episode.

Insiders achieved a series average based on the total audience of each episode of 713,000 across the ABC TV and ABC NEWS simulcast and ABC iview in 2022-23 and achieved its highest audience to date of 866,000 for the episode on Sunday 2 April 2023, 'Peter Dutton – Opposition Leader'³⁹.

ABC current affairs TV programs were the top drivers of watch time for the ABC News In Depth YouTube channel, with *Foreign Correspondent*, *Four Corners* and *Australian Story* episodes attracting large global audiences⁴⁰.

ABC NEWS channel

Live streams of the ABC News channel on ABC iview in 2022-23 reached a monthly average of 3 million⁴¹. On YouTube, there were 2.2 million average monthly live views for the ABC NEWS channel (this includes the continuous news channel stream as well as discrete live events such as the King's Coronation, NSW State Election Coverage, and various press conferences).

ABC NEWS channel audiences saw declines during 2022-23 and the second half of 2021-22, after an intense growth period driven by ongoing COVID lockdowns and other news events. On broadcast TV, ABC NEWS channel remained Australia's leading 24-hour news channel with a metro and regional weekly reach of 3 million viewers in 2022-23, softening 21% since 2021-22⁴².

Engagement flattened for ABC NEWS on-demand content on ABC iview and declined on YouTube in 2022-23. There were 7.6 million monthly plays of news and current affairs programs via ABC iview, an increase of 1% on the previous year⁴³. On YouTube, there were 21.6 million on-demand views of ABC NEWS videos for 2022-23, a softening of 13% on the previous year⁴⁴.

ABC News on social media

The ABC News channels on YouTube continued to perform well in the face of strong competition from Australian brands including *60 Minutes* Australia, 9 News Australia, 7NEWS Australia and Sky News Australia⁴⁵. The ABC News Australia channel grew its subscriber base by 11% in 2022-23 to 1.8 million. In its third year since launch, ABC News In-Depth reached 1.3 million subscribers in June 2023, a 26% subscriber growth over 2022-23⁴⁶.

Among Australian national news brands on Facebook, ABC NEWS had the second-highest number of followers in 2022-23 with 4.7 million, up 3% on the previous year. (*Daily Mail Australia* was the top Australian news brand for Facebook followers with 5.4 million, an increase of 2% on 2021-22)⁴⁷.

ABC NEWS remained the leading Australian national news brand on Instagram with 859,000 followers in 2022-23, an increase of 7% on the previous year. ABC NEWS also recorded the highest engagement among Australian news brands⁴⁸, followed closely by Instagram-first news brand *The Daily Aus*, which experienced rapid growth throughout 2021-22.

39 OzTAM & Regional TAM Consolidated 28 Data 2021-22, 2022-23 (excl. wks 27 & 28 in 2021). OzTAM VPM, Total BVOD minutes. Total Audience methodology includes the sum of metro and regional viewing, first run episodes, encores and VPM; Series average based on the Total Audience of each episode.

40 YouTube Analytics 2021-22, 2022-23

41 OzTAM Live VPM, including co-viewing. 2022-23 excludes August 2022 due to external tracking error.

42 OzTAM & Regional TAM Consolidated 28 Data 2021-22, 2022-23 (excl. wks 27 & 28 in 2021). Reach counts the total of people who watched at least 5 consecutive minutes of ABC News Channel each week across the period.

43 OzTAM Live+VOD VPM, including co-viewing. 2022-23 excludes August 2022 due to external tracking error.

44 YouTube Analytics 2021-22, 2022-23; based on ABC News Australia and ABC News In-Depth channels. ABC News In-Depth launched in Sep 2019.

45 Social Blade, publicly available Subscriber and Total Channel View growth during 2022-23.

46 YouTube Analytics 2021-22, 2022-23.

47 CrowdTangle, Page Followers 2021-22, 2022-23.

48 Rival IQ, 2022-32, ABC News competitors ranked by engagement total. Identified national competitors included *The Daily Aus*, 9 News Australia, *PedestrianTV*, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Guardian Australia*, *news.com.au*, *The Australian*, 7 News Australia, SBS News Australia, *The Age*, and *Vice Australia*.

ABC news reach

Platform	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
ABC NEWS CHANNEL TV (5 year trend)						
ABC NEWS TV Weekly Reach	3,181,000	3,127,000	3,466,000	3,912,000	3,788,000	2,978,000
ABC NewsCaff Reach (ABC TV + ABC NEWS) Weekly	6,562,000	6,385,000	6,558,000	6,595,000	6,418,000	5,377,000
ABC NEWS Digital (3 year trend)						
ABC News and Current Affairs Weekly Users			10,467,479	12,190,018	12,413,583	8,745,627
ABC NEWS Digital (current year only)						
ABC NewsDigital Monthly Reach						11,063,310
ABC NewsDigital Monthly Reach %						53%
ABC NEWS YouTube (5 year trend)						
Youtube Monthly Unique Viewers		7,319,266	12,833,888	12,272,040	12,088,286	11,250,961
ABC NEWS Video Views by platform (5 year trend)						
NewsCaff category iview – Monthly Plays		1,510,832	1,804,499	3,085,334	7,573,616	7,635,910
iview News Live Streams – Monthly Plays		710,029	1,498,922	2,702,947	4,223,027	2,999,937
YouTube News On-Demand Views – Monthly Views		10,639,344	22,416,204	22,809,895	24,713,251	21,612,653
Youtube Live Views – Monthly Views		872,630	2,286,328	3,593,109	4,787,311	2,224,730

Source

OzTAM (5 City Metro) and RegionalTAM (Combined Agg Market including WA from week 29 2021) Consolidated 28 Data; Reach counts the total people who watched at least 5 consecutive minutes of ABC NewsChannel across the specified period.

OzTAM (5 City Metro) and RegionalTAM (Combined Agg Markets incl WA from week 29 2021) Consolidated 28 Data; Reach counts the total people who watched at least 5 consecutive minutes of ABC Aust NewsCaff across the specified period.

ABC NewsCaff includes ABC Aust NewsCaff programming broadcast on ABC main channel and NEWS channel.

Google Analytics view 9610; includes news website, AMP, news app and current affairs websites

Ipsos iris Online Audience Measurement Service, April-June 2023, Age 14+, PC/laptop/smartphone/tablet, Text only. Current methodology commenced from Jan 2023, so results cannot be compared with previous years. There was a classification change for ABC News, from April 2023 ABC News includes abc.net.au homepage to bring the content categorization of ABC News in line with other similar news publishers and websites. This represents a trend break for the ABC, so there will be no performance comparison to prior months.

YouTube Analytics; based on ABC News Australia and ABC News In Depth channels. ABC News In Depth launched in Sept 2019

OzTAM Live+VOD VPM, including co-viewing, 2022-23 excludes August 2022 due to external tracking error

OzTAM Live VPM, including co-viewing, 2022-23 excludes August 2022 due to external tracking error

YouTube Analytics; based on ABC News Australia and ABC News In Depth channels; excludes live stream activity. ABC News In Depth launched in Sept 2019

YouTube Analytics. Includes news live stream and live streams of special events such as COVID press conferences by the PM and State Premiers

Broadcast television

The plethora of choice of content available to Australians to consume screen content wherever they wish, and on whichever device they prefer, continues to fragment the viewing behaviours of Australians, and contribute to a highly competitive environment. Total TV viewing continues to decline as scheduled viewing behaviour wanes and Australians engage with both subscription and broadcaster video on demand services to enjoy a variety of local and international content. The ABC has fared slightly better than many of its competitors in terms of mitigating some broadcast loss with Video on Demand (VOD) uptake via ABC iview, however the complex competitive landscape continues to evolve.

Metropolitan

The ABC Network was the number one ranked broadcaster in 2022-23, with a reach of 38% or 6.8 million people across the five city metro population. This was down compared to 2021-22 (7.4 million; 41.6%)⁴⁹.

Total ABC Network metro Total TV share during daytime declined slightly in 2022-23. Across the four channels, ABC Network achieved a metro day-time Total TV share of 19.6%, below 20.0% in 2021-22⁵⁰.

Total ABC Network metro share during prime time increased in 2022-23 compared to the previous year. Prime time total TV share for the ABC Network across the five metropolitan cities was 14.3% in 2022-23 (13.7% in 2021-22)⁵¹.

Regional

In the combined aggregated regional markets including Tasmania and Western Australia, total ABC average weekly reach in 2022-23 was 3.4 million people or 41.8% of the regional population. This is down compared to 2021-22 (3.5 million; 44.3%)⁵².

In 2022-23, total ABC regional total TV share during daytime declined slightly to 19.6%, (20.0% in 2021-22). Total ABC regional share during prime time was steady at 14.4% in 2022-23 (14.5% in 2021-22)⁵³.

ABC iview

ABC iview users were steady in 2022-23, recording an average of 2.6 million weekly unique users (down 2% compared to 2021-22). In 2022-23, weekly time spent on ABC iview declined slightly, down 7 minutes to 1 hour 28 minutes per week⁵⁴.

For most of the reporting period (July 2022 to March 2023), ABC iview held the position of number one ranked broadcaster video-on-demand (BVOD) service in Australia. For the complete financial year of 2022-23, ABC iview placed second, achieving a 21.4% share of the total BVOD minutes viewed (live streaming and video on demand). This is down from 24.9% in 2021-22.⁵⁵ Foxtel was the number one ranked BVOD publisher in 2022-23, driven by the inclusion of sport streaming minutes via Kayo from April 2023⁵⁶.

49 OzTAM Consolidated 28 Data 2021-22, 2022-23 (Total ABC includes ABC TV, ABC Kids/TV Plus, ABC ME & ABC News), 24hr reach based on 5-minute consecutive viewing.

50 OzTAM Consolidated 28 Data 2021-22, 2022-23

51 OzTAM Consolidated 28 Data 2021-22, 2022-23

52 Regional TAM Consolidated 28 Data (incl. WA and spill), 2021-22, 2022-23; 24hr reach based on 5-minute consecutive viewing. Note: Regional TAM combined includes Western Australia from 5 July 2021 onwards. Previous reports excluded WA as a year-on-year comparison was unavailable. The comparison for weekly average is between 11 July 2021 - 25 June 2022, and 26 June 2022 - 1 July 2023

53 Regional TAM Consolidated 28 Data (incl. WA and spill), 2021-22, 2022-23

54 Google Analytics: iview web, apps, connected TVs and KIDS iview and ABC ME, 27 June 2022 - 25 June 2023 vs 28 June 2021 to 26 June 2022

55 OzTAM VPM, Live + VOD, Total BVOD minutes, July 2021-June 2022 and July 2022-June 2023

56 OzTAM VPM, Live + VOD, Total BVOD minutes, July 2022-June 2023

ABC iview continued to dominate the Video-On-Demand BVOD streaming market in 2022-23 as the number one ranked On-Demand BVOD service, achieving 32% share of all BVOD On-Demand minutes on average each month⁵⁷. This was notwithstanding a slight decline in video on demand viewing on ABC iview compared to 2021-22 (-6%)⁵⁸. After achieving record high results for live streaming minutes in 2021-22 due to the impact of COVID-19 on consumption behaviour, ABC iview live streaming minutes declined by -14% in 2022-23. Live minutes made up 23% of all consumption on the ABC iview platform in 2022-23.

In 2022-23, the program genres Comedy, Light Entertainment, Childrens and News and Current Affairs demonstrated growth in minutes viewed compared to 2021-22. The most dominant genres across 2022-23 were ABC KIDS, Drama and NewsCaff, with these three genres accounting for 81% of minutes viewed on ABC iview. Non-kids program highlights for ABC iview across 2022-23 include *Vera SI2*, *Utopia S5*, *Close to Me S1* and *Better Date Than Never S1*. Top children's programming included *Bluey*, the Julia Donaldson animation *The Smeds and The Smoos*, *Marringa Lullaby* and *Peppa Pig*.⁵⁹

57 OzTAM VOD VPM, Total BVOD minutes, July 2021-June 2022 and July 2022-June 2023

58 OzTAM VPM, Live + VOD, ABC iview minutes July 2021-June 2022 and July 2022-June 2023

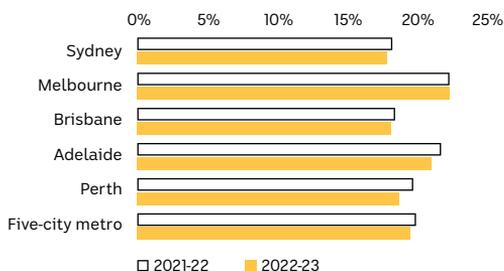
59 OzTAM VOD VPM, ABC iview minutes, July 2021-June 2022 and July 2022-June 2023

Managing Director David Anderson speaking at the Public Broadcasters International Conference (PBI Tokyo 2022).



Metropolitan daytime share

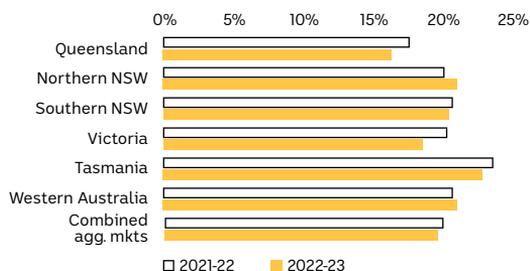
Total ABC Total TV share of viewing %, 6 am to 6 pm



Source: OzTAM Metropolitan Consolidated 28 data, 2021-22, 2022-23 (1 July - 30 June).

Regional daytime share

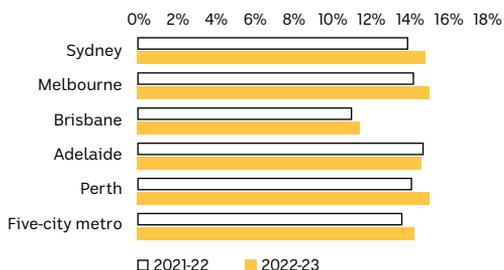
Total ABC Total TV share of viewing %, 6 am to 6 pm



Source: Regional TAM Consolidated 28 Data (incl. WA and Spill), 2021-22 (6 July - 30 June), 2022-23 (1 July - 30 June)

Metropolitan prime-time share

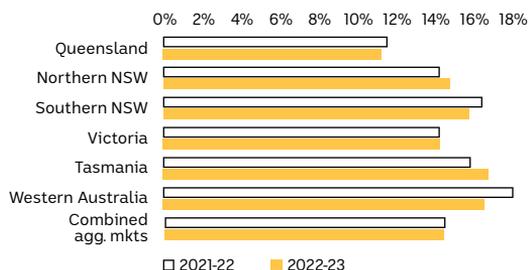
Total ABC Total TV share of viewing %, 6 pm to midnight



Source: OzTAM Metropolitan Consolidated 28 data, 2021-22, 2022-23 (1 July - 30 June).

Regional prime-time share

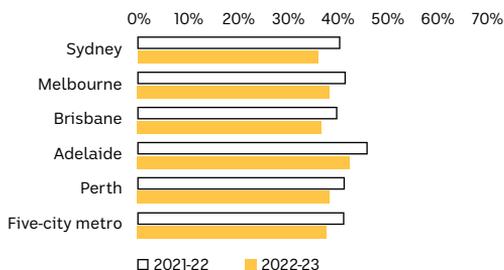
Total ABC Total TV share of viewing %, 6 pm to midnight



Source: Regional TAM Consolidated 28 Data (incl. WA and Spill), 2021-22 (6 July - 30 June), 2022-23 (1 July - 30 June)

Average weekly metropolitan reach

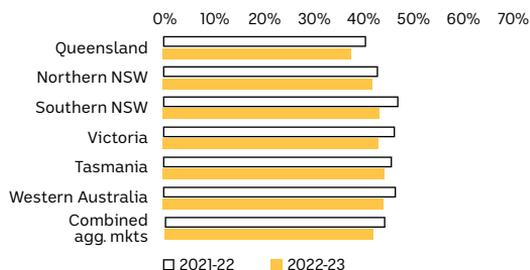
Total ABC 24-hour, five-minute consecutive viewing %



Source: OzTAM Metropolitan Consolidated 28 data, 2021-22 (27 June 2021 - 25 June 2022), 2022-23 (26 June 2022 - 30 July 2023).

Average weekly regional reach

Total ABC 24-hour, five-minute consecutive viewing %



Source: Regional TAM Consolidated 28 Data (incl. WA and Spill). Note: RegionalTAM combined includes Western Australia from 5 July 2021 onwards. Previous reports excluded WA. The comparison for weekly average is between 11 July 2021 - 25 June 2022, and 26 June 2022 - 1 July 2023.

Podcasts

ABC podcasts recorded a total of 395 million unique downloads in 2022-23 and a monthly average of 33 million unique downloads, steady compared to 2021-22. The bulk of downloads come from full-length audio episodes, which lifted by +9%, while audio segments fell by -18%.⁶⁰

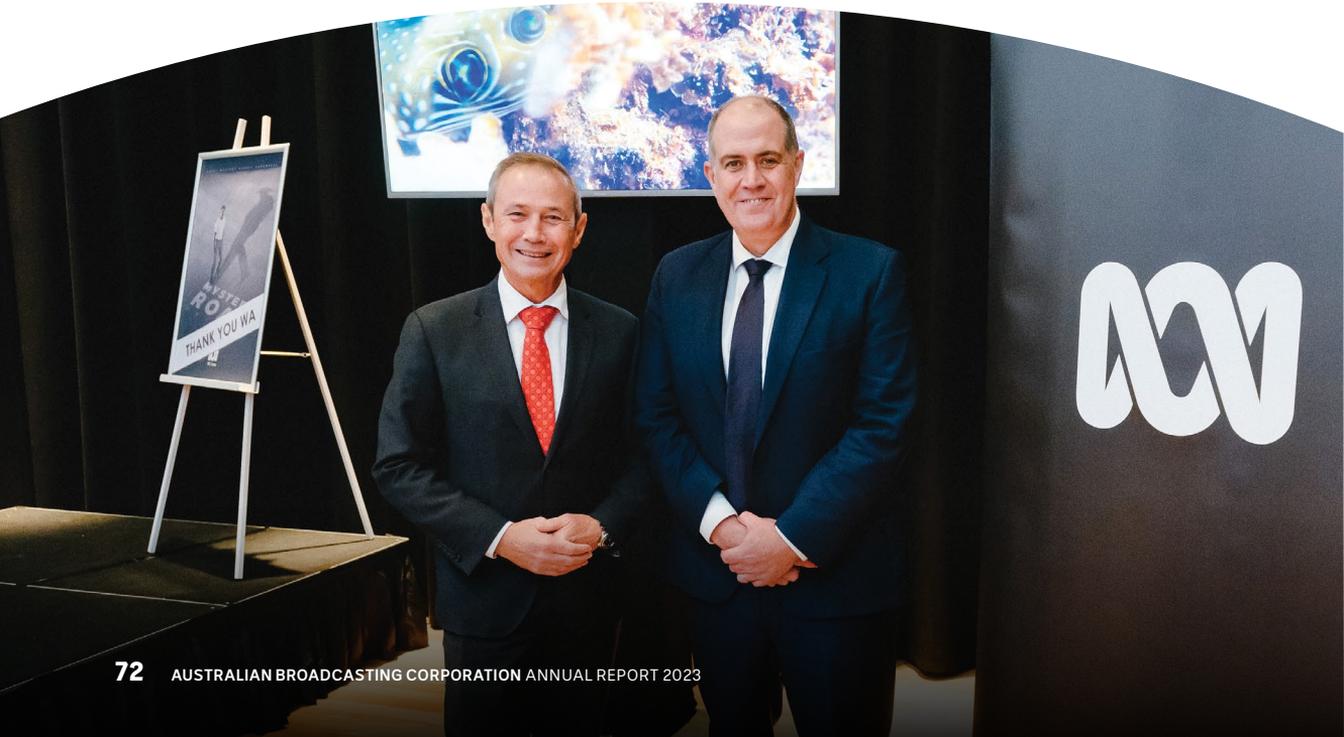
ABC News podcast downloads softened amidst a general trend of audiences consuming less news in Australia, but also largely due to the transition of Coronacast from a daily publishing schedule to a weekly one. However, other ABC News titles saw growth in average downloads per episode, including *ABC News Daily* (up 15%) and *Insiders* (up 28%). The sporting news title *Roy and HG: Bludging on The Blindside* also experienced an 8% increase in average downloads in 2022-23.

With over 60 million downloads, *Conversations with Richard Fidler and Sarah Kanowski* by ABC Audio Studios remained the most downloaded ABC podcast in 2022-23 with slightly higher downloads compared to the year prior. ABC Audio Studios podcasts recorded a monthly average of 8 million downloads in 2022-23, 12% higher compared to 2021-22. Other top performers from Audio Studios saw growth, including *Ladies, We Need To Talk* (up 11%), *Days Like These* (up 10%) and *Parental As Anything* (up 17%).

RN podcasts contributed huge volumes of downloads thanks to the popularity of radio catch-up shows like *RN Breakfast*, one of the highest ABC podcasts of 2022-23 with 23 million cumulative downloads. While *Late Night Life* softened slightly compared to 2021-22 it still generated close to 13 million downloads. There was year-on-year growth for *All In The Mind* and *Life Matters*, which also both accumulated over 6 million downloads.

⁶⁰ ABC Podcast Internal Measurement, Global downloads, incl. downloads to all MP3 files from owned and third-party platforms, July 2021-June 2022 and July 2022-June 2023. Excludes intro, promo, and longtail downloads at series level; average downloads per episode used for series-on-series comparison.

Managing Director David Anderson with WA premier Hon. Roger Cook.



International

Since 1939 the ABC has been broadcasting to audiences overseas. In 2022, the International division reached an estimated 14,224,065⁶¹ unique monthly overseas audiences through owned and operated platforms including ABC Australia, ABC Radio Australia and ABC websites and apps.

The ABC's international audiences come from all corners of the globe. ABC Australia, the ABC's international television service available in 38 markets throughout Asia and the Pacific, has a monthly viewership of at least 3,905,050. ABC Radio Australia, the ABC's international radio service available via FM in the Pacific and Timor Leste, has a monthly listenership of at least 321,225. Outside Australia, ABC websites and apps have an average global monthly usership of 9,997,790 which includes approximately 7,505,085 users across the Americas, Europe and Africa and 1,865,655 users in Asia.

The ABC also reaches overseas audiences through social media, video sharing platforms, and syndication partners. In 2022 there were:

- 21,488,925 overseas followers of the ABC (3% increase on 2021-22), including 329,690 followers of ABC Pacific and 5,617,535 followers of Learn English with ABC Australia, all on Facebook⁶²
- 1,044,235 overseas followers of the ABC on Instagram⁶³
- 225,285 followers of ABC Australia on Weibo⁶⁴ and WeChat⁶⁵
- 284,526,600 overseas views of Pan-ABC content on YouTube⁶⁶

Additionally, audiences engage with in-language content through the ABC's news and social media partners in the Indo-Pacific, which compliments the ABC Language Services. This includes 18,860,130 pageviews of ABC Bahasa Indonesian⁶⁷, 3,529,437 views of ABC Chinese⁶⁸ and 18,527 views of Tok Pisin content⁶⁹.

⁶¹ The total unique audience number is based on extrapolations from studies in multiple Indo-Pacific countries including the Ipsos Affluent Asia Survey (Dec 2022 data) and the Tebbutt Media Survey (Dec 2021 data). It includes offshore user numbers of ABC websites and apps obtained from Google Analytics and excludes consumers reached via third-party platforms.

⁶² Khoros

⁶³ Khoros

⁶⁴ Weibo Analytics

⁶⁵ WeChat Analytics

⁶⁶ Indonesian syndication partners and ABC Story Stats

⁶⁷ Indonesian syndication partners and ABC Story Stats

⁶⁸ ABC Story Stats

⁶⁹ ABC Story Stats

Please note: All figures have been rounded up or down to nearest 5 or 10

Inside the ABC

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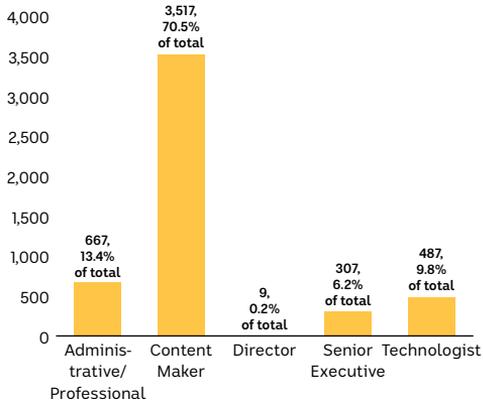
Turn Up The Volume cast members
Ayiana Ncube and Riya Mandrawa.



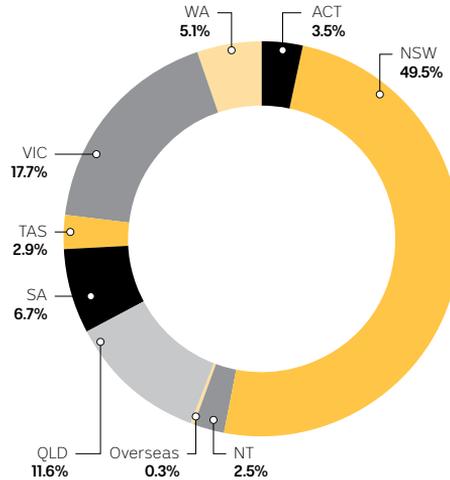
Where ABC employees live and work

ABC employees

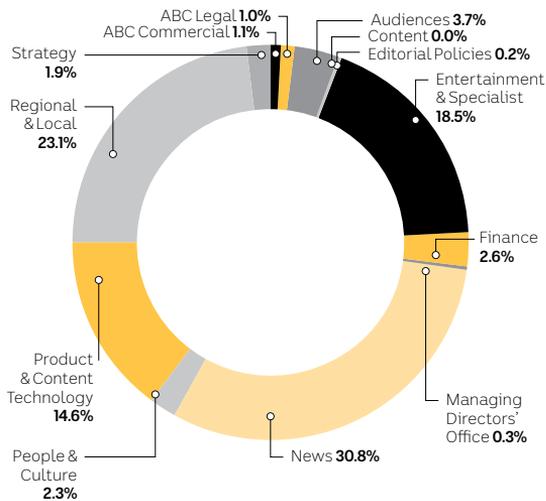
Distribution by job group*



Distribution by region*



Distribution by team*



* Statistics are calculated based on employee headcount, including casual employees, for employees paid in the last pay period of June 2023. Does not include employees engaged locally overseas. This does not include the Total Full Time Equivalent (FTE) data. The FTE for employees, including casual employees, paid in the last pay period of June 2023 was 4,345. Does not include employees engaged locally overseas.

Distribution by Rural/Regional and Metropolitan locations~

Employment location	Headcount
Metropolitan	4,372
Rural and Regional	599
Ratio	7.3:1
Total	4,971

Distribution by job classification in Regional and Rural locations~

Rural and Regional Staff	Content Makers	Support Staff	Total
Rural and Regional	579	20	599

Distribution by job classification in Metropolitan locations~

Metropolitan Staff	Journalist	Support Staff	Ratio	Total
Metropolitan	2,922	1,450	2:1	4,372

~ Statistics based on employees paid in the last pay period of June 2023, including casual employees. Does not include employees based overseas or employees engaged locally overseas.

In this context:

Rural/Regional and **Rural and Regional** means locations in Australia that are not capital cities.

Metropolitan means capital cities in Australia.

Content Maker reflects the integrated and specialist nature of ABC content making and includes all functions inherent in the commissioning, gathering, production, presentation, delivery and management of content and content-related services.

Support Staff means all employees who are not Content Makers.

ABC cadets

In 2022/23 the News, Analysis and Investigations Analysis division recruited 11 News cadets, drawn from the following locations: Melbourne (three), Brisbane (three), Sydney (two), and one from Perth, Canberra and Adelaide.

The 12-month paid program delivers comprehensive training in multi-platform reporting and the chance to learn from some of Australia's most outstanding journalists.

The 11 News cadets who were recruited in the previous year completed their cadetships during 2022/23, and were deployed to the following locations: Darwin, Brisbane (two), Gold Coast, Canberra, Ballarat, Ipswich, Hobart, Adelaide, Perth and Sydney.

As well as News cadets, there were also 20 trainees working and learning across multiple areas of the organisation during 2022/23 and over 140 interns were hosted.

2022-23 class of cadetships and trainees

State	Area	Home city (city they were in when they got the role)	City they were employed in after Cadetship/ Traineeship
ACT	Metro	2	1
NSW	Metro	5	5
	Regional	3	-
NT	Metro	-	1
	Regional	-	-
QLD	Metro	6	3
	Regional	1	2
SA	Metro	-	2
	Regional	-	-
TAS	Metro	1	1
	Regional	-	-
VIC	Metro	3	2
	Regional	-	2
WA	Metro	4	1
	Regional	-	3
Total		25	23

2023-24 Class of Cadetships and Trainees

State	Area	City they were in when they got the role
ACT	Metro	1
NSW	Metro	3
	Regional	2
NT	Metro	
	Regional	
QLD	Metro	3
	Regional	
SA	Metro	2
	Regional	
TAS	Metro	
	Regional	
VIC	Metro	7
	Regional	
WA	Metro	1
	Regional	
Total		19

Olivia meets her first date in *Better Date Than Never*.



ABC people

ABC values and workplace behaviour

All ABC employees deserve to feel welcomed, included, supported and safe in our workplace. The ABC has zero tolerance for racism in the workplace, as well as bullying, harassment, discrimination or any antisocial behaviour.

A positive, inclusive, and diverse workplace culture is built on strong values, which inform decision-making and ways of working at every level. All ABC staff are expected to model the ABC's values of integrity, respect, collegiality, and innovation, and to align their conduct with the ABC Principles.

The ABC Principles set clear expectations about working at the ABC as individuals, as leaders, and together. The ABC Principles are:

- We are ABC
- Straight talking
- People focused
- Accountable
- Open and transparent.

The ABC has continued to update its policies to ensure that they remain fit for purpose.

The Anti-Discrimination, Anti-Bullying and Anti-Harassment Policy was updated to reflect the legislative amendments resulting from the Respect@Work recommendations. The updates emphasise the ABC's commitment to eliminate sexual harassment, sex-based harassment, hostile working environments on the ground of sex.

The Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy has been updated to include the ABC's Child Safe Code of Conduct, which outlines the expected behaviours of employees when working with or around children. It also will be used as a communication tool with children and their parents/guardians about what they can expect from working with ABC employees.

In May 2023, the ABC committed to undertake a review to investigate and make recommendations about the ABC's responses to racism affecting its staff, and what can be done to better support staff who experience it. The review was suggested by the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Bonner Committee and approved by the Managing Director.

Employee engagement

Over the last year, the ABC has continued to implement initiatives to improve employees' experience of working at the ABC and to address specific feedback provided by staff in the Employee Engagement Survey conducted in early 2022.

Learning continues to be a strong focus and we have expanded the range of courses on offer, with over 50 new courses added in 2022. Work to grow the readership of the Learning Newsletter, a monthly newsletter distributed to all employees outlining upcoming training sessions and learning opportunities, is another focus. The ABC has also increased staff participation in its Mentoring Program with tailored mentoring streams for culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) and female staff.

Our leaders are continuing to implement initiatives within their divisions including team-specific training and development opportunities delivered both in person and virtually such as News masterclasses, editorial policies sessions and social media training.

In addition, teams are focusing on the onboarding/induction process and are implementing regular meetings to facilitate communication and understanding of shared goals and objectives. Work is also being done to keep the feedback loop open by hosting regular employee forums or issuing pulse surveys where staff can continue to share their experiences.

Workplace flexibility

The past 12 months were a year of transition for workplace flexibility at the ABC.

In March 2022, updated working from home guidelines introduced the ABC hybrid working model in March 2022, defining hybrid work as a regular mix of time worked onsite and from home. After all ABC locations were deemed safe to access in line with the COVID Recovery Plan the guidelines took effect in the second half of 2022.

A dedicated transition period was scheduled allowing adequate time for the settling of work from home arrangements between managers and individuals. This also provided appropriate time to rearrange some office spaces that had not been utilised throughout the response and recovery phase of the pandemic.

This continued focus on enabling workplace flexibility will provide the ABC the ability to attract and retain talent, while supporting a diverse and inclusive workforce into the future.

Embedding hybrid working across the ABC has required a continuous change and communication program to support teams and managers in implementing this new way of working.

A feature of these change activities was the launch of a Hybrid Toolkit which includes a range of ready-to-use checklists and guides to support individuals, teams and leaders as well as curated external content covering the latest in research on workplace flexibility.

Another component of the change process was a need to monitor employee experiences. The *Where and How You Work* pulse survey was run for a second year in November 2022. Its aim was to assess any shift from the previous years' experience, validate measures being taken to support workplace flexibility and identify any new needs requiring action.

In addition to rating staff experience of working in 2022, a new question was included to focus on the onsite element of hybrid working with respondents asked to identify the most important factors when working onsite.

The findings revealed "co-locating with my team" and "connection to colleagues" as those most important components for ABC staff when onsite. Other insights included productivity and efficiency in completing work as the most impacted experiences, with further deliberation needed on creating a sense of belonging.

A commitment to monitor employee experience with further pulse surveys has been made as embedding of hybrid working continues in 2023.

Building hybrid capability

In September 2022, the ABC launched three new interactive workshops designed to support the effective ongoing operation of hybrid working. The first of these workshops, called *How to create connection in a hybrid world*, was aimed at all staff and sought to develop the skills and understanding needed to operate as an effective and connected hybrid team member.

The other two workshops, *How to be an effective leader in a hybrid workplace* and *How to create a connected culture in your hybrid team*, were aimed at managers, and sought to build skills, understanding and confidence around how to be an effective manager of a hybrid team.

These new courses supplemented the existing online course, *Effectively managing working from home*, which was made available in May 2022.

In total there were 581 completions recorded across all these courses during 2022-23.

Capability, development and training

The ABC expanded the number of available learning options for employees, with new courses added covering emerging areas of importance such as hybrid working, inclusive journalism and personal use of social media.

Learning and development continued to be critical activity across 2022-23, with 55,062 learning completions recorded for the year, an 8% increase over the previous year. The bulk of this learning (87%) was completed via e-learning. The remaining 13% of learning was made up of virtual learning facilitated via Zoom/Teams (10%) and face-to-face facilitated sessions (3%).

These learning completions were recorded across over 600 different courses and included internally delivered content, learning via LinkedIn Learning and external programs facilitated by relevant subject matter experts. In 2022-23 the ABC continued to grow the number of available learning options for employees, with new courses added covering emerging areas of importance such as hybrid working, inclusive journalism and personal use of social media.

Employees continued to take full advantage of the learning opportunities available to them, participating in 28,851 hours of learning. This activity was made up of face-to-face delivery (66 sessions), virtual delivery (575 sessions) and online learning. Feedback from staff about the learning they received was overwhelmingly positive, with 95% of feedback respondents saying that they would recommend the learning that they had just completed to others.

Technological change

Delivering learning to support technological change continued to be a key focus for 2022-23. This activity was mainly focused on two areas. Firstly, the continued transition to a new version of the organisational content management platform, Core Media. In total there were 800 participants in a combination of online courses and virtual sessions related to Core Media, with 2,236 hours of learning delivered in total. Feedback from participants continued to be overwhelmingly positive.

Secondly, training content makers in how to effectively utilise the corporate content digital archive (CoDa). In total there were 1,167 completions of training related to CoDa, representing a total of 520 hours of training.

Editorial standards

Learning in relation to editorial standards continued to be a critical component of the learning and development offering. Capability building in relation to editorial standards starts with an introductory online course which is then supplemented with more targeted face-to-face and virtual sessions that build on these introductory concepts to explore how editorial standards apply to specific circumstances and/or contexts. In 2022-23 there were 302 completions of the online introductory module, representing 226 hours of learning in total. A further 1,212 completions were recorded for the supplementary face-to-face/virtual sessions, representing an additional 1,242 hours of learning in total. Specific focus areas for 2022-23 included editorial standards in relation to domestic and family violence, impartiality, fact checking and social media.

Bullying, harassment and discrimination

Bullying, harassment and discrimination remained an important focus area for learning in 2022-23, with all new employees required to complete mandatory learning in these areas.

Topics covered by the different courses on offer includes:

- Bullying and harassment
- Indigenous Cultural Awareness
- Disability Awareness
- LGBTQIA+ Awareness
- Building a culture of inclusion
- The ABC grievance process
- Social media self-defence.

In 2022-23 a total of 4,938 hours of learning related to these topics was delivered, with a total of 10,082 completions recorded for the period.

Targeted leadership

The ABC continued to expand its suite of leadership development courses during the year, with new courses added covering areas such as inclusive leadership and leading people with disability. In total 3,679 hours of leadership development were delivered across 2022-23, with a total of 290 completions recorded for the period.

Soft skills

The ABC continued its focus on providing support for staff to refine and develop critical 'soft skills' such as resilience, collaboration, having difficult conversations and inclusivity. In total over 494 learning completions were recorded for soft skill related learning activities.

Indigenous, diversity and inclusion

Learning and development have always been an important tool for building a diverse and inclusive ABC. Key activities for 2022-23 included:

- First Peoples Leading training suite including Impact Executive Leadership and Next Gen Aspiring People Leaders programs.
- Inclusive Team Planning Project – a five-step training and support plan for managers which involves completion on an online module on building an inclusive culture, a live facilitated workshop on leading an inclusive culture, planning sessions and team meetings to write, review and finalise the plan on how they will work together inclusively.
- Compulsory Indigenous cultural awareness training for all new employees.
- A suite of diversity training including disability awareness, LGBTQIA+ awareness, workplace adjustment and building an inclusive culture online modules.
- Monthly 'Lunch and Learn' sessions presented by the ID&I team on using inclusive language, anti-racism and discrimination information and upstander behaviours and allyship.

Diversity and inclusion

The ABC has a responsibility to reflect and represent the rich diversity of Australia's many communities. To achieve this, the ABC recognises that a broad range of voices and perspectives inspires creativity and makes a stronger public broadcaster.

Commitment to diversity

The Diversity & Inclusion Plan 2019-2022 provided a strategic roadmap to help the ABC develop an inclusive workplace culture. It was launched on 1 September 2019 and was extended to June 2023. Under the Plan, three strategic goals are outlined:

- A diverse workforce: To recruit, develop, motivate and retain a diverse workforce that reflects the composition of the Australian community.
- An inclusive workplace culture: To foster a workplace culture that is inclusive, collaborative, accountable and supportive.
- Inclusive content, products and services: To reflect and represent the diversity of the Australian community in the content, products and the services provided.

The workforce targets outlined in the Plan are:

- 15% CALD content makers
- 15% CALD executives
- 8% employees with disability
- 20% women technologists
- 50% women executives
- 3.6% Indigenous employees.

A new Diversity, Inclusion & Belonging Plan 2023-2026 was launched on 1 July 2023 and builds on the initiatives from the previous Plan. It covers a three-year period from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2026 and focuses on five key diversity areas – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, Gender, cultural and linguistic diversity (CALD), Disability, and LGBTQIA+.

Diversity & Inclusion Standing Committee

The Diversity & Inclusion Standing Committee (DISC) leads the development and implementation of the ABC's diversity & inclusion strategy. Members are diversity leads from all ABC divisions, employee network groups and the Bonner Committee.

Their work includes:

- Developing targets and implementing the current Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging (DI&B) Plan
- Supporting and championing employee network groups
- Escalating issues to the ABC Leadership Team as appropriate when the organisation is not meeting diversity & inclusion goals
- Ensuring that diversity and inclusion is a standing agenda item on divisional executive and commissioning meetings
- Educating and supporting staff in relation to the ABC's Indigenous, diversity and inclusion goals where needed
- Creating alignment, collaboration and clarity across divisions on diversity & inclusion work
- Championing and role-modelling diversity and inclusion practice to increase business-wide awareness.

Indigenous employment

The ABC has continued to focus on increasing Indigenous representation across the organisation. This initiative is part of the employment objectives outlined in the ABC Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).

The objectives in the RAP that relate directly to Indigenous employment include:

- Ensuring all ABC divisions develop an action plan for reaching Indigenous employment and other RAP targets.
- Ensuring the proportion of Indigenous staff is at least as high as the proportion of the Australian Indigenous population. The ABC's Indigenous employment target for 2023 is 3.6%.
- Setting a 3% target for Indigenous employees in content making, editorial and management decision making roles at senior and executive levels.
- Increasing the rate of conversion of entry level roles into ongoing positions.
- Maximising the retention of Indigenous employees to match the overall ABC workforce, through career development planning, mentoring, emerging and executive leadership training and mobility support.
- Offering biennial Indigenous Staff Scholarships to support the professional development of Indigenous employees.
- Undertaking targeted activities to increase Indigenous representation in ABC talent pipelines.

The RAP also champions initiatives that recognise and embrace Australia's Indigenous history and cultures. This includes a commitment to embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages, voices and names within the ABC's programs, so that they may become a part of the nation's vocabulary.

The Bonner Committee is the ABC's primary advisory and representative body on matters relating to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff, content and communities, with specific responsibility for monitoring progress against the ABC's Reconciliation Action Plan. The Committee meets at least six times a year and its members are a mix of Indigenous and non-Indigenous staff drawn from around the country and across divisions.

In May 2023 the Bonner Committee welcomed Chair Dan Bourchier, and Deputy Chair Solua Middleton, after Chair Sally Riley stepped down following many years of leadership.

The Chair directly advises the Managing Director on issues of relevance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff and relationships with Indigenous communities. The Chair is also the ABC's RAP champion.

The Committee is named in honour of the late Neville Bonner AO. He was Australia's first Aboriginal Senator and the ABC's only Aboriginal Board Director to date. He served on the Board from 1983 to 1991.

In accordance with the wishes of the Bonner Family, the Committee's membership is geographically diverse and it comprises a mix of Indigenous and non-Indigenous staff of different levels from across the Corporation. The Chair and Deputy Chair of the Committee are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander employees, as are most members.

Gender profile

Women make up 54.9%¹ of the ABC's workforce. This is consistent from June 2022.

The ABC has achieved gender parity in its executive group, with 54.4% of executive positions being held by women. The target was 50%. The ABC has also increased the representation of women technologists to 24.1% against a 2022 target of 20%.

The Gendered Mentoring Program ran again in 2023 as an extension of the ABC Mentoring Program. Twenty-five participants took place in the program, which aims to support communication skills and career development through group mentoring and learning sessions.

Two Gendered Leadership programs were delivered across five fortnights in 2022. These programs focused on authentic leadership, gendered barriers and impact, and involved a mix of practical learning, expert insights and peer coaching.

A gender equity and inclusion network for women, trans and gender diverse employees and their allies was established in 2023.

The ABC is also a member of the Champions of Change Coalition – a globally recognised, innovative strategy for achieving gender equality. As part of the National 2016 Group, the ABC is committed to building a respectful and inclusive workplace.

Accessibility

The ABC has a 12-month partnership with Job Access' National Disability Recruitment Co-ordinator (NDRC) to carry out a recruitment review, deliver disability awareness training to staff and drive engagement with disability employment services.

The ABC's Regional Storyteller Scholarship program is an early-career opportunity for two people with lived experience of disability, living in regional Australia. Each year, it attracts applicants from across the country, passionate about topics they'd like to see covered on the ABC and telling their stories of what it is like living with disability in a regional community.

ABC partnership with International Day of People with Disability (IDPwD) recognises the 4.4 million Australians with disability. A series of factual stories and content is commissioned by the ABC to be published and broadcast across ABC platforms for the International Day of People with Disability (IDPwD).

In partnership with Jigsaw the ABC developed a three-month internship program for a person with a disability to develop skills, knowledge and gain experience within screen and media with a specific focus on editing and producing content.

The ABC has training for its employees to become accessibility champions, who are people their teammates can turn to with questions about accessibility at all stages of projects.

The ABC has developed an Accessibility Hub for all employees which has e-learning modules on:

- digital accessibility – from creating documents and building apps to producing programs for tv, radio and online
- accessibility and its connection with Search Engine Optimisation
- mobile accessibility masterclass for designers and product managers
- social media accessibility
- web accessibility and Inclusive design.

¹ Statistics are calculated based on employee headcount, excluding casual employees, for employees paid in the last pay period of June 2023 who provided information on the ABC's Diversity & Inclusion Data Collection form. Does not include employees engaged locally overseas.

ABC Community Network Groups

ABC Pride

ABC Pride is an employee led group committed to creating a working environment that supports employees of diverse sexualities and gender identities, and those with intersex variations. Their aim is to empower people to be their authentic selves and reach their full potential.

At the ABC Pride Colour Your World event, ABC Pride welcomed co-chairs Matt Smith and Jen McNamara after founding chair Manda Hatter stepped down after six years of leadership.

The past year has been significant, marked by numerous events and initiatives. Notable highlights include participation in the Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade, with participation possible from fund raising events like Fair Day, Midsumma Carnival and contributions from ABC staff.

ABC Belong

ABC Belong is an employee network group that was established in 2019 to support CALD staff and supporters of all backgrounds. The group's mission is to increase awareness and representation of cultural and linguistic diversity in the ABC workforce and content, and to provide a safe space for the CALD community and its allies to meet and support one another.

ABC Belong aims for a workforce that's an accurate reflection of Australia's diversity, including CALD representation in leadership roles, and for content that represents CALD Australians in nuanced ways, avoiding stereotypes and caricatures.

The group has representation on the Diversity & Inclusion Standing Committee (DISC), assists with the CALD mentoring program, and takes part in consultations on matters regarding diversity and representation. In May 2023, the ABC Belong Committee held its second strategy session, at which committee members formulated short and long-term plans for the next 12 months. Masheila Pillay and Simone Tunbridge were elected co-chairs following Ara Sarafian's resignation from the role in May 2023.

ABC Inclusive

ABC Inclusive is an employee led network group that fosters collaboration among staff with disabilities, carers and supporters. The network is committed to creating an inclusive, intersectional and accessible work environment and actively engages in educational initiatives and raising awareness within the ABC.

ABC Inclusive welcomed Chair, Megan Spindler-Smith and Deputy-Chairs, Bec Hogan (Workforce) and Carol Rääbus (Content) after founding Chair, Nas Campanella stepped down. Throughout the year, ABC Inclusive organised impactful events, including panel discussions and content collaborations for International Day of People with Disability (IDPWD) and RUOK Day. They emphasised diversity, intersectionality, and sharing lived experiences related to disability and trauma. ABC Inclusive highlighted accessibility on Global Accessibility Awareness Day and partnered with JobAccess for a hybrid event exploring inclusive strategies to unlock diverse potential. They conducted a specialised workshop on accessible emergency broadcasting which helped lead to the ABC receiving a highly commended at the Emergency Media Public Affairs Australian Awards.

ABC Inclusive is focused on enhancing content accessibility across all platforms and supported an AI project for captions and transcripts. These efforts have been recognised with awards, including Employee Network of the Year and Inclusive Initiative of the Year for the IDPWD content collaboration and Regional Storyteller Scholarship program. The Network was also awarded Best in Class for Career Development in the Access & Inclusion Index, and ranked 8th out of 26 organisations.

Work health and safety

Management of WHS

The ABC has identified the mental health and wellbeing of staff to be a key focus for improvement initiatives, in response to a range of psychosocial risk factors including:

- the widespread mental health challenges in the community presented by the COVID-19 epidemic
- increasing levels of abuse through social media and other pathways
- ongoing change within and outside the organisation.

The ABC has developed an organisational *Psychosocial Risk Register* to comprehensively identify psychosocial risk factors and existing control measures, and to inform a treatment plan to further improve our effectiveness in manage these risks. Initiatives in progress include development of additional guidance materials, training and approaches for monitoring the wellbeing of staff and their exposure to risk factors.

In addition, the ABC has introduced a range of other health and safety improvement strategies:

- development of digital workplace inspection forms to improve compliance, efficiency and effectiveness of WHS inspections
- development of new ergonomic and manual task risk assessment tools to improve effectiveness in managing those risks
- coaching program for managers to improve skills and capabilities in incident management, investigation and reviews.

Training provided

A comprehensive range of training programs were provided in 2022/23 to effectively manage and reduce WHS risks. More than 14,000 WHS related training interventions were undertaken during the year.

Health and safety training completions 2022-23

Content	Staff trained
ABC Pre-start Induction	1,345
ABC Security Awareness	4,577
ABC Technology's Electrical Safety	20
Asbestos Awareness	70
Asbestos Management at ABC Sites	40
Aviation Safety	3
Basic Fire Fighting Principles	37
Child Protection Framework	765
Driver safety	261
Electrical Safety	122
Flying Drones	5
How to use personal protective equipment (PPE) – Emergency Broadcasting	3
Let's Talk Safety – WHS Consultation	16
Managing fatigue in the workplace	43
Managing Injury and Illness in the Workplace	14
Mental health training	488
Radio Frequency Safety	23
Situational awareness: Scan for Safety	165
Ergonomics: Setting up your workstation	649
Social Media Self Defence	165
Warden Emergency Response Training	78
WHS Hazard and Incident Reporting	832
WHS Local Induction (day one site induction)	805
WHS Risk Management	588
Workplace Behaviours	3,709
Total	14,823

Health and safety committees

ABC has WHS Committees covering the four higher-risk divisions (News, Analysis & investigations, Regional & Local and Entertainment & Specialist, Product & Content Technology), with alternative consultative

arrangements in place for the remaining Divisions. A total of 124 Health & Safety Representatives provide representation to workers across the ABC.

Work-related WHS incidents

WHS incidents 2022-23

Severity of Incident	1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023		1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022	
	Work Related Incidents	% of total	Work Related Incidents	% of total
Near hit incident / no treatment required	49	16	45	19
First aid treatment only	23	8	16	7
Lost time injury/illness – off work for one full day/ shift or more	26	9	24	10
Medical treatment (from a medical doctor) – off work for less than 1 full day/shift	4	1	4	2
Immediate treatment as inpatient in hospital	1	0	1	0
Precautionary treatment (from an allied health practitioner e.g. Physio)	67	22	36	15
Referrals to Trauma program	39	13	–	–
Online abuse	71	23	76	32
Report Only – no treatment	23	8	37	15
Total	303	100	239	100

Comcare notices and investigations

No investigations were undertaken by Comcare in the reporting period. On 30 May 2023, Comcare issued two Notices to obtain information under S.155 of the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* (WHS Act), requiring the ABC to provide information in relation to “...claims raised through multiple media outlets regarding allegations of bullying and harassment and racial vilification which were directed at worker Stan Grant (Mr Grant) since approximately 6 May 2023”.

Outstanding commitments as of 30 June 2022

The ABC has no outstanding commitments as of 30 June 2023.

Claim statistics

Of the 303 work-related incidents reported in 2022-23, seven resulted in workers’ compensation claims being accepted by Comcare, the same number when compared to the seven claims accepted for the 2021-22 year. Analysis of the accepted claims in 2022-23 shows injuries/conditions were primarily due to physical injuries including cumulative body stressing, injuries from falls and hitting stationary objects in the workplace or while working in the field while in the course of work.

Number of claims by mechanism of incident group

Mechanism of Incident Major Groups	2022-23*	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19
Falls, trips and slips of a person	3	4	4	2	8
Being hit or hitting an object	1	-	-	-	2
Body stressing	2	1	6	1	4
Stepping, kneeling or sitting on objects	-	-	-	-	-
Mental stress	1	1	2	5	3
Being assaulted	-	-	-	-	1
Vehicle accidents	-	1	-	-	-
Long-term noise exposure	-	-	2	-	-
Other/Unspecified	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL CLAIMS	7	7	14	8	19
Average cost-to-date (2022-23)**	\$13,416	\$69,432	\$62,051	\$119,649	\$99,221

* Data is immature and the ultimate number and cost of accepted claims may differ from the data reported, as new claims may be lodged in a later period. Data is accurate as at 30 June 2023.

** Claim costs are based on estimates as at 30 June 2023.

Workers' compensation premiums

The ABC's workers' compensation premium for the 2022-23 year was \$3,939,086 (ex GST). Comcare have provided the ABC with an indicative premium calculation for the 2023-24 year of \$3,932,670.

The overall premium rate for all Commonwealth Agencies has increased from 0.83 % in 2022-23 to 0.84%.

The ABC's indicative prescribed premium rate for 2023-24 is 0.79% (up from 0.77% in 2022-23).

ABC workers' compensation premium rates (at June 30 2023)

ABC performance against all Australian Government agencies combined					
Premium Rates	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
ABC Premium Rates	0.79% (indicative)	0.77%	0.60%	0.51%	0.53%
Premium rates-all Australian Governments combined.	0.84%	0.83%	0.79%	0.85%	0.85%

Mental health in the workplace

Cybersafety

Online safety remained a concern for ABC workers, talent and audience in the past year, with a variety of significant events and opportunities such as the Voice to Parliament campaign, war in Ukraine, Sydney WorldPride and targeted media coverage of ABC staff posing a range of cybersafety challenges. The ABC has also continued to make improvements in online safety for staff and guests.

Moderator wellbeing was a focus for the second half of 2022. The ABC's social media advisor performed an internal survey to assess conditions faced by moderators. The advisor also devised and delivered a training package aimed at bolstering the wellbeing of moderators, with 16 sessions provided to moderators and a further six sessions to managers of moderators to equip them with the skills to support their staff. Additionally, the ABC conducted a one-year-trial program of facilitated wellbeing sessions for moderators and managers of moderators. This is currently being evaluated.

A number of new online safety resources were also produced, including a guide to responding to threats of self-harm on social media, updated resources for child talent and their parents/guardians, and several videos aimed at reducing stigma of online abuse ahead of Safer Internet Day. Further resources are in development focusing on the safety of diverse staff and talent based on new research the ABC helped fund. Ongoing proactive work in online safety also included preparations (resources and training) for Sydney WorldPride and Mardi Gras, Australia Day, the Voice to Parliament and state elections.

During the year, the ABC's social media wellbeing advisor has assisted with 60 incidents and proactively reached out to many staff following recognition of high risk of abuse, such as trending on Twitter or media mentions.

Training

The past 12 months have presented an extraordinary combination of challenges for ABC staff and management. On the backdrop of a three-year pandemic and associated resourcing issues and fatigue, staff have continued to cover significant international and domestic matters under increasing scrutiny. These have included the war in the Ukraine, natural disasters, appointment of a new Prime Minister, death of Queen Elizabeth II, the Voice to Parliament and numerous inquiries addressing the treatment of vulnerable members of the population. In response to this, the Manager, Trauma Programs has delivered approximately 40 training sessions to employees across all divisions addressing a range of mental health related issues. These have included Psychological Wellbeing and Resilience, Vicarious Trauma, Stress Management and Boundaries, Burnout and Suicide Awareness and Intervention.

In response to the recognised risk of psychological injury for ABC staff through exposure to potentially traumatic events, content and images, a joint project between News and P&C, Psychological Risk in News was launched over 12 months ago. One of the objectives of the project is the implementation of a campaign to reduce stigma associated with mental health within the ABC. As part of this campaign, a panel comprised of ABC Journalists discussing trauma was convened and recorded. There are three more panels scheduled before the end of 2023 which will cover Burnout, Vicarious Trauma and Social Media Wellbeing.

Enforceable Undertaking

The ABC entered into an Enforceable Undertaking (EU) with the Fair Work Ombudsman (FWO) in June 2020 in connection with underpayments to some ABC casual staff who were paid flat hourly rates. As part of the EU, the ABC committed to and has implemented several measures to ensure future compliance with Commonwealth workplace relations laws.

Measures ongoing during the year included:

- The second of three annual audits by an external independent expert to confirm ongoing compliance with Commonwealth workplace laws was completed in September 2022. The third and final annual audit commenced in June 2023 and is due for completion in August 2023.
- Implementation of an electronic record keeping system to accurately record rosters and actual time worked for all staff is underway. The system was initially due to be implemented by June 2022, but a delay has been experienced. The ABC continues to liaise with the FWO on a revised implementation date of October 2023.

Review into buyout arrangements

In addition to the EU obligations, the ABC conducted a review of payments to current and former employees who were engaged on a buyout arrangement. Under a buyout, employees are paid a loading in lieu of overtime, penalties, allowances and other entitlements provided by the ABC Enterprise Agreement.

Individual outcomes were provided to impacted employees from November 2021 and the ABC has made payments to all current and former employees impacted by the error. The ABC continues to consult with a small number of employees about their review outcome.

The ABC has several measures in place to ensure employees are paid accurately while they remain on a buyout arrangement. They include additional checks for current and future employees prior to any buyout arrangement commencing and regular reconciliations of buyout arrangements against hours worked by employees.

Editorial quality

ABC editorial policies

The ABC Editorial Policies and associated guidance outline the principles and set the standards that govern ABC content. They are a day-to-day reference point for content makers and are critical to the ABC's ability to meet its statutory obligations and the expectations of audiences. They provide the basis for the ABC Code of Practice, which the ABC provides to the industry regulator, the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA).

In addition, the Editorial Policies give practical shape to statutory obligations in the ABC Act, in particular the obligations to provide service of a high standard, maintain independence and integrity, and ensure that the gathering and presentation of news and information is accurate and impartial according to the recognised standards of objective journalism.

Editorial management and guidance

No changes were made to editorial policies but there were two new or revised pieces of editorial guidance distributed to ABC content makers.

The first, issued in November 2022, was on covering the Voice to Parliament referendum. It explained how the harm and offence, accuracy and impartiality standards apply to coverage of this significant issue, and provided tips on managing live content and talkback, dealing with racist commentary, and drawing the line between analysis and personal opinion.

The second, issued in February 2023, was a revised and expanded guide to LGBTQIA+ reporting and portraying sexual orientation, gender identity and intersex status in ABC content. Released in advance of Sydney WorldPride, it set out key editorial considerations (such as when it may be relevant to mention a person's gender or sexuality) and a practical glossary of appropriate language and terminology.

Editorial reviews

The ABC consistently reviews its own performance against the editorial standards. Content makers and program teams regularly review their own work, and the ABC also commissions reviews that are independent of content makers and carried out by a range of internal and external reviewers.

The 2022-23 reviews and ABC responses to those reviews are published on the 'Editorial reviews' page of the ABC's corporate website: <http://about.abc.net.au/howthe-abc-is-run/what-guides-us/abc-editorialstandards/editorial-reviews/>.

Corrections and clarifications

The ABC publishes a 'Corrections and clarifications' page on its website (<https://www.abc.net.au/news/corrections/>) that lists corrections and clarifications made to ABC content across radio, television and digital platforms, whether as a result of complaints or for any other reason.

In 2022-23, 62 corrections or clarifications were published on the 'Corrections and clarifications' page (47 in 2021-22).

Where online transcripts existed, editor's notes and corrections to copy were also published.

ABC Code of Practice

The ABC Code of Practice was updated twice during the year.

The following changes were made on 1 January 2023.

A line was added to the classification implementation guidelines section noting that satellite in South Australia and the Northern Territory may be delivered in different time zones to their terrestrial equivalents.

Channel names were updated in the time zone charts, and the charts were amended to reflect a change to the ending time for ABC Kids and the starting time for ABC TV Plus.

A reference to Audience & Consumer Affairs was updated to refer to the Ombudsman's Office.

The following changes were made on 8 May 2023.

The 'Scope of the Code' and 'How to make a complaint' sections were updated to be consistent with the revised ABC Complaint Handling Process which took effect on 8 May 2023.

The time zone charts were amended to revert to the previous ending time for ABC Kids and starting time for ABC TV Plus, following a programming decision in February 2023.

Election Coverage Review Committee

The Election Coverage Review Committee (ECRC) is convened during each federal, state or territory election campaign to monitor ABC coverage and ensure ABC editorial standards are met.

The Committee is chaired by the Editorial Director or a senior editorial policy advisor and comprises representatives from all relevant ABC divisions. It is principally a committee of review and does not supplant the usual lines of editorial authority in each division during an election campaign.

For federal elections, the ECRC reviews externally commissioned share of voice data to ensure appropriate editorial balance is maintained and no single political party is disproportionately represented. This is done while recognising that there are a range of factors which can and will affect the amount of time or share of voice of each party.

For state and territory elections, the ECRC monitors content, internal records and feedback to ensure editorial balance. Audience complaints related to election coverage are reviewed by the Committee and the Chair of the ECRC is also responsible for administering the free broadcast time allocated to eligible political parties. Broadcast slots are provided on television and radio for policy announcements by political parties who meet the eligibility criteria.

The Election Coverage Review Committee was convened for the Victorian State Election in November 2022 and the New South Wales State Election in March 2023. Additionally, a Referendum Coverage Review Committee was convened to monitor coverage of the Voice to Parliament referendum in June 2023. It will remain in operation until the referendum takes place.

Infrastructure

The Sydney Accommodation Project is a key part of the ABC's Five-Year Plan – providing new and improved workspaces while supporting the target of 75% of content makers working outside of Ultimo by 2025.

The Project involves the move of approximately 300 staff to a new facility in Parramatta, and the refurbishment of approximately 16,000 square metres in the Ultimo building to contemporary office standards supporting a flexible work environment.

ABC Parramatta, located across two floors at 6-8 Parramatta Square, will include purpose-built broadcasting facilities for TV and radio and supporting office space in the heart of Western Sydney. Consultation has been conducted with nominated staff representatives and Unions on the new facilities' designs and the functional requirements of staff located in these offices.

The Project received approval from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works in December 2022. Since receiving the approval, the design has been completed and a head contractor appointed to deliver the new Parramatta facility and improvements at Ultimo.

The Project is on track with the Parramatta facility anticipated to be operating in early 2024 and the Ultimo works expected to be completed by late 2024.

The revenue from internal property sales is projected to cover the capital costs required to refurbish the new facilities. The refurbishment of Ultimo and the relocation of staff to Parramatta will allow for the consolidation of ABC staff into a reduced footprint within Ultimo, allowing for the gradual leasing of up to seven floors. The revenue from this leasing is expected to cover the ongoing occupancy costs at Parramatta at no additional cost to taxpayers.

ABC broadcaster and journalist Virginia Trioli.



Corporate services

Audience

In 2022-23, the Audience team's activities focused on Sydney WorldPride, local and international philanthropy, and cultural events such as triple J's Hottest 100.

ABC listen awareness campaign

In 2023 for the first time all ABC audio content was brought together under the umbrella of ABC listen, expanding from a mobile app to digital ecosystem. To support this and capitalise on the strong growth the audio category was experiencing, ABC listen launched an impactful awareness campaign to raise awareness of ABC listen as the digital front door to all ABC audio by showing the full range and breadth of audio content from sport, science, and history, to pop culture, parenting, true crime and more. The campaign celebrated people's diverse interests and reinforced the fact that whatever kind of entertainment people wanted they could find it on ABC listen.

ABC Radio Gives 2022

The ABC's annual charity appeal, ABC Radio Gives, raised close to \$1.5 million for those most in need in the lead up to the 2022 festive season. The appeal supported a variety of charity partners across Australia, including Foodbank, OzHarvest and the Giving Tree, embracing this year's theme of food security/cost of living. ABC Radio Gives 2022 brought together the entire capital city and regional radio network, with dedicated Giving Days to drive donations directly to partner charities. The campaign also ran on ABC Breakfast and the ABCTV New Year's Eve coverage.

Türkiye and Syria Earthquake Appeal

In February 2023, ABC Gives partnered with the Emergency Action Alliance (EAA) on the Türkiye and Syria Earthquake Appeal. EAA comprises 15 member charities working on the ground in Türkiye and Syria to respond to the immediate aftermath of the disaster, providing lifesaving assistance through food, shelter, access to health care and other relief efforts. In total, the appeal raised \$2.2 million, supported in a

large part by the ABC's generous audiences. The campaign was promoted extensively across the ABC Radio network, during broadcast news bulletins and was housed on the ABC Gives website.

Sydney WorldPride

As the official media partner of Sydney WorldPride, the ABC invited audiences to engage with its multiplatform coverage of the global event. Audiences also had the chance to interact with the ABC thanks to its strong presence at the annual Fair Day event, which more than 70,000 people attended.

The ABC's partnership provided the opportunity to target a predominantly younger audience through a digital-first campaign. 'Colour Your World' was a fun and inclusive campaign featuring personalities from across the LGBTQIA+ communities to drive awareness of the partnership and encourage audiences to engage with ABC content. There was positive response among 18-34-year-olds, and those who engaged with the content reported "feeling better" about the ABC. The ABC achieved 28% growth year-on-year in the audience for the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade, with ABC iView audiences for the parade primarily younger (67% under 55).

Audio description

Audio description is the auditory narration of a TV program. It describes important visual elements and is particularly useful for audiences who are blind or have low vision. In 2023, the ABC expanded its audio description service to ABC iView, on iOS and Android devices. Coming next to Smart TV, and with plans to roll out the service across all major platforms, audio description reflects a commitment to inclusivity and accessibility for all Australians. To celebrate the launch and drive broader community awareness, the ABC ran a comprehensive on-platform campaign, collaborating with existing networks and advocacy groups, empowering people to enjoy their favourite shows on-demand and independently.

Hottest 100/Classic 100

January saw the return of triple j's annual Hottest 100, celebrating the best music of 2022 as voted by our audience. The countdown generated over 2.44M votes and 3.64M streams, resulting in a recording breaking win for Flume who took out the #1 spot for the second time. triple j partnered with The Australian Conservation Foundation, raising over \$550,000 to fund projects to protect the environment and tackle climate change.

The countdowns continued in June with the Classic 100: Your Favourite Instrument with listeners voting the cello as Australia's favourite instrument. The 2023 Classic 100 is the second most popular countdown in the 22-year history of the event, with more than 172,000 votes cast.

ABC Shorts

The ABC Shorts initiative was launched to rapidly increase ABC reach and engagement with audiences 18-29 through fast scaling of resourcing and experimentation on TikTok, Instagram and YouTube Shorts. This nine-month program launched the ABC News and ABC Gamer channels on TikTok, and drove over 130 million TikTok views and 308,000 new TikTok followers across content areas including news, science, weather and emergency, gaming and arts. New specialist vertical video teams were launched, employing young content makers to commission and create content that connects the ABC with younger audiences.

Strategy

ABC Strategy provides a range of Corporation-wide functions.

During 2022–23, the Corporate Strategy team led the development of a new ABC Five-Year Plan 2023–28, including continued research on trends affecting the media environment. It also assisted other ABC teams with strategy development. Corporate Strategy participated in a knowledge-sharing community of international PSMs, including providing advice to Radio New Zealand and Television New Zealand to assist in their preparation for a proposed merger. The team developed the ABC Corporate Plan 2023–24 and drafted or contributed to various ABC submissions to government and parliamentary inquiries.

The ABC Innovation Lab supports innovation across the ABC. During the year, it collaborated with a range of ABC teams on projects derived from the Innovation Opportunities roadmap that it had developed in the previous reporting period.

In addition, the Innovation Lab hosted Futurecast, a series of future-focused workshops in which staff presented their visions for the ABC of 2032 ahead of the release of the new Five-Year Plan. The events were held in five locations around the country and engaged 220 ABC staff, 23 young creatives, and 11 industry leaders. Staff heard from experts on many different aspects of the changing media landscape, including AI, news avoidance, gaming and changing youth audience behaviours.

The ABC Education team oversees the ABC Education portal, which provides teachers, students and families with a range of curriculum-linked educational media. For more information, see p 104.

The International Services team, comprising International Broadcast and Digital Services and International Development, continued its work to amplify the ABC's position as the pre-eminent Australian media organisation in the Indo-Pacific region. For more information, see p 46.

ABC Corporate Affairs liaises with the Government, members of Parliament, Parliamentary Committees, the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts, and relevant peak bodies in relation to the Corporation's activities and priorities. It responds to constituent inquiries relayed by members of Parliament and coordinates stakeholder events, including the annual ABC Showcase at Parliament House in Canberra.

ABC Communications played a key role in communicating major ABC initiatives, including the content team restructure, the updated ABC Five-Year Plan, the ABC's 90th anniversary celebrations and numerous key events such as the Boyer Lecture series. ABC Communications has also been critical to the ABC's reputation management and in delivering a communications strategy that clearly articulates the ABC's position on many public facing issues.

Legal services

ABC Legal supported the delivery of valued services to its audiences and the priorities set out in the Five-Year Plan by:

- providing prepublication advice on breaking news 24/7, investigations, podcasts and general programming, together with specialist legal briefings to content teams
- handling legal complaints, defending defamation claims, and managing other litigation, including challenging suppression order applications
- making submissions on law reform matters (see Appendix 10 on page 239 for a list of submissions)
- providing regulatory advice and corporate governance services contracting production, finance and rights agreements, content licences, music and publishing agreements, and by providing intellectual property and commercial law advice
- negotiating commercial and technology contracts to support all aspects of the ABC's operations
- conducting property sales, leasing, management and maintenance matters
- providing rights management services including a rights hotline service for content makers
- supporting major projects across the ABC, the ABC's international operations, and the management of the ABC IP portfolio
- delivering training on a range of topics including privacy, media law updates, contracting, and rights management
- strategically using technology to create automated legal documents and processes, improving legal knowledge management, and by innovating ways to deliver legal services.

Responsibility

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ABC broadcaster Namila Benson, host of *Art Works*.





Corporate responsibility

The ABC is committed to corporate responsibility and aims to deliver content with integrity, diligence and transparency, and to act in the interests of citizens.

The ABC is committed to fulfilling its corporate objectives across all business and media activities in a manner that is ethically and financially responsible, and in particular pursues environmentally and socially responsible business practices. The values of integrity, respect, collegiality and innovation are the foundation of the ABC's activities.

Reporting performance

The ABC reports its corporate responsibility and sustainability performance each financial year in the Annual Report, with additional information available in the Diversity and Inclusion Report, and then throughout the year on the Corporate Responsibility webpage <http://about.abc.net.au/how-the-abc-is-run/whatguides-us/corporate-responsibility/>.

Other than references to the ABC's international activities, the Annual report is limited to domestic operations within the direct control of the ABC. Sustainability information about the ABC's investments in MediaHub Australia Pty Limited, Freeview Australia Limited and National DAB Licence Company Limited is not included in the report. Any additional limitations to the scope or completeness of particular data are identified within the reported data.

Stakeholder inclusiveness

The ABC provides opportunities for its audiences and other stakeholders to provide input into its content and activities through the ABC YourSpace audience community. Audiences are able to provide feedback on ABC content through its Quality and Distinctiveness studies, where members are asked regularly to rate the content that they have been watching, listening to or reading.

More ad-hoc and informal feedback is sought through YourSpace and via survey links on the ABC website and through ABC Social Channels (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram).

In 2022-23, other mechanisms for engaging with external stakeholders included:

- formal audience contacts and complaints processes – see p 132 and Appendix 4, p 213
- ABC Advisory Council processes – see p 124
- online feedback mechanisms specific to ABC content areas, including survey links through newsletters as well as website and social channels.

Protecting freedom of expression

Article 19 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights recognises freedom of expression as a fundamental human right. Freedom of expression is enshrined in the ABC Editorial Policies.

The ABC's commitment to impartiality and diversity of perspectives reflects the importance of diverse sources of reliable information and a plurality of views within a healthy democracy. In pursuing impartiality, the ABC is guided by the following:

- a balance that follows the weight of evidence
- fair treatment
- open-mindedness
- opportunities over time for principal relevant perspectives on matters of contention to be expressed.

The ABC seeks to balance the public interest in disclosure of information and freedom of expression with respect for privacy.

Press freedom

The ABC's commitment to public broadcasting, public-interest journalism, and a strong media culture to support Australian democracy is a key part of the ABC Five-Year Plan.

The ABC is a founding member of the Global Task Force for Public Media (GTF) and an active participant in this key body, established in 2020 to defend the values and the interests of public media.

The GTF offers an industry-led approach to key issues affecting public broadcasters around the world, a perspective that spans countries, languages, and cultures. It provides a way for public broadcasters to support each other's work at a time when public broadcasting and press freedom is under attack in so many jurisdictions.

The GTF comprises the leaders of eight major public media institutions: the ABC, ZDF (Germany), France Télévisions (France), BBC (United Kingdom), RNZ (New Zealand), SVT (Sweden), KBS (South Korea) and CBC/Radio-Canada (Canada). The GTF is currently chaired by Catherine Tait, President & CEO of CBC/Radio-Canada.

During the reporting period, the GTF expressed concern about growing threats to media freedom and safety, and the funding public funding, operational and editorial independence of PSM organisations around the world. The Taskforce issued statements in relation to Twitter's decision to apply misleading labels to public media organisations that implied they were not editorially independent of their national governments and a proposal by the Korean Government to fundamentally alter KBS's funding mechanism in way that would undermine its financial and operational viability and potentially its ability to perform its public broadcasting role. The reality of threats of violence against media professionals was made clear when it was revealed that GTF member Hanna Stjärne, the Director General of SVT, had been an intended target of a Swedish man who had murdered one public official and was plotting to kill others.

Accessibility of content and services

Ensuring its content and services are accessible to all Australians is a key priority for the ABC.

The ABC welcomed the ongoing funding for audio description services (AD) in 2022, as part of the Corporation's base funding, which has enabled provision of AD on ABC iView from July 2023.

With this ongoing funding commitment, the ABC continued to expand its AD program in 2022-23. Across the year, the ABC broadcast 4,660 hours of audio-described content including 705 hours (169 titles) at premiere or first possible release, a 23 per cent increase on last year including:

- 273 hours of drama, including programmes such as *The Messenger*, *In Limbo*, *Fisk*, *Utopia* and *Mystery Road: Origin*
- 135 hours of children's content, like *Bluey*, *Play School*, *Little J and Big Cuz*, *Beep and Mort* and *The PM's Daughter*
- 124 hours of factual programs, including *Gardening Australia*, *Back Roads* and *Old People's Home for Teenagers*
- 62 hours of current affairs programs such as *Australian Story*, *Foreign Correspondent* and *Four Corners*
- 38 hours of documentary, such as *Better Date than Never*, *Back in Time for the Corner Shop* and *Ningaloo Nynggulu*.

More than 100 shows and 1,000 hours of audio described content were prepared and ready for the July 2023 launch.

In 2023, the ABC expanded its audio description service to ABC iView, on iOS and Android devices. Coming next to Smart TV, and with plans to roll out across all major platforms, audio description reflects a commitment to inclusivity and accessibility for all Australians. To celebrate the launch and drive broader community awareness, the ABC devised a comprehensive on-platform campaign, collaborating with existing networks and advocacy groups – empowering individuals to enjoy their favourite shows on-demand and independently.

ABC News is working to fulfil a range of commitments as part of the ABC's Diversity, Inclusion & Belonging Plan, including captioning video content, transcripts for audio content, alternative text for digital imagery, audio description and developing internal machine learning tools and an internal content accessibility team.

A Content Accessibility Council, chaired by the Deputy Director News, was formed to drive awareness and change and to establish and oversee the standardisation of processes to address the integration of accessibility measures for ABC content across all audience touchpoints.

The ABC has developed a new transcription tool to increase the availability of transcripts of audio content for hearing impaired audiences. This tool began a pilot program within across ABC podcast makers in June 2023, with plans to integrate it into the workflows of all content makers in the first half of 2024.

A season three episode of *Bluey*, 'Turtleboy' included a deaf character and representation of the Auslan community. The special episode introduces a pup called Dougie at the playground who is deaf and uses Auslan to communicate with his mum, voiced by Miranda Tapsell. To authentically create each Auslan interaction between Dougie and his mum, producers Ludo Studios collaborated with consultants from Deaf Connect, Australia's largest provider of whole-of-life support for the deaf, hard of hearing and deafblind communities in conjunction with the ABC and BBC Studios.

Other accessibility initiatives over the past year include:

- A new Artificial Intelligence (AI) / Machine Learning (ML) transcription service was trialled to deliver text equivalents for a pilot selection of podcasts and other audio products for audiences who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- As a "Left-shifted ally", the ABC is planning accessibility improvements in feature designs for websites and mobile applications such as ABC NEWS, ABC iview and ABC listen.
- Social media accessibility training was delivered to help thousands of ABC staff publish inclusive content on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, TikTok and social media platforms.
- An upgrade to CoreMedia 10 CMS has brought improved authoring access for people with disabilities and assists staff with disabilities to independently produce and publish content.

Protecting young or vulnerable audiences

The ABC takes its role of protecting young or vulnerable people from harmful content and practices seriously.

The ABC's Editorial Policy framework sets out guidelines to protect vulnerable audiences such as children. Advice and training in the ABC Editorial Policies is delivered on an ongoing basis (see page 87). Upward referral – a key concept within the policies – ensures complex decisions are not made in isolation.

All television programs other than news, current affairs and sporting events, are classified and scheduled for broadcast in accordance with the ABC's Associated Standard on Television Program Classification. The ABC ensures that graphic or distressing news content is preceded by a warning, to give readers, listeners and viewers the opportunity to avoid the content if they choose.

triple j has strategies in place to ensure its younger audiences are protected. Editorial content which is likely to cause harm or offence to younger sections of the audience is scheduled in appropriate time periods, such as later in the evening. Warnings are given before playing music containing language or content that is assessed as likely to offend the triple j audience and prior to other types of content which risk causing harm to vulnerable audiences.

Content created especially for children and available on ABC iView or apps is accompanied by classification advice and warnings where appropriate. As with broadcast, children's content on digital properties is restricted to G and PG. Classification has progressively exhibited heightened sensibilities with respect to editorial concerns in children's programming, which has led to a significant increase in the number of episodes being referred for review.

Children's programming is subject to greater oversight than other ABC content in terms of the content's compliance with non-classification matters, such as ABC Editorial Policies.

Both the ABC Kids and ABC Me apps include parental filters so parents can control their children's viewing boundaries. Additionally, ABC iView now features sub-profiles, enabling parents to create profiles for children confined to ABC Kids, ABC Me or both. The ABC's websites and apps for children follow strict protocols to minimise risk to children and protect their privacy.

The ABC believes online protection of children and young people under the age of 18 is a shared responsibility between the ABC, the parent or guardian and the child, and aims to ensure that people who engage with the ABC's online spaces understand the possible risks they face and how to minimise them.

Since the introduction of the Family category on ABC iView in December 2021, significant work has been undertaken to position ABC iView as a family viewing destination and curate content suitable for family viewing. Classifiers and programmers carefully consider the selection and placement of content in the Family category, having regard to audience expectations and the need for warnings and viewer advice. On-air promotional campaigns have been used to highlight family viewing content and encourage co-viewing.

The provision of classification information on ABC iView has been improved, better enabling audiences to make informed choices about what they and their families watch. Classification symbols and consumer advice are now listed on each episode or show page so viewers can take them into account before they select a program to watch. They also appear as an in-player overlay at the start of each program and reappear if a viewer returns to an unfinished program. When warranted, full-frame classification cards can also be provided, matching the broadcast experience. ABC iView provides the most comprehensive and prominent classification information and consumer advice of any streaming service available to Australian viewers.

The harm and offence standards in the Editorial Policies provide appropriate guidance on protecting vulnerable members of the community from potential harm arising from exposure to ABC content. For example, helpline information is often provided at the end of programs or stories so vulnerable viewers affected by the content have immediate access to appropriate support services.

The ABC's Child Protection advocate appointed in 2021 has completed a review into child safe practices and increased standards in response to the Audit which recommended her role. The ABC Child Protection Advocate has instigated extensive training across the ABC divisions alongside ABC Child Protection Officers and consults directly on productions involving children providing guidance and advice on working with children plans.

Digital literacy and safety

ABC Education (abc.net.au/education) connects teachers, students and families to a range of educational media linked to the Australian curriculum and frameworks such as the Early Childhood Years Framework.

In 2022, the ABC Education portal was rebuilt. It now hosts 3,094 videos, 101 articles, 127 games and 102 showcase collections for teachers and students to use in formal and informal educational settings.

The additional funding provided in the October 2022 Budget allowed the ABC to invest in the creation of two new educational content initiatives: *BTN High*, a short-form news segment directed towards high school students, and ABC Education Studios, which produced a range of media including videos, interactives and articles for school audiences.

This investment resulted in 46 six-minute episodes of *BTN High* and 17 new projects across a range of topics, including ABC Education Story Time, GOAT Maths introducing primary school students to foundational maths skills, *Australia's Democracy*, *The Sound Makers*, *Our Animals* and the provision of the official NAIDOC Education resources.

ABC Education also assisted in mapping relevant factual and cultural broadcast material to the website to assist teachers in planning. This included curating the most relevant content from flagship programs such as *Catalyst*, *Ningaloo* and *Back in Time for the Corner Shop*.

In addition to the ABC Education portal, ABC Early Learning provides educational resources for ABC Kids' content, including the launch of early education resources related to programs like *Bluey*, *Play School*, *Reef School* and *The Wonder Gang*.

The *BTN High* team has helped to explain and debate the ethics around both emerging technologies, such as AI text, image and video generation, and existing technologies such as the Dark Web.

BTN High has also worked to educate and warn young Australians about a variety of risks in the digital space, including online scams, omnipresent gambling advertising and the widespread misogyny young women regularly face online.

It has also helped to drive national conversations around topics such as 'sharenting', which concerns the ethics around whether parents should require consent when posting about their children online.

ABC Education Story Time

A series of story-time learning moments for primary students, ABC Education Story Time features Australian teachers reading Australian story books. It was created in conjunction with Reading Australia, the Primary English Teachers' Association, the Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership, NSW Education and Expression Australia.

Created to highlight Australian authors, voices and illustrators, ABC Education Story Time videos finish with a call to action by the teacher to encourage students to continue their learning. As well as providing educational content, the project connects with the teaching profession and celebrates their knowledge, passion and commitment to education.

Privacy

A range of privacy measures aims to ensure the ABC's audience understands and can act on their data and privacy rights, such as simplified FAQs, ease of access to the ABC privacy policy and efficient access to the ABC Audience Support team. There are also a range of privacy controls that utilise simple language within the ABC Account settings.

The past year has seen extensive work interacting with and managing audiences online via the Digital and Social Strategy team. This includes fostering positive conversations and safely shepherding communities and content online, advising on cyber safety for productions and talent. On average the team hide, delete, and ban more than 300 comments and/or users each day to provide a safe social platform for the community.

The team also helped to develop screen commissioning guidelines for community management and cyber safety plans/mitigations and conducted dozens of briefing sessions for production teams and EPs.

Media Tips

The News Diversity Advisory Group has published a Tips for Media Interviews booklet and web page for potential interview subjects, providing them with insight into what to expect when being interviewed.

During the ABC's coverage of the Federal Election, when reporters and producers engaged with various communities, they found many people they approached to interview, particularly from culturally and linguistically diverse communities, didn't understand what it would involve, or whether they wanted to participate at all. This information tool is helping inform people what to expect and how they can take part in the many interviews and conversations the ABC has with its listeners and viewers.

Editorial and broadcasting responsibilities

There was no change to the classification process during the reporting period. The Classifications team focused on small, tailored training sessions based on requests by producers and managers.

News, Analysis & Investigations is committed to continually improving editorial standards through regular reviews of its output and editorial processes combined with craft and editorial policy training delivered with the Editorial Policy division. These initiatives are informed by input from a wide variety of stakeholders and feedback from audiences both through direct contact and the complaints process.

Following the creation of the new position of Standards Editor and the appointment of senior journalist Matthew Brown to this role the existing system of internal reporting and follow-up of editorial errors has been improved. Editorial managers are now obliged to report all errors, whether they are identified through complaints or internal monitoring, to the Standards Editor and the Editorial Policy advisor. The Standards Editor follows up to ensure the source of the error is identified, staff counselling is delivered if appropriate and any systemic issues are identified and addressed.

Editorial Policy training continues to be adapted to current circumstances. A key focus for the Editorial Policies team this year was training editorial staff covering the Voice to Parliament referendum. Numerous training sessions were conducted, covering issues such as impartiality and diversity of perspectives, dealing with misinformation, and reporting viewpoints which may be racist or inflammatory. Hundreds of journalists and content makers attended these sessions.

ABC Your Move Content Collaboration

ABC Your Move was a pan-ABC initiative that explored Australia's collective and individual health and fitness to better understand and inspire Australians to make the small changes that can make a difference to their wellbeing.

A content collaboration spanning the Entertainment & Specialist, Regional & Local, News, Digital Product and Innovation Lab teams, ABC Your Move engaged 3.135 million Australians across TV, radio and digital touchpoints. The television program *Magda's Big Health Check* achieved a combined audience of one million Australians, with 93% of those surveyed finding it informative. A Health Check interactive tool was built and used 141,000 times, and News articles for the collaboration had over 500,000 page views and 1.7 million minutes of engagement.

In addition to the Talent Fund, ABC Innovation Lab also identified other digital creators to work with ABC teams, including Kirsten Banks (astrophysics), Aslan Pahari (history & religion) and Tilly Oddy-Black (comedy). Similarly, the Queerespondent project partnered popular creator Rudy Jean Rigg (Rainbow History Class) with ABCQueer and ABC Screen, Sport & Events to provide younger audiences with digital-first reporting for the ABC's Sydney WorldPride coverage.

Virtual Voice Pilot

ABC Innovation Lab partnered with Microsoft to develop an ABC virtual voice - an embedded audio player that lets audiences listen to ABC News articles due to text being read out by a virtual voice using text-to-speech technology. A trial of 'text-to-speech' on the ABC News website provided constructive feedback about the audience appetite and potential applications for such technologies. The pilot added a 'listen to this article' option to selected news stories. It provided useful insights into the technology requirements and audience perceptions and has led to multiple related projects.



ABC Mildura Swan Hill *Breakfast* presenter Debra Pearce during an outside broadcast at the Fire and Rescue NSW Wentworth Fire Station.

Environmental responsibility

As Australia's national public broadcaster and most trusted media organisation, the ABC has set a target of being net zero by 2030 for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions generated directly in its operations and has registered a commitment to set science-based GHG emission reduction targets that support the national transition to a low-carbon economy. The ABC recognises this as part of its responsibility to use resources as efficiently as possible and for the benefit of the Australian community.

Informing and educating our audiences about the natural world, our environment and sustainable living has long been reflected in ABC content. Official targets formalise action to reduce energy use, travel and waste to landfill.

ABC targets

During the year, the ABC Board formally set a target to achieve net zero by 2030 for GHG emissions generated directly in ABC operations – the fuels burned and the energy purchased. These are referred to as Scope 1 & 2 emissions.

The ABC has also committed to setting a target to reduce emissions generated indirectly through its value chain – that is, emissions from goods and services supplied to the ABC to deliver its services. These are referred to as Scope 3 emissions.

In March 2023, the ABC registered its commitment to set near-term Scope 1, 2 and 3 targets with the Science Based Target Initiative (SBTi) (<https://sciencebasedtargets.org/>), a global body that defines and promotes best practice in science-based target setting and independently assesses and approves organisation targets. The ABC has been recognised as “committed” on the SBTi website and expects to submit its targets in the coming year.

Sources of ABC emissions

During the year the ABC worked with external consultants to establish the emissions baseline on which its SBTi targets will be based. ABC activity and spend data for FY22 was used to calculate ABC emissions in accordance with the GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard and the Climate Active Standard. The ABC's estimated emissions for FY22 are:



SCOPE 1

Fuels the ABC burns

1,658 tCO₂e, approximately 2% of total emissions made up of the petrol and diesel used in our vehicles, natural gas used for hot water and heating in some locations and a small amount of diesel oil used in emergency back-up generators.



SCOPE 2

Power the ABC consumes

22,746 tCO₂e, approximately 23% of total emissions made up of electricity the ABC purchases for use in 59 locations across every State and Territory of Australia, including offices, studios and data rooms.



SCOPE 3

Indirect activities

72,640 tCO₂e, approximately 75% of total emissions generated by upstream and downstream activities from sources not owned or controlled by the ABC.

The ABC's emissions for FY23 have been calculated with methodology provided by the Department of Finance Net Zero Unit to ensure consistent reporting of emissions by Australian

Public Service and Government entities. The Net Zero Unit methodology does not include all of the scope 3 emissions sources which form part of the FY22 emissions baseline outlined above. Hence the reported FY23 emissions below is lower than the FY22 emissions baseline. See below – FY23 Emissions data.

Pathway and progress to reduction

Scope 1 & 2 emissions

The ABC's five-step pathway to net zero by 2030



1

Improve energy efficiency in ABC offices and studios around the country.



2

Generate renewable energy by installing solar PV panels on suitable ABC properties.



3

Transition energy purchased to renewable sources.



4

Replace the ABC fleet with lower emission vehicles and fuels where operationally fit for purpose.



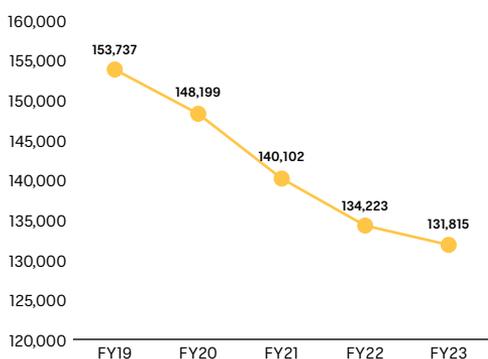
5

Offset residual emissions that the ABC will do its best to minimise. It intends to prioritise offsets that benefit Australian communities.

ABC progress

Energy efficiency: over the last five years the ABC has reduced its consumption of electricity and natural gas by 14% measured in total gigajoules (GJ).

National Energy Consumption (GJ)



An ongoing program to improve energy efficiency in ABC buildings and studios includes upgrading building management systems, LED lighting and replacement of ageing HVAC (heating, ventilation and cooling), chillers and boilers with more energy efficient units. During the year, the production lighting in Ultimo Studios’ 21 and 22 was upgraded to LED lights, as well all Southbank studios. In addition, the News TV studios in Adelaide, Darwin, Perth, Hobart and Canberra were also upgraded to LED lighting.

Energy reduction initiatives in FY23 included LED lighting and motion sensor installations at existing sites as well as replacement of end-of-life air conditioning units with more energy efficient units. Following detailed engineering and feasibility reviews, photo-voltaic (PV) solar panels were installed in several ABC locations including Brisbane, Cairns, Mackay, Mt Gambier, Longreach, Mt Isa and Ultimo. Further installations are planned for the coming financial year in locations that have been selected with consideration for cost, benefit, location and capacity.

Energy efficiency is a key consideration when new properties are sourced or when properties are refurbished. The Parramatta NSW site leased this year has a high 5.5-star NABERS base building energy rating. Several efficiency measures have been incorporated into the Ultimo site refurbishment, including motions sensors, LED lighting and energy efficient HVAC systems.

Solar PV panels: Starting in May 2023, solar panels have been installed at ABC properties in Brisbane (125kW), Mt Isa (30kW), Mt Gambier (25 kW), Longreach (10 kW), Cairns (25kW), Mackay (75kW) and Ultimo (125kW) with a total capacity of 415kW. Additional locations have been identified for assessment in FY24. Future reports will provide annual data on electricity generated via solar panels on ABC properties.

Renewable energy: The ABC has engaged an energy broker and will review the market for sources of energy when current energy contracts expire.

Fleet: The ABC views every vehicle replacement as an opportunity to improve the fleet’s environmental profile by considering if there is a need to replace the vehicle or whether there is a lower emission alternative available that meets operational requirements, while noting that news gathering requires travel across distances, particularly in regional areas.

Hybrid (HEV) vehicles now make up 24% of the ABC’s leased fleet, an increase from 11.5% at the end of last financial year. More hybrid vehicles are on order, which will increase hybrids as a proportion of total leased fleet to 27% once delivered.

FY23 fleet emissions have been reported using Net Zero Unit methodology that calculates fleet emissions based on the vehicle make, model, type, build date, class (passenger, light commercial, SUV etc), engine type, vehicle fuel type and fuel volume – see below FY 23 Emissions data.

Comparative annual data will be provided in future reports.

Offsets: The ABC's strategy to meet Scope 1 and 2 net zero by 2030 is focussed on minimising fossil fuel usage across its operations, thereby reducing GHG emissions. Offsets for any residual emissions will be considered as the 2030 target date approaches.

Scope 3

Supplier emissions

Over the year the ABC has engaged with its top two-thirds of suppliers by spend through meetings and surveys to understand more about their emissions, targets and decarbonisation strategies. This information will help to identify opportunities to work collaboratively with suppliers to reduce emissions in their operations.

A significant source of scope 3 emissions originates from the transmission of ABC content from its 66 capital city and regional locations. The ABC transmission network provides extensive coverage with close to 100% of the Australian population having access to ABC radio and television services.

Other sources of emissions in the value chain include content produced for the ABC and a wide range of goods and services that support its work including information technology, property, travel, accommodation and professional services, as well as waste from operations, employee commuting and working from home.

An example of a collaborative activity is Sustainable Screens Australia an industry-led initiative formed during the year to champion sustainable production practice and reduce the environmental impact of the Australian screen industry. The ABC has joined SSA as a foundational partner. SSA has licensed the internationally recognised 'albert' tool that enables productions to measure their environmental impact and develop a carbon action plan. SSA is working to customise the albert tool for the Australian environment and develop training for the Australian screen industry. The ABC will work closely with SSA to implement the albert tool in content we produce and commission.

Air Travel

The ABC will maintain its commitment to reduce travel by non-content areas except where business essential, acknowledging that the nature of the Corporation's business requires its staff to travel around Australia and overseas to gather news and create program content. The ABC Travel Procedure requires that, where available, air travel organised by the ABC should utilise a carbon offset option.

FY23 domestic flight emissions have been reported using Net Zero Unit methodology that calculates emissions based on departure city, arrival city, cabin class and kilometres travelled. Comparative annual data will be provided in future reports.

FY23 Emissions data

The following tables measure the ABC’s FY23 emissions for scopes 1 & 2 and selected scope 3 emission sources using methodology provided by the Department of Finance Net Zero Unit to ensure consistent reporting of emissions by Australian Public Service and Government entities.

FY23 APS Net Zero Emissions Reporting – Location Based Approach

Emission Source	Scope 1 kg CO ₂ -e	Scope 2 kg CO ₂ -e	Scope 3 kg CO ₂ -e	Total kg CO ₂ -e
Electricity (Location Based Approach)	N/A	20,065,181	2,137,205	22,202,386
Natural Gas	1,118,062	N/A	215,509	1,333,571
Fleet Vehicles	733,529	N/A	201,382	916,420
Domestic Flights	–	N/A	1,797,074	1,797,074
Other Energy	4,065	N/A	1,002	5,066
Total kg CO₂-e	1,855,655	20,065,181	4,333,680	26,254,517

The electricity emissions reported above are calculated using the location based approach. When applying the market based method, which accounts for activities such as Greenpower, purchased LGCs and/or being located in the ACT, the total emissions for electricity, are below:

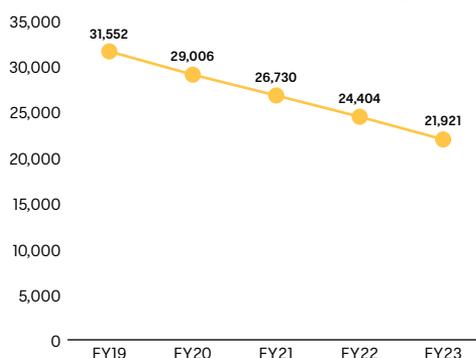
FY23 APS Net Zero Emissions Reporting – Market Based Approach

Emission Source	Scope 1 kg CO ₂ -e	Scope 2 kg CO ₂ -e	Scope 3 kg CO ₂ -e	Total kg CO ₂ -e
Electricity (Market Based Approach)	N/A	20,382,083	2,697,629	23,079,712
Natural Gas	1,118,062	N/A	215,509	1,333,571
Fleet Vehicles	733,529	N/A	201,382	916,420
Domestic Flights	–	N/A	1,797,074	1,797,074
Other Energy	4,065	N/A	1,002	5,066
Total kg CO₂-e	1,855,655	20,382,083	4,894,104	27,131,843

ABC Scope 1 & 2 Emissions (tCO₂e)

The following graph shows the trend in Scope 1 & 2 emissions over the last five years. Over the last five years the ABC has reduced scope 1 & 2 emissions by 31% in line with reductions in its energy consumption. Not all scope 3 emissions sources have been measured historically which is why the following chart is limited to scope 1 & 2 emissions only.

ABC Scope 1 & 2 Emissions (tCO₂e)



FY23 scope 1 & 2 emissions were calculated using the APS Net Zero emissions reporting methodology and total 21,920 tCO₂e. The APS Net Zero methodology includes the same scope 1 & 2 emissions sources that the ABC has reported in previous Annual Reports. The FY22 data presented above has been reviewed to confirm the ABC's emission baseline for target setting. During this process, some minor adjustments were made to reflect actual data rather than estimates. The total scope 1 & 2 emissions reported in the 2022 Annual Report was 25,089 tCO₂e, compared to the amended calculation of 24,404 tCO₂e.

Waste and recycling

The ABC will continue to look for opportunities to reduce waste to landfill, including recycling and re-use. During the year, decommissioned equipment including television cameras, lenses, tripods, cables, audio mixers and master control panels was donated to Indigenous Community Television. The workflow developed around this donation will be used for future decommissioned equipment donations to other First Nations Media organisations and Australian and Pacific community media outlets.

The ABC works with a contractor to reuse or recycle end user devices. Printer and toner cartridges are recycled through organisations such as Close the Loop, Planet Ark and Konica Minolta, while mobile phones are recycled through Mobile Muster and batteries through Veolia and EcoBatt.

Water consumption

The ABC collects rainwater at 14 sites to a total capacity of 270kL. Sustainability initiatives are considered in any refurbishments undertaken. This includes considering the viability of rainwater collection among other initiatives.

Heritage strategy

The ABC has prepared a Heritage Strategy in accordance with s. 341ZA of the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). The EPBC Act sets out the ABC's responsibilities to protect and conserve the Commonwealth Heritage values of places that it owns or controls. The strategy is intended to inform the Environment Minister and the Australian Heritage Council of the identification, assessment and monitoring of those places. The ABC's 2021-2024 Strategy <https://about.abc.net.au/how-the-abc-is-run/what-guides-us/heritagemanagement> is available online.

Managing emissions and climate-related risk

Governance

The People & Sustainability Committee assists the ABC Board by reviewing and making recommendations to the Board regarding targets, policies and initiatives designed to ensure the ABC's impact on the environment is minimised and monitoring progress and reporting against targets.

A corporation-wide approach is led by a Sustainability Working Group comprising senior representatives from ABC Divisions responsible for identifying opportunities and initiatives to reduce environmental impact and managing implementation.

Reports were provided to the People & Sustainability Committee meetings in May, August and November 2022 and March 2023, and to the ABC Board in December 2022. Reports covered work done to establish the sources and volumes of ABC emissions, a pathway to reduce emissions, a target recommendation and the ABC's first climate-risk assessment (see further below). At the May meeting, external consultants provided a presentation to the Board on emissions measurement and science-based target setting. At its December 2022 meeting, the Board approved the ABC setting a target to remove Scope 1 & 2 emissions and to register the ABC's commitment to set near-term Scope 1, 2 and 3 targets with the SBTi.

Strategy

Reducing ABC's impact on the environment and achieving net zero emissions is a priority of the ABC Board approved Five-Year Plan. Performance will be reported through ongoing Annual Reports.

Risks and opportunities

This year the ABC took steps to better understand climate-related risks in relation to the Corporation's operations in line with the ABC's enterprise risk management framework (see Risk section p 130). The ABC Risk Team conducted workshops with the Sustainability Working Group comprising senior representatives across ABC functions. In line with the Taskforce for Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) framework consideration was given to physical and transition risks, specifically the risks associated with:

- the impact of increasingly severe weather events on the ABC's services, operations and staff
- the transition in the ABC's operations to meet publicly announced targets, Government commitments and public expectations
- the policy, regulatory and technological changes associated with the transition to a net zero emissions economy.

The ABC will continue to review and manage climate risk with oversight from the People & Sustainability and Audit & Risk Committee.

In the coming year, the ABC will engage with the Department of Finance Net Zero Unit on requirements and guidance relating to climate-related financial risk disclosure by Commonwealth entities. Training will be provided to key senior management and Board members on new international sustainability reporting standards that are expected to be introduced in Australia in 2024.

Social responsibility

Times of emergency

The ABC provides emergency broadcasting services in times of crisis. This included 455 emergency events in 2022-23, compared with 308 the previous year. The 'Emergency broadcasting' section on p 25 has more information about the ABC's work in times of emergency.

Content impact

The ABC makes a difference for audiences through the impact its content has for the communities it works with, helping to deliver cultural and social change.

The section titled 'This is the ABC' on p 16 provides more details of the way the ABC reached and influenced diverse Australian communities in 2022-23.

Social responsibility in the community

Community service announcements

The ABC's Local Radio services broadcast community service announcements (CSAs) to assist and inform local communities. CSAs are frequently run as part of emergency broadcasting, focusing on preparation and awareness before an event and providing information after an event. CSAs are also played in Indigenous languages where appropriate.

Charity and fundraising

ABC Gives, the Corporation's umbrella charity and fundraising initiative, raised more than \$1.5 million for those most in need in the lead up to the festive season.

As part of the event, now in its second year, ABC Radio held 'days of giving' in November and December, with money raised providing more than 2.4 million meals for vulnerable individuals, families and communities. OzHarvest and Foodbank distributed the meals.

Perth led the final tally, raising \$431,000 with a Radiothon and fundraising as part of its long-time Drive presenter, Geoff Hutchison's farewell show after 16 years on air. Tasmanian Premier Jeremy Rockliff launched Tasmania's 2022 ABC Giving Tree Appeal with a live broadcast from the foyer of ABC's Hobart studios.

Connecting with communities

The ABC connects with communities through a wide range of broadcasting and services. Examples include the ABC Radio Capital City stations' Your Stories events held in outer suburban locations and the Hello community broadcasts run by regional bureaux. Love Where You Live invited audiences in regional Australia to celebrate life in their towns and cities. The initiative was launched in March with 38 community outside broadcasts across regional Australia including Gordonvale in Queensland's Far North, Tilba in New South Wales, Violet Town in Victoria, Breadalbane in Tasmania, Mount Gambier's Blue Lake in South Australia and Castle Rock in Western Australia. An additional 11 outside broadcasts and 15 community events were held following the launch, elevating local issues to create national conversations while helping deliver greater impact for individual communities and championing change.

International development

ABC International Development (ABCID) partners with media, civil society, and government organisations in the Indo-Pacific region, designing and delivering media development initiatives and research. ABCID is entirely funded through donor agencies.

ABCID worked on the following projects in 2022-23.

- ABCID was selected by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) to deliver the fourth phase of the **Pacific Media Assistance Scheme (PACMAS)** following a competitive tender process. PACMAS undertakes media capacity-building activities across Melanesia, Polynesia, and Micronesia. In 2022-23, activities included economic reporting, women in media, parliamentary reporting, Fiji media editors visit, disability in media research, journalism fundamentals, broadcast technicians, and mobile journalism. PACMAS is funded by the Australian Government through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). Content initiatives included:
 - **Pacific Prepared** is a radio co-production with six Pacific nations on disaster preparedness that broadcasts on ABC Radio Australia and Pacific stations across the region.
 - **Change Makers Samoa** is a video series featuring 10 Samoans who are leaders in their field, committed to inspiring positive change in their communities.
 - Content from ABC archives is made publicly accessible online through **The Pacific Collection**. One piece of content was featured each month in a story produced by the IBDS team for the ABC Pacific digital platform.
- **Media Development Initiative (MDI)** is a DFAT-funded project focused on partnering with PNG media organisations to support content development and capacity building. In 2022-23 activities have included the digitisation of historic content from the archive of the National Broadcasting Corporation of PNG, training provincial program makers in emergency broadcasting, supporting the revival of the Media Council of Papua New Guinea and strengthening connections between the media and community service organisations.
- Under the DFAT-funded **Women in News and Sports initiative**, ABCID trained and mentored women journalists across the Indo-Pacific to cover both community and major regional sporting stories and events. Training included live commentary, remote reporting, mobile storytelling, presentation and sports journalism.
- Under the **SAFE** project, ABCID has provided technical assistance on behaviour change communication initiatives across the Pacific on sexual and reproductive health issues, funded by the Australian Government through the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).
- Two research reports on Youth Digital Engagement during the COVID-19 Pandemic in Vanuatu and Tonga were commissioned by ABCID as a crucial component of the **Girls Online (GO!) Project**. The GO! project, supported by the Australian Government Cyber and Critical Tech Cooperation Program, focuses on empowering young women in Tonga and Vanuatu to build resilience and address the challenges they encounter in the online sphere.
- The **Indonesia Media Development Program** is funded under the Australian Government's additional funding to ABC International Services of \$32 million over 4 years announced in the October 2022 budget. This program aims to strengthen the media sector in Indonesia by concentrating on digital safety and resilience. With a special emphasis on personal data protection and online gender-based violence, the program provides training, resources, and other support to media professionals and content creators.

- The **Timor-Leste Media Development program** is also funded under the funding tranche delivered in October 2022. It aims to foster a strong media landscape in Timor-Leste. Key components of the program in the first six months of 2023 include:
 - **Election Training Workshops** with more than 60 journalists and media owners from across Dili and the municipalities
 - **RTTL English News Service Project**: ABCID worked with the RTTL newsroom to launch the national broadcaster’s weekly English language news service
 - **ABCID has partnered with the Timor-Leste Press Council** for capacity building activities including journalism fundamentals training, investigative reporting workshops, and the development of a Diversity and Inclusion guidebook for reporters.
- The **Media Education for Development and Information Access (MEDIA) platform** is funded under the Australian Government’s October 2022 funding tranche. The MEDIA platform will deliver journalism training, capacity-building courses and resources to individuals and partners across the Indo-Pacific. The invite-only platform is available to participants of ABCID-supported activities and media.
- ABCID delivered three separate media development and behaviour change communications projects under the DFAT-funded Australian Humanitarian Partnership, with its partner Oxfam:
 - Under the Disaster READY program, ABCID worked with Oxfam and Timor-Leste national and community media to **raises awareness of and participation in disaster preparedness and resilience**, through an inclusive radio and online content series.
 - ABCID is working with Australian and PNG non-government organisations to support **risk communications and community engagement** on vaccination, including COVID-19, and countering misinformation.
 - ABCID worked with partners in Laos, to manage a COVID-19 Vaccine Support project aiding Laos’ sub-national health system in **increasing COVID-19 vaccination coverage** in target provinces and populations.
- The **Philippines Emergency Broadcasting project**, implemented by ABCID and funded by the Australia Awards and Alumni Engagement Program Philippines through DFAT, developed Emergency Broadcasting Plans and Standard Operating Procedures for the emergency management information providers of the Philippines Government. Its purpose is to enhance the country’s emergency response capabilities by improving communication strategies during crises.
- In collaboration with the Oceania Football Confederation and the Office of Sport, ABCID is delivering two aligned projects fostering unity and empowering First Nations and Indo-Pacific female sports journalists, sportswomen and sports communicators during the **2023 FIFA Women’s World Cup in Australia**. Participants undertook commentary and mobile journalism digital storytelling training, covering the event.

International relations

The ABC contributes to various international bodies that foster collaboration and knowledge-sharing between public-service media (PSM) organisations. It is a member of the Public Media Alliance (PMA), holding a seat on the PMA Board, as well as the DG8 international broadcasting group (BBC World Service, US Agency for Global Media, Deutsche Welle, France Media Monde, NHK Japan, ABC, CBC, Swiss Info), the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) and the Association for International Broadcasting (AIB).

The Managing Director is a member of the Global Task Force (GTF) for public media, a group of eight leaders of major public media services from around the world formed to defend the values and the interests of public media.

In late 2022, at the first in-person ABU General Assembly for a number of years, the ABC successfully lobbied for a seat on the ABU Administrative Council, the second-tier decision making body for the ABU. The ABC attended its first Administrative Council meeting in April 2023. The Head of International Services, Claire Gorman, continued her tenure as the chairperson of the ABU Program Committee and Program Bureau.

In November 2022, ABC Managing Director, David Anderson, attended the Public Broadcasters International (PBI) conference in Tokyo, Japan and spoke on the opening panel. The ABC also provided a representative on the PBI Steering Committee.

Social responsibility in the supply chain

December 2022 saw the ABC publish its third Modern Slavery Statement <https://about.abc.net.au/reports-publications/fy2022-modern-slavery-statement/>, demonstrating its ongoing commitment to addressing modern slavery risk in its operations. This included conducting the third Annual Supplier Survey to better understand modern slavery risks suppliers face in their supply chains. The ABC also continues to work with prospective suppliers during its tendering processes to ensure their alignment to the ABC's values as outlined in the ABC Supplier Code of Conduct <https://about.abc.net.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Supplier-of-Code-Final-Approved-August-2020.pdf>. By working with suppliers who share the ABC's values and reflect those values in their own supply chains, the ABC is taking a collaborative approach to managing modern slavery and other supply chain risks. Addressing the risk of modern slavery is also a commitment of the ABC *Social and Sustainable Procurement Strategy*, which is guided by *ISO 20400:2017 Sustainable Procurement* and places a focus on human rights, as well as other core issues like labour practices, the environment, and community involvement and development.

During FY23 the ABC continued its long-term partnership with Supply Nation <https://supplynation.org.au/> to create opportunities for Indigenous businesses. The majority of the ABC's spend with Indigenous businesses is with Indigenous production companies which creates jobs and allows sharing of Indigenous storytelling with ABC audiences. The ABC's partnership with Supply Nation is a key enabler of its ability to meet the supplier diversity objectives of the ABC Elevate Reconciliation Action Plan 2019-22 <https://about.abc.net.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/ABCElevateRAP201922.pdf>. It also saw the ABC nominated as a finalist for the 2022 Supplier Diversity Awards in the category of Government Member of the Year.

Social responsibility in the workplace

Diversity

The ABC strives to create a workforce that reflects the community at large.

For more information on the ABC's diversity plans, programs and reporting, refer to the 'Diversity' section in 'Inside the ABC' on p 83. For more on how the ABC works with and represents the diverse communities it serves, refer to the chapter titled 'This is the ABC' on p 16.

Mental health in the workplace

For more information on how the ABC supports mental health and wellbeing in the workplace, refer to the 'Mental health in the workplace' section in 'Work health and safety' on p 90.

Product responsibility

Product information

The ABC ensures all products are appropriately labelled. No changes to the ABC's policy or practices regulating product information or labelling were made during 2022-23.

If applicable, packaging displays information about appropriate disposal of the packaging. ABC licensed merchandise packaging is clearly marked if it is a potential hazard.

Quality assurance

All licensees of ABC-branded merchandise have contractual obligations to manufacture high-quality products that meet Australian Standards applicable to the product. Children's products are safety tested to the Standards AS/NZS ISO 8124 parts 1, 2 and 3, if applicable.

Products aimed at adults may be also required to be tested to relevant standards. Licensees are required to provide certificates to prove the test results.

If there are no applicable Australian Standards or testing procedures for a product aimed at children, the ABC requires that licensees or manufacturers perform tests that conform to American or European testing to safeguard product safety and quality. Licensees test for colourfastness, shrinkage and flammability of apparel products. These products are required to meet retailers' individual standards.

Product complaints and recalls

Customer safety and satisfaction is of paramount concern to the ABC. ABC Commercial's comprehensive Product Recall Procedure covers all products produced, distributed, licensed and sold by the ABC, ensuring the ABC is compliant with legislated requirements.

In 2021-22, there were no product recalls or instances of non-compliance with safety standards associated with products produced, distributed, licensed or sold by the ABC.

Protecting privacy

Information about the ABC's compliance with privacy obligations can be found at p 217.



THE Pacific



The Pacific's Tahlea Aualiitia.

Accountability

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**Anthony LaPaglia, presenter of the
ABC docuseries *The Black Hand*.**



Corporate governance

Enabling legislation

The ABC's corporate objectives, strategies, policies and activities derive from the requirements of the *Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983* (the ABC Act).

In particular, s.6 of the Act (the ABC Charter) outlines the functions of the ABC, and s.8 sets out the duties of the Board (Appendix I, p 208–209).

Responsible minister

The ABC is an agency within the portfolio of the Australian Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts.

For the entire reporting period, the Hon. Michelle Rowland MP, Minister for Communications was the responsible minister.

Governance framework

Board

The role and responsibilities of the Board are described in Appendix I, p 208–209. The ABC Board held seven meetings in 2022-23. The Audit & Risk Committee met five times and the People and Sustainability Committee met five times. Appendix 2, p 209–211, provides further information about the ABC Board and its committees.

Management

The ABC's governance framework includes a number of executive, advisory and working groups that provided guidance and leadership on areas such as digital strategy, risk management, information technology, work health and safety, content planning and collaboration, and policy development.

Corporate Plan

The ABC's strategy is informed by the broader corporate objectives and outcomes contained in its corporate plan. The requirement to prepare a corporate plan is in accordance with the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (the PGPA Act).

Under s. 35 of the PGPA Act, the accountable authority of the ABC is required to prepare a corporate plan at least once each reporting period. It must be prepared in accordance with the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014* (the PGPA Rule).

The *ABC Corporate Plan 2022-23* was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the PGPA Act and PGPA Rule and is published on the ABC's website at <https://about.abc.net.au/reports-publications/abc-corporate-plan-2022-23>

The *ABC Corporate Plan 2022-23* also meets the requirements of s. 31B(l) of the ABC Act by outlining the strategies and policies the ABC will follow to ensure the Board fulfils its duties under s.8 of the ABC Act. It includes a forecast of the revenue and expenditure of the ABC and its subsidiaries, including a forecast of capital expenditure and borrowings.

Corporate reporting

Compliance reporting

Any significant non-compliance with the finance law must be reported to the responsible minister under s. 19(l)(e) of the PGPA Act and must also be disclosed in the annual report together with an outline of the action taken to remedy the non-compliance.

To meet these requirements, the ABC maintains an internal compliance reporting framework, comprising internal controls, governance procedures and other sources of assurance and information.

During the 2022-23 reporting period, there was no significant non-compliance with the finance law – including under the PGPA Act and Rule and any other instrument made under the PGPA Act, such as the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (Financial Reporting) Rule 2015* – that required notification to the responsible minister.

Annual Report

The ABC is required by s. 46 of the PGPA Act to prepare an annual report, which must be submitted to the responsible minister for presentation to the Parliament. The *ABC Annual Report 2021-22* was submitted to the Minister for Communications and was tabled in Parliament on 20 October 2022.

Report against the ABC Corporate Plan 2022-23

Reports against the key performance indicators and forward estimates presented in the *ABC Corporate Plan 2022-23* are set out in the Annual Performance Statements on p 134–147, and the Financial Statements on p 148–205.

ABC Audio on Demand reporter Elsa Silberstein in Alice Springs.



ABC Advisory Council

The ABC Advisory Council provides advice to the Board about the ABC's broadcasting programs. There are 12 members of the Council, who are appointed by the Board. Vacancies on the Council are advertised when they arise.

The members of the Advisory Council represent a wide range of backgrounds, experiences and perspectives, and have deep connections to the communities they represent. Current members of the Council, their location and experience are set out below.

Anita Jacoby AM – Chair Avalon Beach/Cedar Brush Creek NSW

January 2022 to December 2023

Anita Jacoby is one of Australia's most distinguished television producers and media executives. With a career spanning more than 35 years, she has created award-winning content across multiple platforms. Formerly Managing Director of ITV, Anita has occupied senior roles across all Australia's broadcasters and in the independent production sector, bringing to the ABC Advisory Council a deep understanding of the critical nature of public broadcasting and where this sits in our changing media landscape. Anita has served two terms as an Associate Member of the Australian Communications and Media Authority. She is a Board member of Chief Executive Women, Documentary Australia, a Trustee of the Duke of Edinburgh International Award Foundation (UK) and Co-chair of Women in Media.

Josephine Buontempo – Deputy Chair North Fremantle WA

1 January 2019 to 31 December 2024

Jo has held executive and non-executive director roles across the corporate, government and social sectors. Currently, she is Managing Director of Kasali Migration Global and consults in corporate governance, strategy and stakeholder engagement. She has worked in community law, education, housing, employment, disability, family and children's services, community development and humanitarian resettlement. She is Deputy Chair of Foundation Housing Ltd, Non-Executive Director of the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters and Chair of the Australian Scholarships Foundation Assessor Panel. Jo has postgraduate qualifications in migration law & studied as a Fellow at the City University of New York's Centre for Philanthropy and Civil Society.

Dianne Rule Melbourne VIC

1 January 2020 to 31 December 2023

Dianne Rule has worked in education, publishing, politics and community projects for 35 years. Her work experience has given her a sound working knowledge of government, governance, media, policy formation, strategic planning, financial management and marketing. She is a veteran of the craft of advocacy and has forged deep community liaisons through her career. She has served on several boards and committees, currently chairs the JMB Foundation and is a member of the AusNet Services Consumer Forum and the Royal Children's Hospital Advisory Committee.

Summer Gwynne **Brisbane QLD**

1 January 2020 to 31 December 2023

Summer Gwynne is a Registered Nurse who has spent the past 20 years working in the public health system in neonatal and paediatric fields. She took her passion for supporting Australian families in a new direction, starting her own business with a strong focus on supporting rural families in the early days of parenting. She complemented this journey with active participation in a number of for-purpose organisations, including the National Rural Women's Coalition and the Child Health Association of Tasmania. In 2020, she and her family moved from Tasmania to Brisbane, where she was working for the Vaccination Workforce before starting at a medical centre. She has recently returned from volunteering in a hospital in Namibia and is keen to continue volunteering overseas. Her biggest motivators are her six children.

Brendan Whitely **Wandering WA**

22 April 2021 to 21 April 2025

Brendan Whitely is a resident of Wandering in the wheatbelt of Western Australia. Until June 2020 he was the owner and operator of a 1640-hectare mixed sheep and grain family farm. He is now the owner and operator of a mobile sheep shower business that requires him to travel long distances throughout the Wheatbelt. He is very involved in the rural community, including past President and current Councillor of the Wandering Shire Council, a former Captain and current member of the Wandering Town Volunteer Fire Brigade, Chair of the Local Regional Economic Development Alliance, a member of the Lions club and several other clubs and committees listed in his CV. He has two adult sons and is a life-long ABC audience member.

ABC Advisory Council members, L-R: Åse Ottosson, Josephine Buontempo (Deputy Chair), Melanie Teagle, Anita Jacoby AM (Chair), Brendan Whitely, Rechelle Leahy, Anita Planchon, Summer Gwynne.



Geoff Trappett OAM **Brisbane QLD**

22 February 2022 to 21 February 2024

Geoff competed in Sydney and Athens Paralympics, winning gold in Sydney and becoming the first person under 14 seconds for the 100-metre wheelchair sprint. He held this world record through to his retirement in 2005. His accolades include receiving an Order of Australia medal and being named Queensland Paralympian of the Year. Geoff has transitioned to working professionally in multiple senior executive roles within the disability sector, spanning human service providers and disabled person run advocacy organisations. Having served as a board member on several disability peak bodies, he now devotes his passion and expertise speaking out on human rights and disability inclusion related issues.

Åse Ottosson **Alice Springs, NT**

22 February 2022 to 21 February 2024

Dr Åse Ottosson is a social anthropologist and writer. She has lived, worked, and conducted research with Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in central Australia for more than two decades. She holds a PhD (2006) from the Australian National University and has taught and supervised undergraduate, Masters and PhD students at Stockholm University, Sweden, the ANU, and most recently the University of Sydney. Originally from Sweden, Åse's first degree was in journalism and she worked as a freelance, foreign correspondent and staff journalist for Swedish print media and the Swedish national public broadcaster for 15 years.

Jack Growden **Townsville, QLD**

22 February 2022 to 21 February 2024

Jack Growden is the Founder & CEO of LiteHaus International, which is committed to equitable access to digital technology. He has created and overseen international development programs benefitting more than 108,000 people worldwide. Recognized as a top 20 social innovator under 35 in the Asia-Pacific region by the Australia ASEAN Business Council, Jack has been named the Queensland Emerging Philanthropist of the Year and an AMP Tomorrow Maker. A belief in creating impact through generosity and empowerment is his focus in life.

Kenton Winsley **Melbourne, VIC**

22 February 2022 to 21 February 2024

Kenton Winsley comes from an Aboriginal community called Belyuen, located approximately 120 kilometres from Darwin on the Kenbi Lands. Kenton has family connections across the top-end west region of the Northern Territory from Nauiyu Nambiyu thought to Wadeye.

A Registered Aboriginal Health Practitioner, a Registered Paramedic, and a Registered Nurse, Kenton has experience in clinical governance and leadership, public health, Aboriginal health and emergency management. He is committed to ensuring individuals, families, and communities receive culturally responsive services, and that such services are delivered on the principles of social justice, community engagement and community expectations.

Melanie Teagle **Mount Gambier, SA**

22 February 2022 to 21 February 2024

Melanie Teagle works for the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (South Australia) and has managed the Fisheries Compliance section of the South-East of South Australia for 15 years. She grew up in East Gippsland, Victoria and relocated to South Australia where she spent time in Port Lincoln as a Fisheries Officer before transferring to Mount Gambier as the Regional Manager for Fisheries Compliance. Melanie is married with two young children and lives with her husband, a third-generation sheep grazier, near Kalangadoo in South Australia, where she participates in community and sporting events in the region.

Rechelle Leahy **Armidale, NSW**

22 February 2022 to 21 February 2024

Living and working on Anaiwan Country (NSW), Rechelle Leahy is a strong leader and board director, including serving as a board member of the Australian Gender Equality Council, Northern Tablelands Local Lands Service, and the Classification Review Board. She also serves on several other boards across not-for-profit and government organisations. A principal sector specialist in governance, procurement and social policy, her passion lies with gender equality, equity and improving policy through advocacy, related to the specialised issues of rural, regional and remote women and girls. Rechelle has represented Australia at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women as a civil society delegate representing rural women for the past six years. A long-time audience member of the ABC, she is the mother of two boys.

Anita Planchon **West Hobart, TAS**

1 March 2023 to 28 February 2025

Anita Planchon grew up in Adelaide and lives in Nipaluna (Hobart), where she is a state civil servant, working to improve access to information, literacy and digital inclusion through the library, archives and education sector. She is an active community member with interests across the arts, sport and the environment and mother to two school-age children who recognised the ABC logo before they could read. Anita was previously an Australian diplomat with postings in Asia and the Pacific, including as Consul-General to Noumea and Deputy High Commissioner to Honiara. She is a lifelong consumer of the ABC and a passionate supporter of public broadcasting.

Retiring Advisory **Council Member**

Jason Jingshi Li **Canberra, ACT**

1 January 2019 to 31 Dec 2022

Jason Jingshi Li is a data scientist based in Canberra. He has more than a decade of experience in artificial intelligence (AI) research and development, and currently leads the technical delivery of AI solutions to public and financial sectors. He holds a PhD in Computer Science from the Australian National University and was previously a research scientist at the ANU and the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne. He co-founded the Black Mountain Piano Quartet, where he also serves as the principal violinist. Jason was born in China, spent his formative years in New Zealand, and moved to Australia when he was 18. He is married with two school-age children.

Meetings this year

The Advisory Council met in Sydney three times during the year, in July 2022, November 2022 and April 2023. Either the ABC Chair or Managing Director, or both, met with the Advisory Council at each meeting. ABC Leadership Team members and executives also met with the Council to discuss the Five-Year Plan, Futurecast, ABC listen App, sports coverage, News strategy, prime time viewing, the role of the Ombudsman, AI, ABC home page and the ABC iview summer campaign.

Over the year, Council members were asked to review the following content over a period of two to three weeks and to seek the opinions of their communities.

- **ABC listen App:** members provided feedback on awareness and community engagement with the ABC listen app, the type of content Council members and their communities would like to see more of such as news, children's content, parenting, music and sport, and the ability to personalise this content, and how ABC listen compares with ABC Radio and with other apps.
- **Prime time viewing:** Wednesday & Sunday evenings (7.30pm – 10pm), ABC TV (main channel). Members provided feedback on local content aired during primetime viewing, stakeholder views on the current programming and their relevance to a diverse audience, as well as discussing recommendations for future programming.
- **ABC home page:** members provided feedback on the breadth, quality and relevance of content available. They discussed recommendations for a user-centric experience that balances the need for discoverability, personalisation and accessibility, while showcasing the depth and breadth of content available on the platform.
- **ABC iview summer campaign:** members provided feedback on what programs resonated with Council members and their communities, accessibility/ease of signing up and navigating to content, as well as recommendations for improvements in both content and technical functionality.

The Council made the following recommendations in 2022-23.

- More should be done to promote the ABC listen app but to be conscious of the digital divide which exists for many in rural and remote areas of Australia.
- The ABC homepage should keep the uncluttered look and feel, promote the homepage more widely to listeners and viewers, including the variety and diversity of content, include more topics (from the 'More' section) in the bar at the top, and promote the fact that the ABC is Australia's national broadcaster and that it is publicly funded and is regulated by the ABC Act. The Council also suggested including a link to the ABC Act and the ABC Charter and include links to other ABC apps if technically possible.
- Provide new and/or exclusive content for ABC iview, not reruns. Consider running a campaign in winter due to consumer habits, provide regular updates and exclusive promotions.



ABC Radio Adelaide Breakfast presenters Stacey Lee & Nikolai Beilharz.

Risk

The ABC will inevitably confront challenges as it delivers on its Charter and pursues the strategic objectives of the Five-Year Plan. This is a dynamic media and entertainment landscape marked by technology change and new audience consumption habits. As a major national and cultural institution, the ABC will also face evolving community expectations and financial challenges.

The Board recognises that risk management and internal compliance and controls are vital to effective governance. The ABC's Risk Management Policy and Resilience Policy set out the ABC's approach, while the Risk and Resilience function is responsible for building risk management and resilience capability and ensuring the consistent application of policies and processes across the ABC.

Underpinning the ABC's policies is a standardised, enterprise-wide risk management process to identify, assess, manage and monitor significant risks. In a changing environment, where disruption is inevitable, such risks are managed using the prevention, preparedness, response and recovery model.

In 2022-23, the Leadership Team reviewed the ABC's risk profile and received regular risk management reports and resilience information. This included evaluation of emerging risks and opportunities, assessing evolving risk trends and developing organisational responses. Risk reports considered the ABC's people, audience, reputation, financial, technology, legal and compliance exposures. Climate risks were evaluated in a risk deep-dive, providing input into the ABC's approach to sustainability and prioritisation of the activities that underpin our action plan. The update of the ABC's Five-Year Plan involved careful consideration of the organisational response to the extraordinary pace and extent of change in the media landscape.

The Audit & Risk Committee maintained oversight of the effectiveness of the ABC's internal control and risk management processes, including the key risks facing the ABC and the actions being taken to mitigate them to an acceptable level.

Insurance

The ABC has acquired appropriate insurances from Comcover, including directors' and officers' liability insurance. The 2022-23 premium for directors' and officers' liability insurance was \$267,612. The ABC has indemnified each Board member for legal costs and liabilities incurred in their capacity as a Board member of the ABC under a Deed of Access and Indemnity. Board members were permitted to vote on the Deed pursuant to a declaration by the Minister for Communications under s. 15 of the PGPA Act.

Audit

Group Audit plays a key role within the ABC's governance framework. It reports independently to the Audit & Risk Committee and contributes to the achievement of the ABC's goals and objectives by:

- providing objective assurance of the design and operation of the ABC's internal controls, including recommending improvements to management
- promoting a culture of accountability and integrity
- conducting investigations in relation to fraud or public interest disclosure allegations
- responding to the ABC's changing requirements and applying a continuous improvement mindset, including using technology and data to assess internal control performance.

Group Audit prepares and delivers the ABC's Internal Audit Plan, which is approved by the Audit & Risk Committee. A risk-based audit approach is adopted to ensure focus on the ABC's key strategic objectives and operational areas. Group Audit works closely with Risk to ensure that all aspects of risk are considered in the development of the Internal Audit Plan, including operational, strategic, people and financial risk.

Audits are conducted in accordance with international auditing standards. In 2022-23, Group Audit completed 26 audit assignments (24 assignments were completed in 2021-22), covering editorial, content delivery, operational, finance, information technology, risk management, people and culture, health and safety, and project management processes.

Group Audit uses employees and external partners to deliver the Internal Audit Plan. External partners provide expertise in specialist areas, supplementing internal resources and experience.

Group Audit liaises with the ABC's external auditors, the Australian National Audit Office, and their nominated representative, KPMG. This includes seeking advice on proposed areas of focus and ensuring minimal duplication of audit coverage.

Privacy

The ABC has robust privacy policies and procedures governing the collection, use and disclosure of personal information. Privacy practices align with the *Privacy Act 1988*, the Australian Privacy Principles (APPs) and the Privacy (Australian Government Agencies – Governance) APP Code 2017.

Each year the ABC supports Privacy Awareness Week. In 2023 its theme was Back to Basics and the ABC Privacy team conducted a cross-divisional panel discussion to discuss privacy basics and promote privacy awareness and best practice across the Corporation. The ABC recognises that as privacy regulation and practices in Australia continue to evolve, its own practices and procedures must adapt to ensure information handling practices meet community expectations and regulatory requirements.

The ABC was the recipient of two privacy awards at the annual Cyber CX Privacy by Design Awards in May 2023.

Data breach notification

Data breach notification laws make it mandatory for the ABC to report a data breach that is likely to result in serious harm to any affected individuals. Notification must be made to the affected individuals and the regulator.

In 2022-23, the ABC did not experience any data breaches that required notification to the Privacy Commissioner.

ABC Ombudsman – Content Complaints

Ombudsman’s Office

The inaugural ABC Ombudsman, Fiona Cameron, was appointed in September 2022. The Ombudsman’s Office has replaced the Audience and Consumer Affairs unit. The Ombudsman reports directly to the Board and heads up a team which is independent from the Editorial Director and the content making divisions of the ABC.

Other changes include:

- the establishment of an internal review mechanism where complainants who remain dissatisfied with a response from the ABC may seek an Ombudsman’s review
- removing the ultimate discretion of the Managing Director to intervene in the complaint handling process, recognising that the Ombudsman can make recommendations but has no enforcement powers
- allowing complaints to be lodged three months from publication/broadcast (up from six weeks)
- deleting the requirement that a complainant must have sufficient interest or proximity to the subject matter of the complaint in relation to fair and honest dealing
- empowering content divisions to reply to complaints from first contact encouraging timely and local responses
- streamlining investigation decision-making to facilitate real-time resolutions where appropriate
- improving the online complaint form including an ability to attach supporting documentation (still in development)
- committing to a process of regular public reporting.

The revised processes adopt the recommendations from the Independent Review of ABC Complaints Handling Procedures commissioned by the ABC Board in October 2021. The Review was conducted by former Commonwealth and NSW Ombudsman Professor John McMillan and former SBS Director News and Current Affairs Jim Carroll.

Data provided below covers a period that reflects the operation of both the former Audience & Consumer Affairs unit and the Ombudsman’s Office.

Written complaints about specific ABC content broadcast or published by the ABC, concerning the ABC’s editorial standards and/or Code of Practice, are considered content complaints. Content complaints are generally referred to the Ombudsman’s Office to assesses and determine appropriate handling in accordance with the ABC Complaint Handling Process. The Ombudsman’s Office may investigate the complaint and determine whether ABC editorial standards have been met. In cases where the ABC’s editorial standards have not been met, the complaint will be upheld (either fully or in part). Complaints can be also resolved where appropriate action is taken to remedy a matter. In many circumstances the Ombudsman’s Office will refer the complaint to the content area responsible, allowing those with the most direct knowledge and involvement in creating content to respond. Complainants who remain dissatisfied with a direct ABC response can seek a review from the Ombudsman’s Office.

Content complaint handling*

	2022-23	%	3 yr av 2020-22	%
Total ABC complaint issues	19,738		23,767	
Content	2,714	14%	3,634	15%
Investigated	1,070	39%	1,647	45%
Not upheld	807	75%	1,317	80%
Upheld or resolved	263	25%	330	20%

* Complaints received by or referred to ABC Audience Support, Audience & Consumer Affairs and the Ombudsman’s Office.

Outcome of investigated complaints

During 2022-23, 2,714 content issues were finalised by the Ombudsman’s Office and Audience & Consumer Affairs. The teams investigated 1,070 issues, provided responses to 85 content complaints that did not require investigation, and referred 1,559 content complaints to content areas for consideration.

During the year, 25% of all content complaint issues were resolved or upheld. The focus of the Ombudsman’s Office is resolution rather than ongoing investigation and in the reporting period, 189 issues (17.7% of all investigated issues) were resolved after the relevant content area took prompt and appropriate action to remedy the cause of the complaint. Seventy-four issues (6.9% of all investigated issues) were upheld in cases where it was determined that ABC editorial standards had not been met.

Summaries of upheld and resolved complaints are published on abc.net.au as individual complaints are finalised, providing timely access to complaint decisions. Findings of significant investigations are also published on the ABC website. Subject to privacy considerations, all complaints that are reviewed by the Ombudsman will be also published in full.

Nature of content complaint issues

Subject	Issues	% total
Bias (other than party political)*	831	30.6%
Factual inaccuracy	726	26.8%
Inappropriate content	417	15.4%
Unfair treatment	248	9.1%
Party political bias	183	6.7%
Other	181	6.7%
Lack of balance	128	4.7%
Total	2,714	100.0%

* Includes claims of bias in relation to issues such as international coverage, sport and religion.

Timeliness of investigated complaints

The Ombudsman’s Office seeks to respond to all complaints as quickly as possible in accordance with the ABC’s Complaint Handling Process. In 2022/23, 78% of all investigated complaints were responded to within 30 days and the average number of days for response over the period was 20 days.

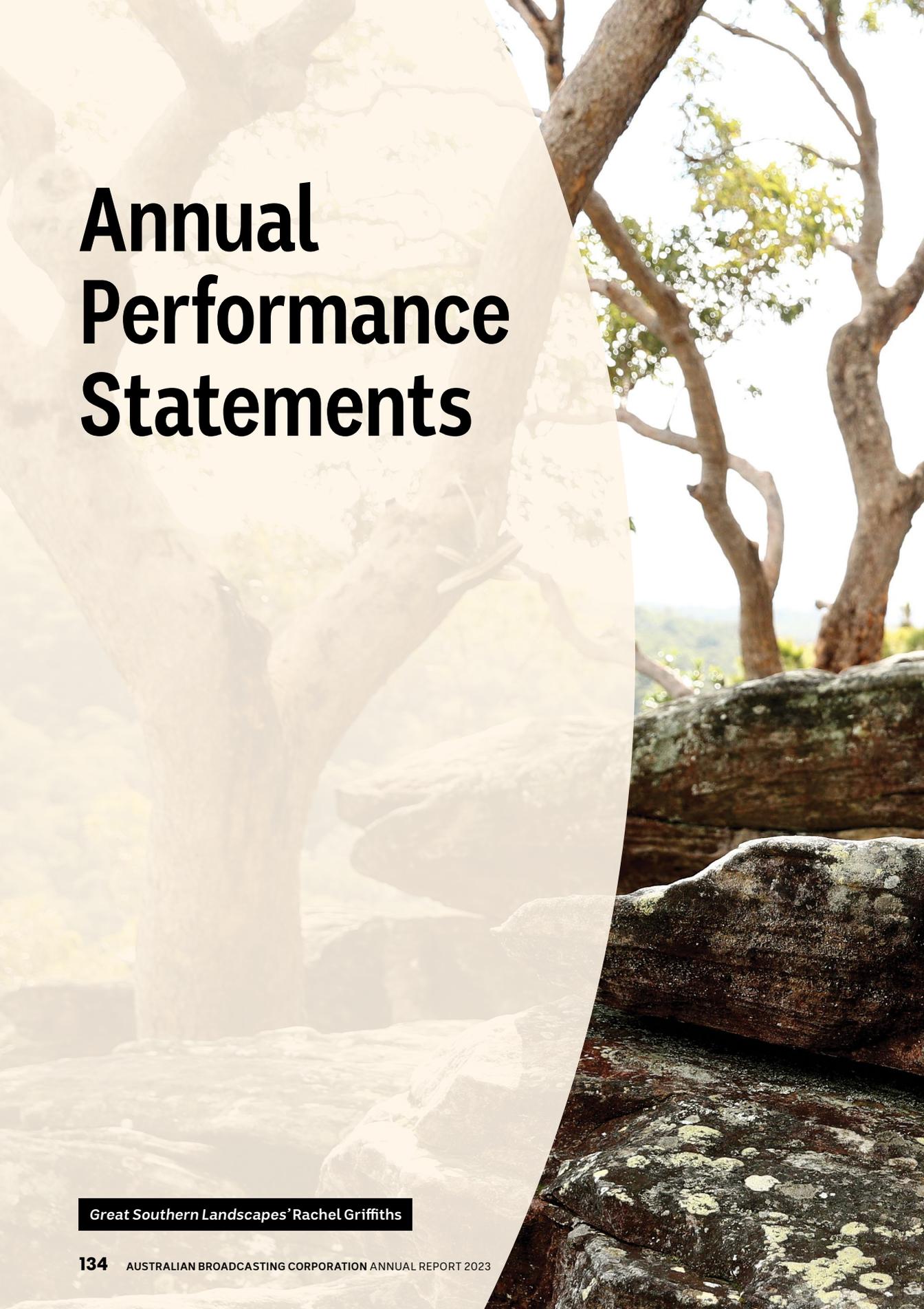
Australian Communications and Media Authority

Members of the public who complain to the ABC about matters covered by the ABC Code of Practice and who are dissatisfied with the ABC’s response, or who do not receive a response to their complaint within 60 days, may seek review from the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA).

During 2022-23, the ACMA advised the ABC that it had finalised investigations into four such matters (compared to three in 2021-22). The ACMA made breach findings of the ABC Code of Practice in three of its investigations, covering accuracy, impartiality, fair and honest dealing and privacy. Links to each of these investigation reports are available on about.abc.net.au/ombudsman

Commonwealth Ombudsman

The Ombudsman’s office did not notify the ABC of any investigations into the ABC’s handling of complaints that it commenced or finalised during the current reporting period.



Annual Performance Statements

Great Southern Landscapes' Rachel Griffiths



Annual Performance Statements (APS)

Reporting period 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023

Introductory Statement

We, the ABC Board, as the accountable authority of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC), present the 2022–23 Annual Performance Statements of the ABC, as required under paragraph 39(1) (a) of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (the PGPA Act). In our opinion, these annual performance statements are based on properly maintained records, accurately reflect the performance of the entity, and comply with subsection 39(2) of the PGPA Act.

Purpose

The ABC's purpose is to fulfil its functions as set out in the ABC Act, particularly the ABC Charter.

Vision: The home of Australian stories – accessible, bold, creative

The ABC's purpose is to deliver valued services that reflect and contribute to Australian society, culture and identity. ABC survey responses are used to track its Value score.

Measure	Measure Source	Data Source	2022-23 Target	2022-23 Result	2021-22 Result
Value of the ABC to the Australian Community	ABC Corporate Plan 2022–23	ABC Corporate Tracking Program	80%	81%	New measure

Analysis:

Target met. Perceptions of value of the ABC to the Australian community have improved from 78% in 2021-22 to 81% in 2022-23. This improvement is most pronounced in younger audiences aged under 34 years. This improvement has been driven by improved perceptions of the ABC reflecting the cultural diversity of the Australian community, being distinctively Australian and contributing to Australia's national identity and producing and sharing content of an educational nature among this age cohort.

Priority: Deliver personalised digital experiences

The ABC of the future must meet audience demand for digital experiences on a wide variety of devices. This measure is tracked with user-analysis tools. Average weekly users is a measure of the penetration of ABC digital products on unique devices.

Measure	Measure Source	Data Source	2022-23 Target	2022-23 Result	2021-22 Result
Weekly active digital users	ABC Corporate Plan 2022–23	Google Analytics	18.3 million per week	13.0 million per week	17 million average weekly users

Analysis:

Target not met. Throughout 2020 and 2021, a strong news agenda led by the COVID-19 pandemic saw the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's digital audience surge. The digital targets were set for this number to continue to rise. However, in the aftermath of the peak of the pandemic, the heavy demand for news decreased resulting in a decline in ABC audiences. By the end of 2022, ABC News web audiences began to decline, as the news cycle softened, and audiences engaged less with ABC News web. This has been the primary driver of overall network decline, as ABC News web continues to drive the largest audience volume. The ABC iView, ABC News and ABC listen apps remained relatively stable throughout the year, with audience peaks around events (such as Hottest 100) and big content drivers (*Bluey*, *Utopia*, *Sport*), however, their performance was not enough to offset ABC News web declines and grow the network overall.

Priority: Remain Australia’s best and most trusted source of news and information

The ABC is Australia’s most trusted media organisation and should maintain this position. ABC survey responses are used to track its trust score.

Measure	Measure Source	Data Source	2022-23 Target	2022-23 Result	2021-22 Result
The ABC is more ¹ trusted by Australians than any other media	ABC Corporate Plan 2022–23	ABC Corporate Tracking Program	More trusted than other media organisations	More trusted than other media organisations, with a margin of >19%	New measure

Analysis:

Target met. Being a trusted source of news and information is important across all aspects of the ABC, and it remains the most trusted media source in Australia. In 2022-23, 79% of Australians trusted the information provided by the ABC – this is significantly higher than commercial TV (58%) and commercial radio (60%). The ABC will continue to prioritise building understanding and, where appropriate, enhancing the transparency of its efforts to ensure accurate and impartial journalism that the Australian public can trust.

Priority: Strengthen local connections

Strengthening the role that the ABC plays in local communities is a key strategic priority that has grown in importance. Responses to specific survey question are used to generate a percentage value to measure this.

Measure	Measure Source	Data Source	2022-23 Target	2022-23 Result	2021-22 Result
The ABC connects me to my local community	ABC Corporate Plan 2022–23	ABC Corporate Tracking Program	66%	63%	64%

Analysis:

Target not met. Greatest decline was represented from 18–24-year-olds, especially those living in outer suburban areas. This audience cohort was reliant on the ABC for COVID-19 related information in 2021-22 over local information sources. Strengthening local connections remains important to the ABC, and there is an expectation of improvement via new brand campaigns highlighting our Emergency Broadcasting offer and increasing our news presence in outer suburban and regional areas to help communities raise the issues that matter to them.

Priority: Prioritise quality over quantity

The ABC needs to maintain high standards and stand out as a unique provider of Australian content. Various measures are aggregated to provide a percentage score for this.

Measure	Measure Source	Data Source	2022-23 Target	2022-23 Result	2021-22 Result
Quality	ABC Corporate Plan 2022–23	ABC Q&D research	88%	87%	88%

Analysis:

Target not met. Currently 87% of the ABC’s audience perceives that content that they have watched, read or listened to was of a high quality. Standout content identified by audiences included *Bluey*, *Landline*, *Backroads*, *Compass*, *Gruen*, *Media Watch*, *Playschool*, *Hard Quiz*, and *Radio National*.

¹ =/>10% above commercial media/newspapers.

Measure	Measure Source	Data Source	2022-23 Target	2022-23 Result	2021-22 Result
Distinctiveness	ABC Corporate Plan 2022–23	ABC Q&D research	85%	82%	82%

Analysis:

Target not met. Producing and sharing distinctive content is an important consideration for all public broadcasters, including the ABC. Currently 82% of the ABC’s audience feels that the content that they have watched, read or listened to was distinctive. Highly distinctive content produced included *You Can’t Ask That*, *Bluey*, *ABC Jazz*, *Playschool* and *Four Corners*. The ABC will increase its focus on showcasing programs that appeal, with uniquely Australian stories, interest, and perspectives.

Priority: Invest in the workforce of the future

Employee engagement surveys provide detailed data and insights for leaders and managers to use to improve the workplace. Organisational responsiveness to employee feedback leads to higher retention rates, lower absenteeism, improved productivity, higher service levels and better employee morale. The engagement survey, administered using the Qualtrics system and method, uses five questions to determine the overall engagement of the workforce.

Measure	Measure Source	Data Source	2022-23 Target	2022-23 Result	2021-22 Result
Staff engagement	ABC Corporate Plan 2022–23	Engagement survey	Above Australian Benchmark	Not completed	73%, above Australian benchmark (73% compared to Australian benchmark of 72%)

Analysis:

Target not assessed. The staff engagement survey was not conducted between July 2022 and June 2023 as the ABC prioritised its focus on planning and implementing key operational initiatives. The staff engagement survey is currently scheduled to be conducted in FY23/24.

Measure	Measure Source	Data Source	2022-23 Target	2022-23 Result	2021-22 Result
Indigenous employees ^{2,3}	ABC Corporate Plan 2022–23	Employee data	3.6% ⁴	3.2%	3.3% ⁵

Analysis:

Target not met. There has been a 0.1% decrease in representation since last year. This is a result of a competitive market for Indigenous talent in media and the ABC has long recognised the wider benefits to the media industry of Indigenous employees leaving the ABC to advance their careers. The ABC’s Elevate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) sets out the targets for the representation of Indigenous employees at the ABC. The target of 3.6% was set in 2019, for achievement by 2022. In 2022, the ABC extended the duration of the Elevate RAP by one year to allow it to maximise the impact and reach of projects underway. To further support Indigenous staff in the workplace, the ABC introduced the executive position of Indigenous and Diversity HR Case Advocate to disrupt culture and processes that lead to inequitable outcomes.

Measure	Measure Source	Data Source	2022-23 Target	2022-23 Result	2021-22 Result
Culturally diverse executives ⁶	ABC Corporate Plan 2022–23	Employee data	15%	11.6 ⁷	12.1% ⁸

Analysis:

Target not met. The ABC has seen a decline in the representation of culturally diverse executives, falling short of the 15% target due to a competitive job market. To counteract this, the ABC is focusing on retention through a tailored mentoring program for staff from culturally diverse backgrounds. The program is aimed at building a pipeline of culturally diverse employees and increasing retention. The ABC continues to report quarterly on the recruitment, retention and representation of culturally diverse executives.

Measure	Measure Source	Data Source	2022-23 Target	2022-23 Result	2021-22 Result
Culturally diverse content makers ⁹	ABC Corporate Plan 2022–23	Employee data	15%	13.3% ¹⁰	12.8% ¹¹

Analysis:

Target not met. While the ABC has not met its target with CALD content makers, there has been an upward trend in representation from 12.8% to 13.3%. This has been achieved in a competitive job market that increases the difficulty of recruitment. The ABC’s Diversity and Inclusion Plan 2019-2022 was extended to June 2023. Under this Plan, the ABC continued to recruit and retain high quality, culturally diverse content makers. ABC News sponsored the 2023 Harmony Week campaign which elevated and celebrated diverse stories by CALD content makers across the ABC. This initiative helps build a talent pipeline to ensure progression opportunities are available and equitable within the ABC.

2 Targets based on annual measurement from 1 September to 31 August, as required by the *Equal Employment Opportunity (Commonwealth Authorities) Act 1987*.

3 Represents employees who voluntarily self-identify as indigenous and are verified by the ABC.

4 Percentage based on 86% of employees voluntarily providing Equal Employment Opportunity information as at 30 June 2023.

5 Percentage is based on 84.7% of employees voluntarily providing Equal Employment Opportunity information as at 30 June 2022.

6 Calculation based on a series of questions that employees voluntarily answer.

7 Percentage based on 93% of executives voluntarily providing Equal Employment Opportunity information as at 30 June 2023.

8 Percentage based on 93% of executives voluntarily providing Equal Employment Opportunity information as at 30 June 2022.

9 Calculation based on a series of questions that employees voluntarily answer.

10 Percentage based on 83% of content makers voluntarily providing Equal Employment Opportunity information as at 30 June 2023.

11 Percentage based on 83% of content makers voluntarily providing Equal Employment Opportunity information as at 30 June 2022.

Measure	Measure Source	Data Source	2022-23 Target	2022-23 Result	2021-22 Result
Employees with a disability ¹²	ABC Corporate Plan 2022–23	Employee data	8%	5.4% ¹³	5.6% ¹⁴

Analysis:

Target not met. While the ABC has not met its target there has been several initiatives established to recruit and support employees with a disability. The ABC continues its partnerships with JobAccess and the Human Rights Commission's IncludeAbility Employment Project to assist in increasing the representation of staff with disability and achieving best practice in the recruitment of people with disability. These efforts have been recognised with awards, including Employee Network of the Year and Inclusive Initiative of the Year for the International Day for People with Disability content collaboration and Regional Storyteller Scholarship program. The ABC was also awarded Best in Class for Career Development in the Access and Inclusion Index, ranking 8th out of 26 organisations.

Priority: Creative, flexible, efficient and accountable

The ABC's funding position requires that budgets are managed carefully and milestones for achieving savings are met. The Corporation will measure the achievement of all efficiency targets.

Measure	Measure Source	Data Source	2022-23 Target	2022-23 Result	2021-22 Result
Efficiency targets	ABC Corporate Plan 2022–23	CFO report	All achieved	All achieved	All achieved

Analysis:

Target met. FY2023 budgets were set incorporating ongoing savings. Those savings were achieved.

¹² Represents employees who voluntarily self-identify as living with a disability.

¹³ Percentage based on 86% of employees voluntarily providing Equal Employment Opportunity information as at 30 June 2023.

¹⁴ Percentage based on 83% of employees voluntarily providing Equal Employment Opportunity information as at 30 June 2022.



The ABC's National Disability Affairs Reporter Nas Campanella, ABC Chair Ita Buttrose, Poppi the Guide Dog, and handler Liz Wheeler celebrating the launch of Audio Description services on ABC iview at the Ultimo studios.

Editorial Standards

Proper attention to editorial governance and complaints handling is an essential component of the ABC's commitment to quality editorial content and adherence to the ABC's Charter and editorial standards. As well as conducting its own editorial reviews, the ABC has in place an effective independent complaints-handling system which is transparent and responsive to concerns raised by audiences. This is an essential tool to maintain and build the trust that is necessary for the ABC to fulfil its role as an independent, impartial and valued broadcaster.

Measure	Measure Source	Data Source	2022-23 Target	2022-23 Result	2021-22 Result
Editorial quality	ABC Corporate Plan 2022-23	Reviews commissioned or conducted by the ABC	2 Independent Editorial Coverage Reviews 2 Editorial Standards Compliance Reviews Election Coverage Review Committee Reports	Election Coverage Review Committee Reports to ABC Board for 2022 Victorian Election and 2023 NSW Election ¹⁵	<i>Exposed: The Ghost Train Fire</i> – External Review ¹⁶ <i>China Coverage</i> – External Review ¹⁷ <i>Impartiality Standards</i> – ABC Review ¹⁸ <i>Editorial Complaints Handling</i> – External Review ¹⁹ <i>2022 Federal Election Coverage</i> – External Review ²⁰ <i>Election Coverage Review Committee Reports to ABC Board for: SA²¹ & Federal Election</i> ²² <i>2022 Federal Election Isentia Share-of-Voice Report</i> ²³

Analysis:

Target not met. Editorial Standards Compliance Reviews were formerly undertaken by Audience & Consumer Affairs. Following the Independent Review of ABC Complaints Handling Procedures in 2022, Audience & Consumer Affairs was replaced by the ABC Ombudsman's Office. The Ombudsman has committed to a process of regular public reporting, which will take the place of the Editorial Standards Compliance Reviews.

Independent Editorial Coverage Reviews were not prioritised in 2022-23. Instead, the Editorial Policies team has focused on reviewing the Editorial Policies and Code of Practice, implementing one of the recommendations of the Independent Review of ABC Complaints Handling Procedures. It is envisaged that Independent Editorial Coverage Reviews will return in 2023-24.

The Election Coverage Review Committee was convened for the Victorian and NSW elections and produced reports for the ABC Board as usual. Additionally, a Referendum Coverage Review Committee has been convened for the forthcoming Voice to Parliament referendum and will produce a report for the ABC Board once the referendum has taken place.

¹⁵ ABC Board Reports Only.

¹⁶ See <https://about.abc.net.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/EDITORIAL-REVIEW-25-Exposed-The-Ghost-Train-Fire.pdf>

¹⁷ See <https://about.abc.net.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/EDITORIAL-REVIEW-26-China-Coverage.pdf>

¹⁸ See <https://about.abc.net.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/EDITORIAL-REVIEW-27-4.1-and-4.5-Impartiality-1.pdf>

¹⁹ See <https://about.abc.net.au/statements/independent-review-of-abc-complaints-handling-procedures/>

²⁰ Completed in the FY22, publication pending August ABC Board Meeting.

²¹ ABC Board Report Only.

²² Completed in the FY22, publication pending August ABC Board Meeting (see <https://about.abc.net.au/how-the-abc-is-run/what-guides-us/election-coverage-review-committee-ecrc/>)

²³ Included as attachment in Election Coverage Review Committee Reports to ABC Board for 2022 Federal Election

Measure	Measure Source	Data Source	2022-23 Target	2022-23 Result			2021-22 Result		
				Outcomes	Number	%	Outcomes	Number	%
Audience and Consumer Affairs Investigation	ABC Corporate Plan 2022-23	Data from Audience and Consumer Affairs Data	Complaints investigated and outcomes reported	Total ABC complaint issues	19,738		Total ABC complaint issues	25,994	
				Content	2,714	14%	Content	3,695	14%
				Investigated	1,070	39%	Investigated	1,721	47%
				Not upheld	807	75%	Not upheld	1,360	79%
				Resolved	189	18%	Resolved	262	15%
				Upheld	74	7%	Upheld	99	6%

Analysis:

Target achieved. During 2022-23, 25% of all content complaint issues were resolved or upheld. The focus of the Ombudsman's Office is resolution rather than ongoing investigation and in the reporting period, 189 issues (17.7% of all investigated issues) were resolved after the relevant content area took prompt and appropriate action to remedy the cause of the complaint. 74 issues (6.9% of all investigated issues) were upheld in cases where it was determined that ABC editorial standards had not been met.

The remaining complaints are classed as general complaints and the vast majority of those are not referred to the Ombudsman's Office. They can however, be an important source of audience feedback for the ABC about its content and services.

The appropriate handling of the complaints which do not get referred to the Ombudsman's Office is determined by the Audience Planning unit in Audiences which logs and triages incoming complaints. Depending on the complaints, Audience Planning will either respond to the complaints directly, refer them to content teams for their direct handling, or close them without response (e.g. the audience member indicated they did not want a response or the complaint was not actionable or was not made in good faith).

Access

Measuring access to ABC platforms provides a quantitative assessment of the ABC's ability to transmit to Australian audiences – via broadcasting or digital services – in keeping with its purpose to provide a comprehensive public broadcasting service.

Measure	Measure Source	Data Source	2022-23 Target	2022-23 Result	2021-22 Result
Access to analogue radio	Section 2.1, Portfolio Budget Statements 2022-23, p132 ABC Corporate Plan 2022-23	Data from BAI Communications Australia Australian Bureau of Statistics data	At Least 99%	99.7%	99.7%

Analysis:

Target achieved. While ABC made some changes to its coverage of analogue radio transmission services during the reporting period (including antenna configuration changes at Illawarra, NSW and Mt Gambier, SA, and AM to FM conversion in Goulburn, NSW), this did not alter audiences' access to analog radio services overall.

Measure	Measure Source	Data Source	2022-23 Target	2022-23 Result	2021-22 Result
Access to digital radio	Section 2.1, Portfolio Budget Statements 2022–23, p132 ABC Corporate Plan 2022–23	Data from BAI Communications Australia Australian Bureau of Statistics data	100% ²⁴	100%	100%

Analysis:

Target achieved. ABC delivers digital radio to audiences via three technologies: digital audio broadcasting plus (DAB+), radio on digital terrestrial television transmission services and via the VAST satellite service. For all areas that have no access to the DAB+ radio services, these are available via radio on television and VAST. ABC estimates that the total population of Australia able to receive ABC DAB+ services is 65.26%, with 24 services located across the eight capital cities, at least 98.71% of the population receive digital radio on 497 television transmission services, the remainder of the population have access via VAST. During the reporting period, changes to the antenna configuration for the Brisbane DAB+ service saw an increase to population able to access digital radio via this technology.

Measure	Measure Source	Data Source	2022-23 Target	2022-23 Result	2021-22 Result
Access to digital television	Section 2.1, Portfolio Budget Statements 2022–23, p132 ABC Corporate Plan 2022–23	Data from BAI Communications Australia Australian Bureau of Statistics data	100%	100%	100%

Analysis:

Target achieved. ABC delivers digital television to audiences via two technologies: digital terrestrial transmission and via the VAST satellite service. For all areas that have no access to the digital terrestrial transmission services, these are available via VAST. ABC estimates that the total population of Australia able to receive ABC digital terrestrial transmission services is at least 98.71% via the 420 transmission services located across Australia under fully managed services provided by BAI Communications. The ABC does not have coverage information about the 77 services provided by RBAH. The remainder of the population have access via VAST.

The ABC receives feedback from our audience on a regular basis. Transmission faults affecting audience access are currently escalated to BAI for investigation when an audience member reports a disruption to transmission services about which the ABC Audience Support Team was not aware. This can include transmission faults, input faults, existing faults, or planned works.

Measure	Measure Source	Data Source	2022-23 Target	2022-23 Result	2021-22 Result
Audience escalations – transmission issues	ABC Corporate Plan 2022–23	Transmission escalation system	Escalations to BAI Communications Australia	223	299 ²⁵

Analysis:

Target achieved. All relevant transmission issues raised with the ABC by audiences were escalated to BAI Communications Australia.

24 VAST transmission can reach all homes in Australia, so digital coverage is 100%. The appropriate equipment (including a satellite dish) is required to access radio and television services via VAST.

25 This result may include a small number of duplicates arising from limitation in the reporting process.

Transmission

Transmission of the ABC’s radio and television content is provided by a third party and managed by the ABC via Transmission Service Agreements. The effective management of these agreements is fundamental to ensuring the ABC reaches and engages with as many Australians as possible.

Measure	Measure Source	Data Source	2022-23 Target	2022-23 Result	2021-22 Result
Transmission performance	ABC Corporate Plan 2022–23	Data from BAI Communications Australia	At Least 99% for all services	99.8%	99.8%

Analysis:

Target achieved. This measure identifies that the majority of audiences, for most of the year, were provided ABC transmission services. Television and analogue radio service performance was the same as FY22. This was significantly influenced by the favourable weather conditions on the broadcasting network over the year.

Measure	Measure Source	Data Source	2022-23 Target	2022-23 Result	2021-22 Result
Operation of transmission facilities	ABC Corporate Plan 2022–23	Data from BAI Communications Australia	100%	100%	99.47%

Analysis:

Target achieved. Large capital replacement works including major antenna replacement works continued from the previous year. The addition of commercial broadcasters’ services at the ABC transmission sites occurred throughout the year as planned works in periods of least impact to the ABC audiences. Radio services impacted included Bunbury WA, Mt Gambier SA and Orange Central Western NSW.

ABC Eyre Peninsula breakfast presenter Emma Pedler on air in the Port Lincoln studio. Image: Neil Probert Landscapes SA.



ABC Distribution and Transmission Network Aggregated 2022-23 Performance²⁶

BAI Communications Fully Managed National Transmission Network Services

ABC Service	No. of Transmitters (See Note 1)	BAI Communications Transmission Network (See Note 2)			Total Network Availability (See Note 3)		Total 'On-Air' Availability (See Note 4)	
		Target	2021-22	2022-23	2021-22	2022-23	2021-22	2022-23
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%
ABC Classic	68	99.83	99.93	99.95	97.60	99.53	99.84	99.86
triplej	58	99.82	99.98	99.97	99.03	99.56	99.88	99.86
Local Radio	240	99.79	99.85	99.84	97.84	97.86	99.78	99.78
ABC NEWS on radio	84	99.89	99.93	99.95	98.47	99.07	99.85	99.85
RN	257	99.74	99.80	99.81	98.40	98.65	99.75	99.75
Television	420	99.77	99.93	99.95	97.73	99.81	99.81	99.83
Digital Radio								
– Class A, B, and D	11	99.88	99.97	100.00	98.81	99.77	99.90	99.95
– Class E	13	NA	NA	NA	90.60	99.20	99.91	99.27
State Analogue Radio								
NSW/ACT	182	99.80	99.90	99.88	98.63	99.30	99.84	99.75
NT	37	99.71	99.85	99.79	99.77	99.67	99.79	99.72
Qld	204	99.76	99.82	99.81	98.80	99.58	99.77	99.78
SA	47	99.79	99.94	99.84	95.15	95.21	99.87	99.79
Tas	40	99.81	99.78	99.89	94.47	94.51	99.69	99.81
Vic	80	99.82	99.87	99.93	99.13	98.36	99.74	99.87
WA	117	99.75	99.83	99.89	97.78	98.27	99.78	99.82
State Television								
NSW/ACT	95	99.78	99.96	99.94	99.82	99.77	99.84	99.78
NT	15	99.76	99.99	99.94	99.89	99.81	99.90	99.82
Qld	113	99.76	99.94	99.95	99.76	99.78	99.79	99.81
SA	32	99.77	99.95	99.93	99.85	99.84	99.88	99.84
Tas	41	99.76	99.85	99.95	99.77	99.90	99.78	99.92
Vic	53	99.77	99.87	99.94	99.47	99.89	99.79	99.90
WA	71	99.76	99.95	99.98	99.61	99.80	99.82	99.83

RBAH Provided Television Infill Transmission Services (See Note 5)

ABC Service	No. of Transmitters	Total Network Availability		Total 'On-Air' Availability	
		2021-22	2022-23	2021-22	2022-23
		%	%	%	%
TV Infills	77	(See Note 6)			
		98.16	94.57	99.83	99.82



ABC Voice/Referendum Correspondent Dan Bouchier with Miriam-Rose Ungunmerr Baumann and family and friends on the banks of the Daly River at Nauiyu (NT).

26 Further information on transmission:

1. **No. of Transmitters:** The number of transmitters includes Analogue Radio, Digital Television and Digital Radio operated by BAI Communications on behalf of the ABC. If a transmitter was operational during the period for one or more days, it is included in the report. Transmitter numbers for Digital Television do not include the six standby transmitters operated in Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Newcastle, Perth, and Sydney, which operate as a backup to the main transmitter in those areas.
2. **BAI Communications Transmission Network (ABC Transmission Contractor):** The transmission network performance data is reported by BAI Communications in the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023. This is a contracted deliverable and is measured against the Service Level Agreement (SLA) for each service, network, or sub national network. The data is regularly reviewed and authenticated by ABC Transmission Network Services. There are 13 Class E digital radio services that are provided by BAI Communications for the ABC where contract performance is not measured as a target of overall uptime. These services are provided to equalise audience experience across both national and commercial and community broadcasters.
3. **Total Network Availability shows the impact of all outages on the overall network:** This reflects all faults across the transmission networks regardless of severity or cause or whether subject to a Service Level Agreement (SLA) or not. The vast majority of these faults are services not meeting full specification such as lower transmission power as agreed by the ABC on a case by case basis.
4. **Total 'On-Air' Availability:** The figures show 'off-air' occurrences where no service was provided due to faults and/or maintenance activity. It is important to note that the majority of maintenance activity is undertaken after midnight to reduce audience impact.
5. **RBA Holdings Transmission Network (Self Help Services):** The transmission network performance data is reported by RBA Holdings in the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023. This is a contracted deliverable and is provided for ABC information purposes to record outage times and respond to audience requests for information. These services are provided to equalise audience experience across regional Australia.
6. **RBA Holdings Reporting Quality:** The RBAH provided transmission services do not have the same reporting obligations as BAI Communications' National Transmission Network. Maintenance operator data provided by RBAH is incomplete. The ABC has relied upon the MediaHub off-air fault reports for RBAH facilities in FY2023. RBAH has undertaken to implement performance reporting improvements.

Financial Statements

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Joseph and James Tawadros perform in concert with the Australian Chamber Orchestra, broadcast on ABC listen.



Financial Summary

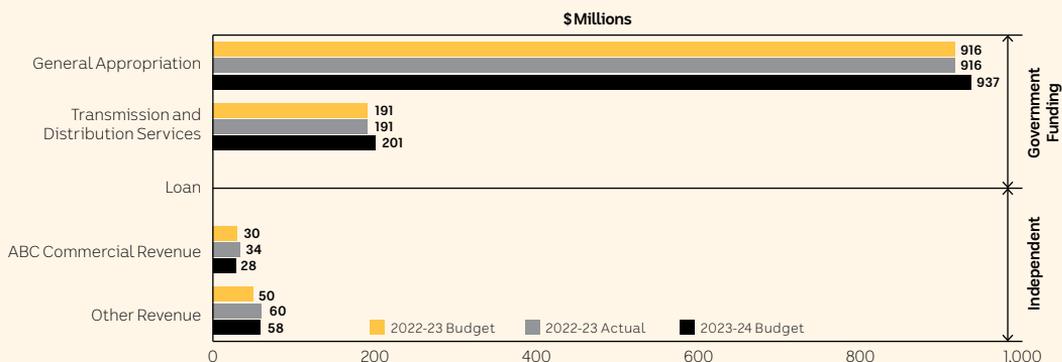
Completion of Annual Financial Statements

On 22 August 2023, following endorsement by the Audit and Risk Committee, the Board approved the signing of the ABC's 2022-23 Financial Statements, and the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) issued an unmodified audit opinion on the ABC's 2022-23 Financial Statements.

Financial Outcome 2022-23

The ABC recorded a minor deficit of \$0.2 million and total comprehensive income of \$61.0 million including changes in the asset revaluation reserve. The changes to the asset revaluation reserve are due to the revaluation of ABC owned land and buildings. In accordance with the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (Financial Reporting) Rule 2015*, the ABC measures land and building assets at fair value. The fair value of land is determined based on recent market prices of comparable sites. No observable market data is available for the ABC's buildings, given their highest and best use as specialised broadcasting facilities. The fair value of these assets is based on depreciated replacement cost. The valuations are performed every three years by an independent expert.

ABC Source of Funds



Sources of Funds 2022-23

The ABC was allocated \$1,107.2 million in the October 2022-23 Federal Budget. In the previous 2022-23 Federal Budget in March 2022, the then Coalition Government announced additional funding of \$45.8 million over three years for continuation of the Enhanced News Service initiative as well as \$3.0 million for Audio Description Services over three years. In the second 2022-23 Federal Budget in October 2022, the newly elected Labor Government announced additional funding of \$83.7 million characterised as 'Better Funded National Broadcasters' and split evenly over four years to offset the previous Coalition Government indexation pause measure. The Government also announced additional funding of \$32 million for 'Pacific Security and Engagement Initiatives' comprising \$8 million per year over four years from 2022-23, and \$0.5m for a double J feasibility study in 2022-23.

The ABC also received \$93.8 million from other sources, including ABC Commercial during the year.

The chart 'ABC Source of Funds' depicts the ABC's budgeted funds for the various categories against actual sources for 2022-23 and its budgeted sources for 2023-24.

Application of Funds

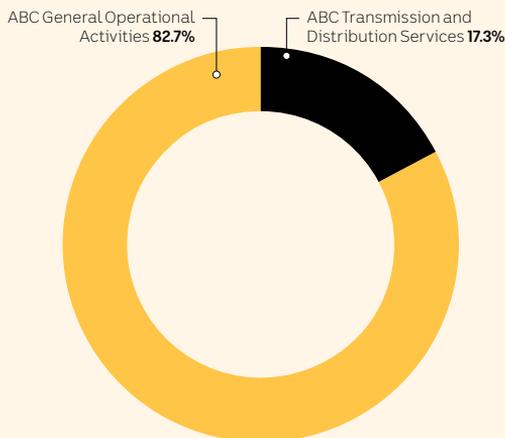
The chart 'ABC Split of Actual Expense 2022-23' broadly represents how the ABC allocates its funds by cost category.

The Year Ahead

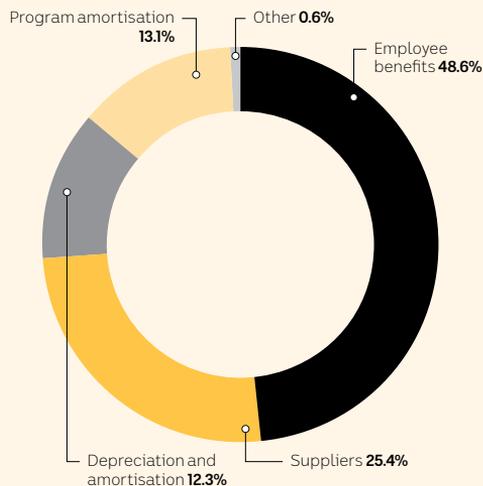
Revenue from Government

The 2023-24 year represents the first year of the new five-year funding period, confirmed by the Labor Government in the May 2023 Federal Budget under the 'Better Funded National Broadcasters' measure.

ABC Revenue from Government by Programme 2022-23



ABC Split of Actual Expenses 2022-23



The measure also included funding to continue Enhanced News Services and Audio Description Services. This was confirmed as part of the ABC's ongoing funding providing certainty for services previously provided under terminating measures. Funding in 2023-24 includes \$15.3 million for Enhanced News Service and \$1m for Audio Description respectively.

As part of the 'Enhancing Pacific Engagement' measure coordinated by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Government announced additional funding of \$8.5 million over four years, with \$4.7 million provided in 2023-24, which will enable more comprehensive distribution of Australian content across the Pacific region including further expansion of the FM footprint of ABC Radio Australia.

The table below outlines the ABC's funding for the 2022-23 year compared to the funding for the 2023-24 year announced in the May 2023 Federal Budget.

ABC funding for the 2023-24 financial year		\$m
Total revenue from Government per Outcome 1	1,137.6	
Less Transmission and Distribution Services	201.0	
Total Revenue from Government available for ABC General Activities	936.6	

The ABC also received \$93.8m from other sources, including ABC Commercial.

* source from AR statement of Comprehensive Income

\$m	2022-23 Actual	2023-24 Budget
Total revenue from Government per Outcome 1	1,107.2	1,137.6
Less Transmission and Distribution Services	191.4	201.0
Total Revenue from Government available for ABC General Activities	915.8	936.6

Budget Strategy

The 2023-24 budget has been prepared in alignment with the new ABC Five-Year Plan 2023-2028, which reflects the funding certainty delivered by the Government's first five-year funding period.

While the ABC welcomes this certainty, budget challenges remain with the need to continue to invest in broadcasting while transforming the ABC so it can remain an essential part of Australian life in the digital age. This means careful prioritisation of funding and the 2023-24 budget focusses on initiatives to achieve Five-Year Plan objectives.

In order to continue transforming, a number of projects will be rolled out across the year, including continuing the work of the Content Restructure, the implementation of People Hub Workforce Project and the Sydney Accommodation Project. The ABC will continue to focus on finding efficiencies and evolving workflows to enable the focus of available resources on the modernisation of services and the implementation of a digital-first approach to commissioning, producing, and distributing content.

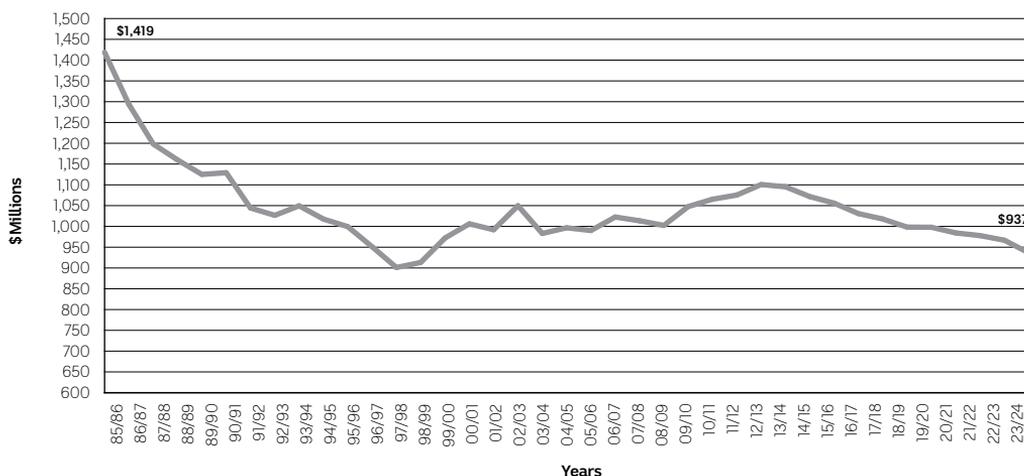
These initiatives will contribute towards achieving the new Five-Year Plan including prioritising the trust of our audiences, delivering compelling content to build a lifelong relationship with Australians, reflecting contemporary Australia and making sustainable choices in allocating resources.

The ABC remains committed to prioritising available resources to enable it to deliver on its Charter obligations most effectively and remain relevant to audiences in Australia's cultural and media landscape into the future.

Comparative Revenue from Government

The 2023-24 operational revenue from Government of \$937 million represents a decrease in real funding of \$482m or 34.0% since 1985-86 as depicted in the chart 'ABC Operational Revenue from Government'.

ABC Operational Revenue from Government incl Capital Indexed at 22/23 levels – Dec 2022 6 mths CPI Index – 34.0% reduction from 85/86 to 2023/24



Five-year analysis

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Financial Performance					
Total expenses	1,204,655	1,141,078	1,114,563	1,135,721	1,149,162
Total income	97,327	71,097	53,290	64,916	105,952
Net Cost of Services (a)	1,107,328	1,069,981	1,061,273	1,070,805	1,043,210
Revenue from Government	1,107,158	1,070,097	1,065,354	1,062,265	1,045,911
	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Financial Position					
Current Assets	500,354	489,723	398,829	381,815	367,047
Non-Current Assets	1,494,270	1,431,422	1,545,835	1,635,715	1,034,710
Total Assets	1,994,624	1,921,145	1,944,664	2,017,530	1,401,757
Current Liabilities	349,649	326,854	340,433	360,357	287,350
Non-Current Liabilities	473,054	483,330	548,605	603,878	42,751
Total Liabilities	822,703	810,184	889,038	964,235	330,101
Total Equity	1,171,921	1,110,961	1,055,626	1,053,295	1,071,656
Ratios					
Current Ratio (b)	1.43	1.50	1.17	1.06	1.28
Equity (c)	59%	58%	54%	52%	76%

(a) Net cost of services is total expenses less total income

(b) Current assets divided by current liabilities

(c) Equity as a percentage of total assets

Independent Auditor's Report



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Minister for Communications

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (the Entity) for the year ended 30 June 2023:

- (a) comply with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (Financial Reporting) Rule 2015*; and
- (b) present fairly the financial position of the Entity as at 30 June 2023 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended.

The financial statements of the Entity, which I have audited, comprise the following as at 30 June 2023 and for the year then ended:

- Statement by the Directors and Chief Financial Officer;
- Statement of Comprehensive Income;
- Statement of Financial Position;
- Statement of Changes in Equity;
- Cash Flow Statement; and
- Notes to the financial statements, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of my report. I am independent of the Entity in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements for financial statement audits conducted by the Auditor-General and his delegates. These include the relevant independence requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) to the extent that they are not in conflict with the *Auditor-General Act 1997*. I have also fulfilled my other responsibilities in accordance with the Code. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Accountable Authority's responsibility for the financial statements

As the Accountable Authority of the Entity, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation Board is responsible under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (the Act) for the preparation and fair presentation of annual financial statements that comply with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the rules made under the Act. The Australian Broadcasting Corporation Board is also responsible for such internal control as the Australian Broadcasting Corporation Board determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation Board is responsible for assessing the ability of the Entity to continue as a going concern, taking into account whether the Entity's operations will cease as a result of an administrative restructure or for any other reason. The Australian Broadcasting

Corporation Board is also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless the assessment indicates that it is not appropriate.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

My objective is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Entity's internal control;
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Accountable Authority;
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Accountable Authority's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern; and
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Accountable Authority regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

Australian National Audit Office



Mark Vial
Executive Director
Delegate of the Auditor-General

Canberra
22 August 2023

Financial Statements 2022-23

Year ended 30 June 2023

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Statement by the Directors and Chief Financial Officer

In our opinion, the attached financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2023 comply with subsection 42(2) of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act), and are based on properly maintained financial records as per subsection 41(2) of the PGPA Act.

In our opinion, at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Australian Broadcasting Corporation will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

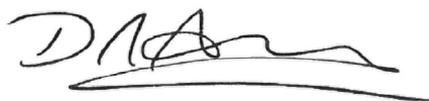
This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the directors.



ITA BUTTROSE

Chair

22 August 2023



DAVID ANDERSON

Managing Director

22 August 2023



MELANIE KLEYN

Chief Financial Officer

22 August 2023

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2023

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2023 Original Budget ^(a) \$'000
EXPENSES				
Employee benefits ^(b)	3A	585,392	538,840	553,308
Suppliers	3B	306,353	287,504	330,238
Depreciation and amortisation on ABC owned assets	3C	82,252	80,648	84,039
Depreciation on ABC right-of-use assets	3D	65,708	62,293	60,884
Program amortisation	3E	157,226	161,851	153,504
Finance costs	3F	94	65	–
Interest cost on lease liability	3G	6,187	6,073	7,897
Impairment loss on financial instruments	3H	122	49	–
Write-down and impairment of other assets	3I	988	3,423	–
Net loss from disposal of assets	3J	–	87	–
Total expenses		1,204,322	1,140,833	1,189,870
OWN-SOURCE INCOME				
Own-source revenue				
Revenue from contracts with customers	4A	77,747	62,620	72,109
Interest	4B	11,549	1,401	3,715
Other revenue	4C	4,541	4,360	4,115
Total own-source revenue		93,837	68,381	79,939
Gains				
Net gain from disposal of assets	4D	794	–	–
Net foreign exchange gain	4E	820	826	–
Insurance recoveries	4F	1,854	1,725	–
Other gains	4G	22	165	–
Net gains		3,490	2,716	–
Total own-source income		97,327	71,097	79,939
Net cost of services		(1,106,995)	(1,069,736)	(1,109,931)
Revenue from Government		1,107,158	1,070,097	1,107,158
Surplus before income tax		163	361	(2,773)
Income tax expense attributable to joint operations		(333)	(245)	–
(Deficit)/surplus after income tax		(170)	116	(2,773)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME				
Items not subject to subsequent reclassification to net cost of services				
Changes in asset revaluation reserve ^(c)	7A	61,130	55,219	–
Total other comprehensive income		61,130	55,219	–
Total comprehensive income		60,960	55,335	(2,773)

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

- (a) Original Budget as reflected in the October 2022 Portfolio Budget Statements (PBS) for the ABC. The Original Budget is presented in the PBS in a summarised format and has been adjusted in the above statement to aid a comparison to the actual results.
- (b) An explanation of the variance between the actual result and the budget for this item is detailed in Note 1 Explanation of Major Variances between Actual Results and Original Budget under the heading A. Employee benefits expenses.
- (c) An explanation of the variance between the actual result and the budget for this item is detailed in Note 1 Explanation of Major Variances between Actual Results and Original Budget under the heading B. Changes in asset revaluation reserve.

Changes in asset revaluation reserve

The changes in the asset revaluation reserve of \$61,130,000 relate to the revaluation of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's (the "Corporation" or "ABC") property portfolio as detailed in Note 7A *ABC owned land, buildings, plant and equipment and intangibles*.

Revenue from Government

Operational funding for the ABC is appropriated under Outcome 1, Program 1.1: General Operational Activities. ABC transmission and distribution funds are appropriated under Program 1.2: ABC Transmission and Distribution Services.

Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2023

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2023 Original Budget ^(a) \$'000
ASSETS				
Financial assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	6A	4,869	5,748	5,748
Receivables	6B	14,215	11,876	11,876
Other investments ^(b)	6C	334,900	237,500	288,901
Accrued revenue	6D	9,689	4,559	4,559
Total financial assets		363,673	259,683	311,084
Non-financial assets				
ABC owned				
Land ^(c)	7A	255,881	222,879	222,879
Buildings ^(c)	7A	421,381	400,374	402,626
Plant and equipment	7A	190,040	184,885	197,559
Intangibles	7A	93,523	83,114	103,014
ABC right-of-use				
Land	7B	21,710	21,953	21,711
Buildings ^(d)	7B	40,062	4,390	2,841
Plant and equipment	7B	458,267	501,532	442,001
Assets classified as held for sale	7C	–	88,776	–
Inventories	7D	121,598	123,027	125,576
Prepayments	7E	24,665	26,375	26,375
Tax assets	7F	3,824	4,157	4,157
Total non-financial assets		1,630,951	1,661,462	1,548,739
Total assets		1,994,624	1,921,145	1,859,823
LIABILITIES				
Payables				
Suppliers	8A	81,566	80,111	82,083
Other payables	8B	52,446	50,020	48,048
Total payables		134,012	130,131	130,131
Interest bearing liabilities				
Loans	9A	1,500	2,268	2,268
Lease liability ^(d)	9B	507,189	513,666	455,117
Total interest bearing liabilities		508,689	515,934	457,385
Provisions				
Other provisions	10	3,888	6,887	6,887
Employee provisions	11	176,114	157,232	157,232
Total provisions		180,002	164,119	164,119
Total liabilities		822,703	810,184	751,635
NET ASSETS		1,171,921	1,110,961	1,108,188
EQUITY				
Contributed equity		93,640	93,640	93,640
Reserves		898,247	837,117	837,117
Retained surplus		180,034	180,204	177,431
Total equity		1,171,921	1,110,961	1,108,188

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes. Note 5A Fair value measurement sets out the measurement basis for each class of asset and liability. Note 5B sets out the current/non-current splits of assets and liabilities.

- (a) Original Budget as reflected in the October 2022 Portfolio Budget Statements (PBS) for the ABC. The Original Budget is presented in the PBS in a summarised format and has been adjusted in the above statement to aid a comparison to the actual results.
- (b) An explanation of the variance between the actual result and the budget for this item is detailed in Note 1 Explanation of Major Variances between Actual Results and Original Budget under the heading C. Other investments.
- (c) An explanation of the variance between the actual result and the budget for this item is detailed in Note 1 Explanation of Major Variances between Actual Results and Original Budget under the heading D. ABC-owned non-financial assets - Land and buildings.
- (d) An explanation of the variance between the actual result and the budget for this item is detailed in Note 1 Explanation of Major Variances between Actual Results and Original Budget under the heading E. ABC right-of-use non-financial assets – buildings and lease liability.

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2023

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2023 Original Budget ^(a) \$'000
Contributed equity			
Opening balance as at 1 July	93,640	93,640	93,640
Closing balance	93,640	93,640	93,640
Asset revaluation reserve			
Opening balance as at 1 July	837,117	781,898	837,117
Net revaluation of land and buildings	61,130	55,219	–
Closing balance	898,247	837,117	837,117
Retained Surplus			
Opening balance as at 1 July	180,204	180,088	180,204
(Deficit)/surplus	(170)	116	(2,773)
Closing balance	180,034	180,204	177,431
Total equity	1,171,921	1,110,961	1,108,188

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

- (a) Original Budget as reflected in the October 2022 PBS for the ABC. The Original Budget is presented in the PBS in a summarised format and has been adjusted in the above statement to aid a comparison to the actual results.

Transactions with Government as Owner

The *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (Financial Reporting) Rule 2015* (FRR) requires that distributions to owners be debited to contributed equity unless it is in the nature of a dividend. No distributions were made to Government for the year ended 30 June 2023 (2022 nil).

Cash Flow Statement

for the year ended 30 June 2023

	Notes	2023	2022	2023
		\$'000	\$'000	Original Budget ^(a) \$'000
		Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)
OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Cash received				
Revenue from Government		1,107,158	1,070,097	1,107,158
Sales of goods and rendering of services		72,323	63,833	72,109
Interest		8,735	1,063	3,715
GST receipts from customers		11,094	6,064	–
Net GST received		41,820	42,527	64,091
Other		6,287	6,744	4,115
Total cash received		1,247,417	1,190,328	1,251,188
Cash used				
Employees		(565,099)	(533,148)	(553,308)
Suppliers ^(b)		(464,949)	(473,177)	(551,656)
GST paid to suppliers		(53,510)	(50,116)	–
Finance costs		(94)	(65)	–
Interest on leases		(6,187)	(6,073)	(7,897)
Total cash used		(1,089,839)	(1,062,579)	(1,112,861)
Net cash from operating activities		157,578	127,749	138,327
INVESTING ACTIVITIES				
Cash received				
Proceeds from sale of land, buildings, plant and equipment and intangibles ^(b)		92,923	26,313	90,050
Proceeds from interest bearing deposits		156,500	67,000	–
Total cash received		249,423	93,313	90,050
Cash used				
Payments for building improvements, plant and equipment and intangibles ^(c)		(89,709)	(68,747)	(118,427)
Investment in interest bearing deposits		(253,900)	(91,900)	(51,401)
Total cash used		(343,609)	(160,647)	(169,828)
Net cash used in investing activities		(94,186)	(67,334)	(79,778)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES				
Cash received				
Proceeds from long-term loans		16	325	–
Total cash received		16	325	–
Cash used				
Repayment of loans		(784)	(769)	–
Lease payments		(63,503)	(60,020)	(58,549)
Total cash used		(64,287)	(60,789)	(58,549)
Net cash used in financing activities		(64,271)	(60,464)	(58,549)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		(879)	(49)	–
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		5,748	5,797	–
Closing cash and cash equivalents	6A	4,869	5,748	–

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

- (a) Original Budget as reflected in the October 2022 PBS for the ABC. The Original Budget is presented in the PBS in a summarised format and has been adjusted in the above statement to aid a comparison to the actual results.
- (b) An explanation of the variance between the actual result and the budget for this item is detailed in Note 1 Explanation of Major Variances between Actual Results and Original Budget under the heading F. Cash used to pay suppliers
- (c) An explanation of the variance between the actual result and the budget for this item is detailed in Note 1 Explanation of Major Variances between Actual Results and Original Budget under the heading G. Cash used to pay for building improvements, plant and equipment and intangibles

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

1. Explanation of Major Variances between Actual Results and Original Budget

Explanations are provided below for significant variances between actual results and the budget, as reflected in the Portfolio Budget Statements 2022-23 (PBS) of the Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications and the Arts Portfolio, published in October 2022. Significant variances include variances of \$25,000,000 or more, and variances which are otherwise materially relevant to the performance of the ABC. The budget is not audited. Values in this Note are rounded to the nearest thousand, consistent with the PBS.

The ABC's deficit after income tax for the financial year to 30 June 2023 was \$170,000 which was \$2,603,000 favourable compared to the budgeted deficit of \$2,773,000. Total comprehensive income for the financial year was \$60,960,000 which was favourable compared to the budget mainly due to a change in the asset revaluation reserve, as detailed in the explanations provided under the heading *B. Changes in asset revaluation reserve*.

A. Employee benefits expenses

Employee benefits expenditure of \$585,392,000 was \$32,084,000 higher than the budget of \$553,308,000. This was mainly due to salary increases applicable under the ABC Enterprise Agreement negotiated during the period, as well as restructuring expenses which were recognised as a provision at 30 June 2023.

B. Changes in asset revaluation reserve

Changes in the asset revaluation reserve of \$61,130,000 relate to the revaluation of the ABC's property portfolio as detailed in Note 7A *ABC owned land, buildings, plant and equipment and intangibles*. No budget was assigned to this item as property valuations are completed by independent experts and estimates are not available prior to the completion of the valuation process.

In accordance with the FRR, the ABC measures land and building assets at fair value. The fair value of land is determined based on recent market prices of comparable sites.

No observable market data is available for the ABC's buildings, given their highest and best use as specialised broadcasting facilities. The fair value of these assets is based on depreciated replacement cost.

Based on an independent expert valuation, revaluation increments of \$32,742,000 and \$28,388,000 were posted for land and buildings assets respectively.

C. Other Investments

The other investments balance at 30 June 2023 was \$334,900,000 which was \$45,999,000 higher than the budget of \$288,901,000. Other investments comprise investments of surplus cash in term deposits with an original maturity of more than three months.

The higher balance was due to a short-term increase in surplus cash which was invested in term deposits. The short-term increase in surplus cash was mainly due to the timing of inventory acquisitions and the deferral of capital project activity into the next financial year. This largely relates to the timing of the Sydney Accommodation Project. Commencement of this project was subject to approval from the Public Works Committee which was received in December 2022.

D. ABC-owned non-financial assets – land and buildings

The balance of land assets at 30 June 2023 was \$255,881,000 which was \$33,002,000 higher than the budget of \$222,879,000. The balance of buildings assets at 30 June 2023 was \$421,381,000 which was \$18,755,000 higher than the budget of \$402,626,000. The variances were mainly due to the revaluation of the ABC's property portfolio as detailed under the heading *B. Changes in asset revaluation reserve*.

E. ABC right-of-use non-financial assets – buildings, and lease liability

The balance of ABC right-of-use non-financial assets – buildings at 30 June 2023 was \$40,062,000 which was \$37,221,000 higher than the budget of \$2,841,000. The balance of the lease liability at 30 June 2023 was \$507,189,000 which was \$52,072,000 higher than the budget of \$455,117,000. These variances to budget were mainly due to the addition of a new building lease at Parramatta, New South Wales. The lease was not included in the budget as it had not been finalised at the time that the budget was set.

F. Cash used to pay suppliers

Cash used to pay suppliers of \$518,459,000 was \$33,197,000 lower than the budget of \$551,656,000. This was mainly due to savings in discretionary supplier expenses. These savings offset the additional employee benefits expensed outlined under the heading *A. Employee benefits expenses*.

G. Cash used to pay for building improvements, plant and equipment and intangibles

Cash used to pay for building improvements, plant and equipment and intangibles of \$89,709,000 was \$28,718,000 lower than the budget of \$118,427,000. This was mainly due to the deferral of capital project activity into the next financial year as detailed under the heading *C. Other investments*.

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

2. Overview

The ABC is a Corporate Commonwealth, not-for-profit entity incorporated in Australia.

The ABC's head office is located at ABC Ultimo Centre 700 Harris Street Ultimo New South Wales Australia (GPO Box 9994 Sydney NSW 2001).

Its functions are set out in section 6 of the *Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983*. Those functions are reflected in the statement of purpose in the ABC Corporate Plan 2022–23, which was prepared in accordance with section 35 of the PGPA Act.

The continued existence of the ABC in its present form and with its present programs is dependent on Government policy and on continuing funding by Parliament for the ABC's administration and programs.

The Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are required by section 42 of the PGPA Act.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- (a) the FRR; and
- (b) Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations— including simplified disclosures for Tier 2 Entities under AASB 1060 issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that apply for the reporting period.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and in accordance with the historical cost convention, except for certain assets and liabilities which are at fair value. Except where stated, no allowance is made for the effect of changing prices on the results or the financial position.

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars unless otherwise specified.

New Accounting Standards

There were no new or revised standards effective for the current reporting period that had a material effect on the ABC's financial statements.

Income Tax

The ABC is exempt from all forms of taxation except Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT) and the Goods and Services Tax (GST).

Any income tax benefit or expense, asset or liability, presented in the financial statements and accompanying notes, is attributable to joint operations. Any income tax expense or benefit is recorded as *Income tax (expense)/benefit attributable to joint operations* in the Statement of Comprehensive Income. A tax asset is recorded in the Statement of Financial Position in Tax assets.

Changes to comparatives

Where appropriate, comparatives have been reclassified from the prior period to align with the current period presentation.

Significant Accounting Estimates and Assumptions

The ABC has taken the fair value of freehold land to be the market value of similar locations and the fair value of freehold buildings to be the depreciated replacement cost, as determined by an independent valuer.

In addition, the ABC has taken the fair value of plant and equipment to be the depreciated cost.

The ABC has applied estimates and assumptions to the following significant items:

- Depreciation and amortisation, as detailed in Note 3C *Depreciation and amortisation on ABC owned assets*, and Note 7A *ABC owned land, buildings, plant and equipment and intangibles*;
- Program amortisation, as detailed in Note 3E *Program amortisation*, and Note 7D *Inventories*;
- Valuation of land, buildings, plant and equipment, as detailed in Note 7A *ABC owned land, buildings, plant and equipment and intangibles*;
- Leased assets and lease liabilities, specifically identification of leased assets and lease liabilities where the ABC has the right to obtain substantially all of the economic benefits, as detailed in Note 7B *ABC right-of-use assets* and Note 9B *Lease Liability*; and
- Employee provisions, as detailed in Note 11 *Employee Provisions*.

No other accounting assumptions or estimates have been identified that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to carrying amounts of assets and liabilities.

Events After the Reporting Period

There were no subsequent events after the reporting period which required any adjustments or additional disclosures to be incorporated in these financial statements.

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Financial Performance – Expenses

3. Expenses

Note 3A to 3C

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
3A Employee benefits			
Salaries and wages		423,136	403,270
Superannuation			
– defined contribution plans		54,916	46,577
– defined benefit plans		22,120	25,698
Leave and other entitlements		57,868	49,557
Separation and redundancies		21,333	6,968
Other employee benefits		6,019	6,770
Total employee benefits		585,392	538,840
3B Suppliers			
Transmission and distribution contracts		105,120	102,494
Repairs, maintenance, utilities and hire		23,950	23,469
Contractors and consultants		48,803	45,504
Production costs		16,254	17,991
Communications and technology		44,996	40,868
Rights and royalties		21,335	15,439
Travel		15,846	10,037
Materials		3,158	4,054
Promotion costs		8,981	7,400
Other goods and services		13,695	16,589
Workers' compensation premiums		4,000	3,444
Remuneration to the Auditor General for audit of financial statements for the period ^(a)		215	215
Total suppliers		306,353	287,504
3C Depreciation and amortisation on ABC owned assets			
Depreciation			
Buildings (including improvements)	7A	21,922	22,004
Plant and equipment	7A	39,271	41,339
Total depreciation		61,193	63,343
Amortisation			
Intangibles	7A	21,059	17,305
Total amortisation		21,059	17,305
Total depreciation and amortisation on ABC owned assets		82,252	80,648

(a) The Australian National Audit Office has contracted KPMG to provide audit services to the Corporation on its behalf. In 2023, KPMG was paid \$20,000 to conduct an audit of expenditure and compliance related to an Audio Description grant. KPMG otherwise earned no additional fees (2022 nil) for services that were separately contracted by the ABC.

Accounting Policy

Employee benefits

Refer to Note 11 *Employee Provisions*.

Short-term leases and leases of low-value assets

The ABC has elected not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for short term leases of assets that have a lease term of 12 months or less and leases of low-value assets (less than \$10,000). The ABC recognises the lease payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term. For the year to 30 June 2023, expenditure on short-term leases was **\$384,000** (2022 \$852,000), expenditure on low-value leases was **\$6,000** (2022 \$7,000) and expenditure on variable lease payments which were not included in the measurement of a lease liability was **\$87,000** (2022 \$82,000).

Depreciation on ABC owned assets

Depreciable property, plant and equipment assets are depreciated to their estimated residual values over their estimated useful lives using the straight-line method.

Depreciation rates are initially based on asset useful lives, reviewed each year and adjusted as appropriate. Useful lives applying to each class of depreciable asset are referenced in Note 7A *ABC owned land, buildings, plant and equipment and intangibles*.

Amortisation of ABC owned intangibles

Intangibles comprise software for internal use. Software assets are amortised on a straight-line basis over anticipated useful lives between **3-8 years** (2022 3-8 years).

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

3. Expenses (continued)

Note 3D to 3I

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
3D Depreciation on ABC right-of-use assets			
Land	7B	243	244
Buildings	7B	2,689	1,714
Plant and equipment	7B	62,776	60,335
Total depreciation on ABC right-of-use assets		65,708	62,293
3E Program amortisation			
Purchased		34,444	37,921
Produced		122,782	123,930
Total program amortisation		157,226	161,851
3F Finance costs			
Other finance costs		94	65
Total finance costs	14B	94	65
3G Interest cost on lease liability			
Buildings		557	31
Plant and equipment		5,630	6,042
Total interest cost on lease liability		6,187	6,073
3H Impairment loss on financial instruments			
Trade and other receivables		122	49
Total impairment loss on financial instruments		122	49
3I Write-down and impairment of other assets			
Commercial advances		862	916
Land and buildings		–	1,274
Plant and equipment		–	70
Assets under construction		73	779
Inventory held for sale		53	384
Total write-down and impairment of other assets		988	3,423

Accounting Policy

Depreciation on ABC right-of-use assets

The depreciation rates for right-of-use assets are calculated on a straight-line basis. The depreciable period extends from the commencement date of the lease to the end of the lease term or the end of the useful life of the right-of-use asset if earlier.

Amortisation of purchased programs

Purchased program inventory is amortised in accordance with the policy for amortisation of produced programs. Subsequent sales of residual rights are recognised in the period in which they occur.

Amortisation of produced programs

The cost of produced television program inventory is amortised as follows:

- Live Programs, Factual and Entertainment programs based on current topics — 100% on first screening;
- Children’s Education and Movies — straight-line over three years from completion of production;
- ABC iview-only programs — 100% on first release; and
- Programs not covered above — 100% on first screening.

In addition to the above, programs that are assessed as no longer having any service potential are 100% expensed at the time of the assessment.

The costs of News, Radio and ABC International programs are expensed as incurred. Such programs are normally broadcast soon after production and stock on hand is minimal at any point in time. The valuation of inventory is addressed in Note 7D *Inventories*.

Finance costs

All borrowing costs are expensed as incurred.

Interest costs on the liability attributable to right-of-use assets

Interest is calculated on the monthly outstanding balance of the lease liability (refer Note 9B *Lease liability*).

Assumptions surrounding uncertainty — interest costs on the liability attributable to right-of-use assets

The valuation of the lease liability is influenced by the discount rate, as advised, on a quarterly basis, by the Commonwealth Department of Finance. The corresponding interest charged on the outstanding balance is a function of the incremental borrowing cost derived from the discount rate applicable at the commencement of the lease. The carrying balance of the lease liability is reviewed regularly and an assessment is made of the potential impact of a change in discount rates on this balance upon any lease modifications or reassessments.

Impairment loss on financial instruments

Under AASB 9 Financial Instruments, impairment of financial assets is provided for on the basis of future expected credit losses (ECLs) rather than as and when existing debts are deemed to be impaired.

This allows for the expectation of credit losses to be adjusted in response to certain factors, for example prevailing or anticipated market conditions.

Accounting Policy

Write-down and impairment of other assets

Where indications of impairment exist, the asset’s recoverable amount is estimated and an impairment adjustment is made if the asset’s recoverable amount is less than its carrying amount.

The recoverable amount of an asset is the greater of its fair value less costs to sell and its value in use. Value in use is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from the asset. Where the future economic benefit of an asset is not primarily dependent on the asset’s ability to generate future cash flows, and the asset would be replaced if the ABC were deprived of the asset, its value in use is taken to be its depreciated replacement cost.

At 30 June 2023, the ABC had performed assessments to determine the extent of any indications that assets may be impaired and the resultant financial impact has been incorporated in the table above.

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

3. Expenses (continued)

Note 3J

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
3J Net loss from disposal of assets			
Land and buildings			
Total proceeds from disposal		–	(26,250)
Carrying value of assets disposed		–	26,202
Net loss/(gain) from disposal of land and buildings		–	(48)
Plant and equipment			
Total proceeds from disposal		–	(63)
Carrying value of assets disposed		–	182
Cost of disposal		–	16
Net loss from disposal of plant and equipment		–	135
Total Net loss from disposal of assets			
Total proceeds from disposal		–	(26,313)
Carrying value of assets disposed		–	26,384
Total costs of disposal		–	16
Total net loss from disposal of assets		–	87

Losses on disposal of assets

Losses from disposal of assets are recognised when control of the asset has passed to the buyer.

Financial Performance – Revenue and Income

4. Own-Source Income

Note 4A to 4B

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
4A Revenue from contracts with customers			
Sale of goods		52,385	40,713
Rendering of services		25,362	21,907
Total revenue from contracts with customers		77,747	62,620
Disaggregation of revenue from contracts with customers			
Major product/service line			
Royalties		17,051	18,340
Content sales		34,333	21,741
Joint operations		9,559	9,591
Grants and service contracts		10,747	8,935
Co-productions		4,627	2,800
Other contract revenue		1,430	1,213
Total by major product/service line		77,747	62,620
Type of customer:			
Australian government entities		3,823	2,787
Non-government entities		73,924	59,833
Total by type of customer		77,747	62,620
Timing of transfer of good and services			
Over time		20,523	18,737
Point in time		57,224	43,883
Total by timing of transfer of good and services		77,747	62,620
4B Interest			
Financial instruments		11,549	1,401
Total interest	14B	11,549	1,401

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

4. Own-Source Income (continued)

Accounting Policy

Disaggregation of revenue from contracts with customers

Royalties

Royalty income arising from sales and usage-based royalties are recognised at the later of when the subsequent sales or usage occurs, or when the performance obligation has been satisfied. Therefore, royalty income is recognised at a 'point in time'.

Content sales

Licence fees from program content are recognised on the later of the start of the licence period (taking into account any holdback dates) or when the ABC's performance obligations have been satisfied. For content sales the performance obligation is generally to deliver the associated program to the customer, therefore income is recognised on delivery of each episode or package of content.

Joint Operations

Revenue attributable to joint operations represents the ABC's 50% share of revenue from the ABC's joint operation, MediaHub Australia Pty Limited (MediaHub). This revenue comprises services fees recognised 'over time' in line with when the services (predominantly for broadcast presentation) are provided.

Grants and Services Contracts

Revenue for grants and services contracts with specific performance obligations (primarily for international aid and development projects) is recognised 'over time' in line with when the services are provided, on an expense reimbursement or on a stage of completion basis. Pursuant to AASB 1058 *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities*, Grants from Government departments without specific performance obligations are recognised as income in the financial year that they relate to.

Co-productions

Co-production income is recognised on delivery of the related materials or on a stage of completion basis, depending on the nature of the contract with the customer.

Other Contract Revenue

Other contract revenue includes items such as commissions and distribution fees which are recognised at the later of when the subsequent sales or usage occurs.

Interest Revenue

Interest income is recognised as it accrues using the effective interest method and if not received at balance date, is reflected in the Statement of Financial Position as a receivable.

Note 4C to 4G

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
4C Other revenue			
Lease and other revenue		4,541	4,360
Total other revenue		4,541	4,360
4D Net gain from disposal of assets			
Land and buildings			
Total proceeds from disposal		92,409	–
Carrying value of assets disposed		(92,050)	–
Net gain from disposal of land and buildings		359	–
Infrastructure, plant and equipment			
Total proceeds from disposal		514	–
Carrying value of assets disposed		(4)	–
Cost of disposal		(75)	–
Net gain from disposal of infrastructure, plant and equipment		435	–
Total net gain from disposal of assets			
Total proceeds from disposal		92,923	–
Total carrying value of assets disposed		(92,054)	–
Total costs of disposal		(75)	–
Total net gain from disposal of assets		794	–
4E Net foreign exchange gain			
Non-speculative		820	826
Total net foreign exchange gain	14B	820	826
4F Insurance recoveries			
Insurance recoveries		1,854	1,725
Total insurance recoveries		1,854	1,725
4G Other gains			
Reversal of prior years write-downs and impairments for:			
Land and buildings		22	48
Derecognition of existing leases		–	117
Total other gains		22	165

Operating lease revenue commitments

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Lease revenue commitments		
One year or less	2,303	2,146
From one to two years	1,472	1,466
From two to three years	1,363	1,016
From three to four years	1,009	1,026
From four to five years	837	955
Over five years	1,139	3,085
Total operating lease revenue commitments	8,123	9,695

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

4. Own-Source Income (continued)

Accounting Policy

Lease and other revenue

Other revenue largely comprises revenue from lease or hire of ABC owned or controlled facilities. Rental income from the lease of ABC owned or controlled premises is recognised as lease income under AASB 16 *Leases* and disclosed separately to other revenue from contracts with customers. For the year ended 30 June 2023, revenue earned from sub-leased right of use assets was **nil** (2022 nil).

Gains from disposal of assets

Gains from disposal of assets are recognised when control of the asset has passed to the buyer. For the year ended 30 June 2023, gains or losses arising from sale and leaseback transactions were **nil** (2022 nil).

Foreign currency transactions

The Corporation enters into foreign currency hedging arrangements to protect its purchasing power in relation to foreign currency exposures. Revenues and expenditures denominated in foreign currencies are converted to Australian dollars at the exchange rates prevailing at the date of the transaction or at the hedged rate.

Gains and losses are taken to surplus/(deficit), except for transactions classified as cash flow hedges which are recognised in the hedging reserve within equity if material in value.

Operating lease revenue commitments

These commitments, largely relating to rental income for letting out office space, are presented exclusive of GST.

Lease terms are typically between one to five years in duration and income is subject to increases in accordance with CPI or other agreed increments.

Operating lease revenue is earned via leasing of spare capacity within the ABC's properties and resources. The ABC leases out spare capacity only on assets it controls. There are no rights-related risks associated with the underlying assets that are being leased.

Financial Position

5. Financial Position

Accounting Policy

Acquisition of assets

Assets are recorded at cost at the time of acquisition except as stated below. The cost of acquisition includes the fair value of assets transferred in exchange and liabilities undertaken.

Assets acquired at no cost, or for nominal consideration, are initially recognised as assets at their fair value at the date of acquisition.

Fair value measurement of assets and liabilities

The Corporation has adopted the following general policies relating to the determination of fair value of assets and liabilities.

AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement* requires disclosure of fair value measurements by level in accordance with the following fair value measurement hierarchy:

- Level 1 — quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;
- Level 2 — inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly; and
- Level 3 — unobservable inputs for an asset or liability.

The fair value of land is determined by reference to the market value of the land component of ABC property because it is possible to base the fair value on recent sales of comparable sites. The Corporation's independent valuers detail these reference sites in valuation reports for respective properties.

No observable market data is available for the ABC's buildings, given their highest and best use as specialised broadcasting facilities. The fair value of these assets is based on depreciated replacement cost (Level 3 inputs).

Plant and equipment assets are measured based on depreciated cost (Level 3 inputs). Intangibles (software for internal use) are measured at cost less subsequent accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Generally, the fair value of the Corporation's other financial assets and liabilities is deemed to be their carrying value as it approximates fair value. The fair value of long-term loans is the net present value of future discounted cash flows arising.

The Corporation currently does not hold any freehold property classified as held for sale, which would otherwise be disclosed in Note 7C *Assets classified as held for sale*.

The Corporation does not hold any assets or liabilities measured at fair value that are valued using Level 1 inputs (i.e. with reference to quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities).

The carrying value of cash and cash equivalents, financial assets and non-interest-bearing financial liabilities (except for derivatives used for hedging) of the Corporation, are measured at amortised cost, which approximates their fair value. There have been no recurring fair value measurements transferred between the respective levels for assets and liabilities for the year ended 30 June 2023.

The aforementioned accounting policy is summarised for each class of asset and liability in Note 5A *Fair value measurement*.

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

5. Financial Position (continued)

Measurement of right-of-use assets and accompanying liability under AASB 16 Leases

Leased right-of-use assets are capitalised at the commencement date of the lease and comprise the initial lease liability amount and initial direct costs incurred when entering into the lease, less any lease incentives received.

An impairment review is undertaken for any right-of-use asset that shows indicators of impairment and an impairment loss is recognised against any right-of-use asset that is impaired. Leased right-of-use assets continue to be measured at cost after initial recognition in Commonwealth agency, general government sector and whole of government financial statements.

Assumptions surrounding uncertainty – Lease liability

Refer to the commentary in Note 9B *Lease liability* under the same heading.

5A. Fair value measurement

	Measurement basis	Recurring/ non-recurring	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Financial assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	Amortised cost	Recurring	4,869	5,748
Receivables (excluding forward exchange contracts)	Amortised cost	Recurring	14,081	11,818
Forward exchange contracts	Fair value — level 2 inputs	Recurring	134	58
Other investments	Amortised cost	Recurring	334,900	237,500
Accrued revenue	Amortised cost	Recurring	9,689	4,559
Total financial assets			363,673	259,683
Non-financial assets				
ABC owned:				
Land	Fair value — level 2 inputs	N/A	255,881	222,879
Buildings (including improvements)	Fair value — level 3 inputs	N/A	421,381	400,374
Plant and equipment	Fair value — level 3 inputs	N/A	190,040	184,885
Intangibles	Cost	N/A	93,523	83,114
ABC right-of-use:				
Land	Cost	N/A	21,710	21,953
Buildings (including improvements)	Cost	N/A	40,062	4,390
Plant and equipment	Cost	N/A	458,267	501,532
Other				
Assets classified as held for sale	Lower of carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell (level 1 inputs)	N/A	–	88,776
Inventories	Cost	N/A	121,598	123,028
Prepayments	Cost	N/A	24,665	26,375
Tax assets	Cost	N/A	3,824	4,156
Total non-financial assets			1,630,951	1,661,462
Financial liabilities				
Suppliers	Amortised cost	Recurring	81,566	80,111
Other payables (excluding forward exchange contracts)	Amortised cost	Recurring	52,446	50,020
Loans	Amortised cost	Recurring	1,500	2,268
Lease liability	Cost	N/A	507,189	513,666
Total financial liabilities			642,701	646,065
Non-financial liabilities				
Other provisions (excluding building maintenance provision)	Cost	N/A	3,888	6,887
Employee provisions	Cost	N/A	176,114	157,232
Total non-financial liabilities			180,002	164,119

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

5. Financial Position (continued)

5B. Current/non-current breakdown of assets and liabilities

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Assets expected to be recovered in:		
No more than 12 months		
Cash and cash equivalents	4,869	5,748
Receivables	13,862	11,477
Other investments	334,900	237,500
Accrued revenue	8,761	4,559
Assets classified as held for sale	–	88,776
Inventories	121,598	123,027
Prepayments	16,364	18,636
Total no more than 12 months	500,354	489,723
More than 12 months		
ABC owned		
Land	255,881	222,879
Buildings (including improvements)	421,381	400,374
Plant and equipment	190,040	184,885
Intangibles	93,523	83,114
ABC right-of-use		
Land	21,710	21,953
Buildings (including improvements)	40,062	4,390
Plant and equipment	458,267	501,532
Receivables	353	399
Accrued revenue	928	–
Prepayments	8,301	7,739
Tax assets	3,824	4,157
Total more than 12 months	1,494,270	1,431,422
Total assets	1,994,624	1,921,145
Liabilities expected to be settled in:		
No more than 12 months		
Suppliers	81,110	80,111
Other payables	42,471	39,020
Loans	585	741
Lease liability	63,989	60,049
Other provisions	742	4,607
Employee provisions	160,752	142,326
Total no more than 12 months	349,649	326,854
More than 12 months		
Suppliers	456	–
Other payables	9,975	11,000
Loans	915	1,527
Lease liability	443,200	453,617
Other provisions	3,146	2,280
Employee provisions	15,362	14,906
Total more than 12 months	473,054	483,330
Total liabilities	822,703	810,184

6. Financial Assets

Note 6A to 6B

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
6A Cash and cash equivalents			
Cash on hand or on deposit		4,411	5,210
Salary sacrifice funds		458	538
	14B	4,869	5,748
6B Receivables			
Goods and services			
Contract assets from contracts with customers		4,041	2,011
Receivables		117	105
Total goods and services	14B	4,158	2,116
Other receivables			
Net GST receivable from the Australian Taxation Office		6,769	6,173
Forward exchange contracts	14B	134	58
Other, including receivables attributable to joint operations	14B	3,348	3,674
Total other receivables		10,251	9,905
Total receivables (gross)		14,409	12,021
Less impairment loss allowance			
Goods and services		(194)	(145)
Total impairment loss allowance	14B	(194)	(145)
Total receivables (net)		14,215	11,876
Reconciliation of impairment loss allowance			
Opening balance		(145)	(97)
Adjustments to reflect expected impairment		(123)	(48)
Amounts written off		74	–
Closing balance		(194)	(145)

Accounting Policy

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are recognised at their nominal amounts and include:

- cash on hand;
- demand deposits in bank accounts with an original maturity of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and subject to insignificant risk of changes in value; and
- cash in special accounts.

Accounting Policy

Receivables

Trade receivables and other receivables that are held for the purpose of collecting the contractual cash flows where the cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest, that are not provided at below-market interest rates, are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method adjusted for any loss allowance.

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

6. Financial Assets (continued)

Note 6C to 6D

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
6C Other investments			
Term deposits with an original maturity date greater than 90 days		334,900	237,500
Total other investments	14B	334,900	237,500
6D Accrued revenue			
Goods and services		6,273	3,957
Interest receivable		3,416	602
Total accrued revenue	14B	9,689	4,559

Impairment of receivables

The ABC calculates an impairment loss allowance, based on historical rates of credit impairment, adjusted for any external factors likely to impact the rate of impairment. The carrying value of the impairment allowance loss is monitored against the value of debts likely to be considered at risk of being non-recoverable. At 30 June 2023, the balance of the impairment loss allowance is **\$194,000** (2022 \$145,000).

For the year ended 30 June 2023, this amount was sufficient to cover outstanding debt attributable to customers at risk of non-recoverability.

Other investments

Surplus cash is invested into short-term investments with maturities at acquisition date of greater than three months. These investments are due to be recovered within twelve months.

7. Non-Financial Assets

7A ABC owned land, buildings, plant and equipment and intangibles

Reconciliation of opening and closing balances of ABC owned land, buildings, plant and equipment and intangibles at 30 June 2023 is as follows:

	Land \$'000	Buildings (including improvements) \$'000	Plant and equipment \$'000	Intangibles \$'000	Total \$'000
Carrying amount as at 30 June 2022 represented by					
Gross book value	222,879	445,180	583,661	186,422	1,438,142
Assets under construction	–	1,340	17,772	8,567	27,679
Accumulated depreciation and amortisation	–	(46,146)	(416,548)	(111,875)	(574,569)
Closing net book value as at 30 June 2022	222,879	400,374	184,885	83,114	891,252
Assets controlled by ABC					
Additions	1,500	13,439	26,851	31,248	73,038
Revaluations and impairments recognised in other comprehensive income ^(a)	32,142	28,036	–	–	60,178
Depreciation and amortisation	–	(21,603)	(37,899)	(21,059)	(80,561)
Disposals	(1,240)	(760)	(4)	–	(2,004)
Net additions to assets under construction	–	2,824	21,432	7,957	32,213
Net transfers from assets under construction	–	(1,029)	(5,870)	(7,680)	(14,579)
Write-down and impairment of assets under construction	–	–	(16)	(57)	(73)
Assets attributable to joint operations					
Additions	–	67	1,453	–	1,520
Revaluations and impairments recognised in other comprehensive income ^(a)	600	352	–	–	952
Depreciation	–	(319)	(1,372)	–	(1,691)
Net additions to assets under construction	–	–	2,478	–	2,478
Net transfers from assets under construction	–	–	(1,898)	–	(1,898)
Net book value as at 30 June 2023	255,881	421,381	190,040	93,523	960,825
Carrying amount as at 30 June 2023 represented by					
Gross book value	255,881	425,838	565,051	195,415	1,442,185
Assets under construction	–	3,135	33,898	8,787	45,820
Accumulated depreciation and amortisation	–	(7,592)	(408,909)	(110,679)	(527,180)
Closing net book value as at 30 June 2023	255,881	421,381	190,040	93,523	960,825

(a) A revaluation increment of \$61,130,000 was posted to the asset revaluation reserve and included in Changes in asset revaluation reserve within Other Comprehensive Income in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Reserves within the Statement of Financial Position and Net revaluation of land and buildings in the Statement of Changes in Equity. This amount comprises both assets controlled by the ABC of \$60,178,000 and Assets attributable to joint operations of \$952,000.

Useful lives of and measurement basis of asset classes

Asset Class	Measurement Basis	Useful Life
Land	Fair value – market price	Not applicable
Buildings*	Fair value – depreciated replacement cost	50 years
Building improvements	Fair value – depreciated replacement cost	15 to 50 years
Plant and equipment	Fair value (or an amount not materially different from fair value) – depreciated replacement cost	3 to 15 years
Intangibles (software)	Cost	3 to 8 years

* The useful lives of individual buildings are occasionally adjusted in accordance with advice from independent valuers.

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

7. Non-Financial Assets (continued)

Accounting Policy

Land, buildings, plant and equipment and intangibles

The measurement basis for land, buildings, plant and equipment and intangibles is set out in Note 5A *Fair value measurement*.

Asset recognition threshold

Purchases of land, buildings, plant, equipment and intangibles are recognised initially at cost in the Statement of Financial Position.

Purchases costing less than \$2,000 are expensed in the year of acquisition except where they form part of a project or group of similar items, which are significant in total.

Revaluation

Following initial recognition at cost, ABC owned land, buildings and plant and equipment are measured at fair value (or an amount not materially different from fair value) less subsequent accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Valuations are conducted with sufficient frequency to ensure that the carrying amounts of assets do not materially vary from the assets' fair values as at the reporting date. The ABC commissions an independent expert valuer to complete a comprehensive valuation of land and building assets every three years. This process was completed during the reporting period and the assets were valued at 30 June 2023.

Consequently, a revaluation increment of \$32,742,000 for land and a revaluation increment of \$28,388,000 for buildings was posted to the asset revaluation reserve and included in Changes in asset revaluation reserve within Other Comprehensive Income in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Reserves within the Statement of Financial Position and Net revaluation of land and buildings in the Statement of Changes in Equity.

Revaluation adjustments are made on a class basis. Any revaluation increment is credited to equity under the heading of revaluation reserve except to the extent that it reverses a previous revaluation decrement of the same asset class, previously recognised through surplus/(deficit). Revaluation decrements for a class of assets are recognised directly through surplus/(deficit) except to the extent that they reverse a previous revaluation increment for that class. Any accumulated depreciation at the revaluation date is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the asset restated to the revalued amount.

Impairment of non-current assets

The aforementioned classes of assets have been and continue to be subjected to an assessment as to indicators of impairment under AASB 136 *Impairment of Assets* as at 30 June 2023.

Impairment is assessed with consideration of the assets' remaining service value.

Disposals

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when no further future economic benefits are expected.

Capital purchase commitments

Capital purchases commitments	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Buildings	38,078	1,603
Plant and equipment ^(a)	7,466	6,341
Intangibles ^(b)	337	968
Total capital purchases commitments	45,881	8,912
One year or less	39,071	1,081
From one to five years	6,810	7,831
Total capital purchases commitments	45,881	8,912

Commitments are shown exclusive of any GST. Commitments represent the following:

- Outstanding contractual commitments associated with the purchase or construction of building improvements and plant and equipment, including communications upgrades and technical equipment fit out.
- Outstanding contractual commitments associated with the purchase or development of software.

7B ABC right-of-use assets

Reconciliation of opening and closing balances of the ABC's right-of-use assets at 30 June 2023 is as follows:

	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Plant and equipment \$'000	Total \$'000
Carrying amount as at 30 June 2022 represented by				
Gross book value	22,680	9,532	681,239	713,451
Accumulated depreciation	(727)	(5,142)	(179,707)	(185,576)
Closing net book value as at 30 June 2022	21,953	4,390	501,532	527,875
ABC right-of-use assets				
Additions	–	37,776	4,821	42,597
Depreciation	(243)	(2,689)	(62,773)	(65,705)
Other movements ^(a)	–	585	16,218	16,803
Derecognition of existing leases	–	–	(1,528)	(1,528)
Right-of-use assets attributable to joint operations				
Depreciation	–	–	(3)	(3)
Net book value as at 30 June 2023	21,710	40,062	458,267	520,039
Carrying amount as at 30 June 2023 represented by				
Gross book value	22,680	47,893	700,060	770,633
Accumulated depreciation	(970)	(7,831)	(241,793)	(250,594)
Closing net book value as at 30 June 2023	21,710	40,062	458,267	520,039

(a) Other movements include movements resulting from indexation and other pricing related adjustments, lease modifications and reclassifications.

Accounting Policy

General principles

Right-of-use assets are capitalised at the commencement date of the lease and comprise the initial lease liability amount and initial direct costs incurred when entering into the lease, less any lease incentives received.

Following initial recognition, an impairment review is undertaken for any right-of-use asset that shows indicators of impairment and an impairment loss is recognised against any right-of-use asset that is impaired. Right-of-use assets continue to be measured at cost after initial recognition in Commonwealth agency, general government sector and Whole of Government financial statements.

Land

The ABC's right-of-use land is measured at cost, in accordance with the requirements of the PGPA (Financial Reporting) Rule 2015.

Buildings

Right-of-use buildings largely consist of regional broadcasting offices and the ABC's overseas reporting bureaus.

Plant and equipment

Right-of-use plant and equipment comprises:

- a satellite transponder for digital television distribution;
- decoder boxes and dishes for satellite downlink services to support television transmission;
- transmission facility assets for digital terrestrial television transmission;
- transmission facility assets for terrestrial radio transmission; and
- vehicles.

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

7. Non-Financial Assets (continued)

Depreciation

The depreciation rates for right-of-use assets are based on the period of the lease commencement date to the earlier of the end of the useful life of the right-of-use asset or the end of the lease term.

Derecognition of existing leases

Leases derecognised during the period include leases that were terminated prior to the end of their lease term, as well as arrangements that have ceased to meet the relevant control test under AASB 16 Leases.

Note 7C to 7F

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
7C Assets classified as held for sale		
Land and buildings at carrying value	–	88,776
Total assets classified as held for sale	–	88,776
7D Inventories		
Retail inventory held for sale	165	85
Purchased television programs	11,910	12,751
Produced television programs	109,523	110,191
Total inventories	121,598	123,027
7E Prepayments		
Technology	13,135	13,629
Royalties	8,183	9,064
Short term leases/hire	15	38
Other	3,332	3,644
Total prepayments	24,665	26,375
7F Tax assets		
Share of tax asset attributable to joint operations	3,824	4,157
Total tax assets	3,824	4,157

Assets classified as held for sale

Assets classified as held for sale are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position at the lower of their carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell.

In February 2022 the ABC entered into a contract of sale for its property at Artarmon New South Wales. The contract was settled in January 2023.

Inventories

Inventories held for resale are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Inventories not held for resale are valued at the lower of cost, adjusted for any loss in service potential, identified and measured based on the existence of a current replacement cost that is lower than the original acquisition cost or other subsequent carrying amount.

Television programs are produced for domestic transmission and digital distribution. The cost of these programs includes co-production fees, direct salaries and expenses and production overheads allocated on a usage basis to the program. Production overheads not allocated to programs are expensed in the period in which they are incurred. External contributions received in respect of co-production of television programs are offset against production costs which are recorded as Inventories in the Statement of Financial Position. The amortisation of inventories is addressed in Note 3E Program amortisation.

Write-down of inventory held for distribution

When inventories held for distribution are distributed, the carrying amount of those inventories is recognised as an expense.

The amount of any write-down of inventories for loss of service potential, and all losses of inventories are recognised as an expense in the period the write-down or loss occurs.

The amount of any reversal of any write-down of inventories arising from a reversal of the circumstances that gave rise to the loss of service potential will be recognised as a reduction in the value of inventories recognised as an expense in the period in which the reversal occurs.

Write-down of retail inventory

The amount of any write-down of inventories to net realisable value and all losses of inventory are recognised as an expense in the period the write-down or loss occurs. The amount of any reversal of any write-down of inventories arising from an increase in the net realisable value will be recognised as an inventory expense reduction in the period in which the reversal occurs.

Impairment of prepayments

No indicators of impairment were found for prepayments.

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

8. Payables

Note 8A to 8B

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
8A Suppliers			
Trade creditors	14B	81,566	80,111
Total suppliers		81,566	80,111
8B Other payables			
Salaries and wages (including separation and redundancies)		25,631	24,438
Superannuation		906	690
Unearned revenue		22,433	22,920
Other payables	14B	3,476	1,972
Total other payables		52,446	50,020

Accounting Policy

Suppliers and other payables

Supplier and other payables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost.

9. Interest Bearing Liabilities

Note 9A to 9B

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
9A Loans			
Share of loans in joint operations	14B	1,500	2,268
Total loans		1,500	2,268
9B Lease liability			
Buildings		39,754	4,441
Plant and equipment		467,435	509,225
Total lease liability		507,189	513,666
Undiscounted contractual cashflows – maturity analysis			
Within 1 year		70,537	65,475
Between 1 to 5 years		269,661	254,991
More than 5 years		217,354	223,751
Total cash flows		557,552	544,217

Accounting Policy

Loans

Share of loans in joint operations represents the ABC's 50% share of MediaHub's loan balances with the with the Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited (the ANZ).

At 30 June 2023, MediaHub had drawn loans under **nine** (2022 nine) facilities with the ANZ, with an aggregate balance of **\$3,000,000** (2022 \$4,535,000). The ABC's share, as reflected in its Statement of Financial Position, is **\$1,500,000** (2022 \$2,268,000). These facilities are generally repayable over five years.

The facility is provided on an average variable interest rate to 30 June 2023 of **4.60%** (2022 1.90%).

Lease liability

Note 9B *Lease liability* is the present value of future contractual payments, for the remaining life of the contracts. The present value of the lease liability is **\$507,189,000** (2022 \$513,666,000). The life of the contracts includes extension options which the ABC is reasonably certain to exercise.

The total cash outflow for leases for the year ended 30 June 2023 was **\$69,690,000** (2022 \$66,093,000) The undiscounted value of future lease payments is **\$557,552,000** (2022 \$544,217,000). The average discount rate, determined with reference to the Commonwealth Department of Finance incremental borrowing rates, issued quarterly, was approximately **1.26%** (2022 1.05%).

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

9. Interest Bearing Liabilities (continued)

Assumptions surrounding uncertainty – Lease liability

The valuation of the lease liability is influenced by the discount rate, as advised, on a quarterly basis, by the Commonwealth Department of Finance. The carrying balance of this item is reviewed regularly and an assessment is made of the potential impact of a change in discount rates on this balance upon any lease modifications or reassessments.

For all new contracts entered into, the ABC considers whether the contract is, or contains a lease. A lease is defined as “a contract, or part of a contract, that conveys the right to use an asset (the underlying asset) for a period of time in exchange for consideration”.

Once it has been determined that a contract is, or contains a lease, the lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments unpaid at the commencement date, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease, if that rate is readily determinable, or the department’s incremental borrowing rate.

The corresponding asset value, as disclosed in Note 7B *ABC right-of-use assets*, is initially measured based on the value of the liability.

Subsequent to initial measurement, the liability is reduced for payments made and increased for interest. It is remeasured to reflect any reassessment or modification to the lease. When the lease liability is remeasured, the corresponding adjustment is reflected in the right-of-use asset or profit and loss depending on the nature of the re-assessment or modifications.

10. Other Provisions

Note 10

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
10 Other provisions		
Make good	3,888	6,887
Total other provisions	3,888	6,887
Reconciliation of the make good provision		
Opening balance	6,887	3,014
Amounts used	(3,751)	–
New/additional amounts provided	846	3,783
Unwinding of discount or change in discount rate	(94)	90
Closing balance	3,888	6,887

Accounting Policy

Other provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Corporation has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, where it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

Make good provision

The provision for make good includes the estimated make good cost for leased properties at the end of the lease term. The estimated cost is based on management's best estimate of the cost to make good each site, plus an allowance for inflation.

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

People and Relationships

11. Employee Provisions

Note 11

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
11 Employee provisions		
Annual leave ^(a)	52,811	55,728
Long service leave ^(a)	94,866	90,484
Salaries and wages ^(b)	3,302	5,150
Superannuation ^(b)	2,957	1,523
Redundancy	22,178	4,347
Total employee provisions	176,114	157,232

(a) The settlement of employee leave provisions is based on the individual employee's entitlement to leave. Where an employee has a current entitlement to leave (i.e. is presently entitled to take the leave) or will have a present entitlement within 12 months, the value of that entitlement is included in the employee provisions expected to settle in no more than 12 months. Where the Corporation expects that an employee will be entitled to leave in the future but will not yet be entitled to that leave in 12 months, the value of the leave is included in the employee provision expected to settle in more than 12 months.

(b) A provision is made for estimated historical salary and wages, and superannuation entitlements owed to certain employees. This estimate is based on an extrapolation of entitlements calculated for a portion of potentially affected employees and factors in risks and uncertainties associated with the settlement of the liability. The provision for superannuation also includes an amount in respect of an outstanding employer contribution to a defined benefit superannuation scheme.

Accounting Policy

Liabilities for short-term employee benefits and termination benefits expected within twelve months of the end of reporting period are measured at their nominal amounts. Other long-term employee benefits are measured as the net total of the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the end of the reporting period minus the fair value at the end of the reporting period of plan assets (if any) out of which the obligations are to be settled directly.

Leave

Leave liabilities are calculated based on employees' remuneration at the estimated salary rates that will apply at the time the leave is taken, including the employer superannuation contribution rates to the extent that the leave is likely to be taken during service rather than paid out on termination. The calculation is based on the anticipated length of time taken for an employee to fully settle their leave entitlement. The long service leave liability is calculated by an actuary.

This amount is determined by reference to attrition rates and pay increases through promotion and inflation. This discount rate is based on the Commonwealth Government bond yield for a bond with a similar term to the liability.

Redundancy

A provision is made for separation and redundancy benefit payments. The ABC recognises a provision for termination when it has developed a detailed formal plan that will result in the terminations and has informed those employees affected that it will carry out the plan.

Superannuation

ABC employees are members of the Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme (CSS), Public Sector Superannuation Scheme (PSS), the Public Sector Superannuation Accumulation Plan Scheme (PSSap) or another non-Commonwealth superannuation fund.

The CSS and PSS are defined benefit schemes for the Australian Government. The PSSap and other non-Commonwealth funds are defined contribution schemes.

The liability for defined benefits is recognised in the financial statements of the Australian Government and is settled by the Australian Government in due course. This liability is reported in the Department of Finance's administered schedules and notes.

The Corporation makes employer contributions to the employee defined benefit superannuation schemes at rates determined by an actuary to be sufficient to meet the current cost to the Government of the superannuation entitlements of the Corporation's employees. The Corporation accounts for the contributions in the same manner as contributions to defined contribution plans.

The liability for superannuation recognised at 30 June 2023 represents outstanding historical contributions at the end of the period.

Expenses

Expenses attributable to the aforementioned employee benefits and provisions are reported in Note 3A *Employee benefits*.

Assumptions surrounding uncertainty – Measurement of leave liabilities

The discount rates used in valuing leave liabilities are based on Australian government bond rates with maturities that closely align with the length of the liability. The ABC regularly reviews leave liabilities and the impact of any adjustment to bond rates on these balances.

Leave liabilities are also impacted by assumptions surrounding future salary inflation. The ABC regularly monitors factors that are likely to impact future salary inflation.

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

12. Key Management Personnel Remuneration

Note 12

	2023					2022				
	Short-term employee benefits	Post employment benefits: Superannuation	Other long-term employee benefits: Long Service Leave	Termination Benefits	Total	Short-term employee benefits	Post employment benefits: Superannuation	Other long-term employee benefits: Long Service Leave	Termination Benefits	Total
Executive management										
David Anderson (Managing Director)	974,453	146,711	35,805	–	1,156,969	901,145	143,334	(7,577)	–	1,036,902
Michael Carrington	15,480	1,026	(722)	171,308	187,092	423,968	23,568	7,403	–	454,939
Melanie Kleyln Gaven Morris	578,921	25,292	14,242	–	618,455	572,078	23,568	15,711	–	611,357
Chris Oliver-Taylor	–	–	–	–	–	372,526	31,606	(31,368)	–	372,764
Justin Stevens	192,982	7,268	1,663	–	201,913	–	–	–	–	–
Judith Whelan	451,741	70,061	12,015	–	533,817	148,290	8,529	99,793	–	256,612
Board	252,781	15,117	10,998	–	278,896	480,024	23,568	7,615	–	511,207
Ita Buttrose (Chair)	183,100	28,197	–	–	211,297	178,190	27,441	–	–	205,631
Fiona Balfour	35,169	3,693	–	–	38,862	58,670	5,867	–	–	64,537
Jane Connors	50,242	9,445	–	–	59,687	58,670	11,030	–	–	69,700
Mario D'Orazio	60,290	6,330	–	–	66,620	58,670	5,867	–	–	64,537
Joseph Gersh	50,242	5,275	–	–	55,517	58,670	5,867	–	–	64,537
Peter Lewis	60,290	9,285	–	–	69,575	58,670	9,035	–	–	67,705
Georgina Somerset	60,290	6,330	–	–	66,620	58,670	5,867	–	–	64,537
Laura Tingle	10,048	1,547	–	–	11,595	–	–	–	–	–
Peter Tonagh (Deputy Chair)	90,390	9,491	–	–	99,881	78,203	7,820	–	–	86,023
Total	3,066,419	345,068	74,001	171,308	3,656,796	3,506,444	332,967	91,577	–	3,930,988
Total number included above					15					14

Notes on remuneration

- a. All Executive Managers who were remunerated in 2022 served for the full reporting period except as follows:
 - Gaven Morris served from 1 July 2021 to 3 December 2021 (resigned).
 - Justin Stevens served from 4 April 2022 to 30 June 2022.
- b. All Executive Managers who were remunerated in 2023 served for the full reporting period except as follows:
 - Michael Carrington served from 1 July 2022 to 8 July 2022 (resigned).
 - Judith Whelan served from 1 July 2022 to 5 February 2023 (changed roles).
 - Chris Oliver-Taylor served from 20 March 2023 to 30 June 2023.
- c. All Board members who were remunerated in 2022 served for the full reporting period.
- d. All Board members who were remunerated in 2023 served for the full reporting period except as follows:
 - Fiona Balfour served from 1 July 2022 to 31 January 2023 (resigned).
 - Jane Connors served from 1 July 2022 to 30 April 2023 (term ended).
 - Joseph Gersh served from 1 July 2022 to 10 May 2023 (term ended).
 - Laura Tingle served from 1 May 2023 onwards.
- e. The above table is prepared on an accrual basis, including remuneration at risk. Remuneration at risk is recognised in the period in which the decision to pay the entitlement is made. Other long-term employee benefits: Long Service Leave reflects the estimated entitlement to long service leave that was accrued during the period, calculated in accordance with the methodology explained in Note 11 Employee Provisions. This includes changes to the value of an employee's accrued leave entitlement that resulted from a change in their salary during the period and changes to the discount rate and other factors used to calculate the present value of the liability.
- f. The above key management personnel remuneration excludes the remuneration and other benefits of the Portfolio Minister. The Portfolio Minister's remuneration and other benefits are set by the Remuneration Tribunal and are not paid by the Corporation.
- g. Remuneration of the Chair and Directors of the Board is determined by the Remuneration Tribunal. In addition to the remuneration of the Chair and Directors of the Board disclosed above, the Board incurred expenses of **\$396,000** (2022 \$273,000).
- h. The aggregate remuneration of other Senior Executives and Other Highly Paid Employees is published in the ABC's Annual Report.

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

13. Related Party Disclosures

Related party relationships

The Corporation is an Australian Government controlled entity. Related parties to the Corporation include Key Management Personnel, the Portfolio Minister and other Australian Government entities as well as those entities controlled, or jointly operated, by the Corporation.

Transactions with entities controlled by the Corporation

Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to other parties unless otherwise stated.

Transactions with related parties

Given the breadth of Government activities, related parties may transact with the government sector in the same capacity as ordinary citizens. These transactions have not been separately disclosed in this note.

Considering relationships with related parties, and transactions entered into during the year by the Corporation, it has been determined that there are no additional related party transactions to be separately disclosed.

Controlled Entities

	Country of incorporation	Beneficial percentage held by ABC 2023	Beneficial percentage held by ABC 2022
Ultimate parent entity:			
Australian Broadcasting Corporation			
Controlled entities of Australian Broadcasting Corporation:			
Music Choice Australia Pty Ltd	Australia	–	100%
The News Channel Pty Limited	Australia	100%	100%
ABC AustraliaPlus (Shanghai) Cultural Development Co., Ltd	People's Republic of China	–	100%

The Corporation is involved in the following joint arrangements

Party to the joint operation	Principal activity	Ownership Share	
		2023	2022
MediaHub Australia Pty Limited	Operating facility for television presentation	50%	50%
Freeview Australia Limited	Promote adoption of free-to-air digital television	16%	16%
National DAB Licence Company Limited	Operates the digital radio multiplex licence	50%	50%

Music Choice Australia Pty Ltd and The News Channel Pty Limited

These companies are wholly owned subsidiaries of the Corporation that did not trade during the year ended 30 June 2023 and have been dormant since 2000. Music Choice Australia Pty Ltd was de-registered on 2 November 2022.

ABC AustraliaPlus (Shanghai) Cultural Development Co., Ltd (AustraliaPlus)

This company was a wholly owned subsidiary of the Corporation, incorporated in the People's Republic of China. This company operated during the year ended 30 June 2023 in a limited administrative capacity and was deregistered on 15 June 2023.

Relationships and transactions with parties to Joint Operations

The Corporation's interest in MediaHub is included in the Corporation's financial statements under their respective categories. Interests in Freeview Australia Limited (Freeview) and National DAB Licence Company Limited (DAB) are not material.

ABC employees who are directors of the aforementioned entities are neither remunerated nor receive any other benefits from these entities.

All transactions with parties to Joint Arrangements were at arm's length. No dividends were received from any of these entities in 2023 (2022 nil).

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

13. Related Party Disclosures (continued)

Summarised financial information of MediaHub Australia Pty Limited

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Statement of financial position		
Financial assets	6,808	6,478
Non-financial assets	28,179	28,117
Financial liabilities	(6,310)	(7,901)
Net assets	28,677	26,694
Statement of comprehensive income		
Income	19,119	19,180
Expense	16,940	17,504
Profit before tax	2,179	1,676
Share of (deficit)/surplus attributable to joint arrangements		
Share of net profit before tax	1,089	838
Share of income tax expense	333	245
Share of (deficit)/surplus attributable to joint arrangements after tax	756	593

MediaHub Australia Pty Limited

MediaHub is a joint operation between the Corporation and WIN Television Network Pty Ltd (WIN) to operate a custom designed play-out facility for television presentation.

Both the ABC and WIN own an equal number of ordinary shares in MediaHub. The ABC also owns Class B shares in MediaHub that do not confer an ownership interest. The ABC has made a cumulative net capital contribution of **\$14,335,000** (2022 \$15,698,000) to MediaHub.

Two ABC employees are directors of MediaHub.

Freeview Australia Limited

Freeview is a joint operation between many of Australia's free-to-air national and commercial television broadcasters to promote consumer adoption of free-to-air digital television within Australia.

The ABC jointly controls Freeview and holds **160 \$0.10 shares** at 30 June 2023 (2022 160 \$0.10 shares) equating to a **16%** (2022 16%) share. Two ABC employees are directors of Freeview.

The Corporation contributes towards the operational costs of Freeview in proportion to its shareholding and may also provide other operational services to Freeview as required.

The Corporation did not receive any material income from Freeview. The ABC paid **\$587,220** for the year to 30 June 2023 (2022 \$587,000) towards the operational costs of Freeview. These costs did not constitute a capital contribution and were recognised directly in the Corporation's Statement of Comprehensive Income.

National DAB Licence Company Limited (DAB)

DAB is a joint operation between the ABC and Special Broadcasting Service (SBS) to hold the digital multiplex licence. The ABC and SBS each hold **one** \$1 share in DAB at 30 June 2023 (2022 one \$1 share each). Two ABC employees are directors of DAB.

DAB is not a party to any service contracts for the provision of digital radio and does not receive the funds for digital radio operations/broadcast from the Government as these are paid directly to the ABC and SBS.

The ABC contributed **\$5,315** towards the operational costs of DAB for the year to June 2023 (2022 \$5,500).

Financial Risks and Disclosure

14. Financial Instruments

14A Capital Risk Management

The Corporation manages its capital to ensure that it can continue as a going concern through aligning operations with Government funded objectives.

14B Categories of Financial Instruments

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Financial assets measured under AASB 9 at amortised cost			
Term deposits with an original maturity date greater than 90 days	6C	334,900	237,500
Cash and cash equivalents	6A	4,869	5,748
Goods and services receivables ^(a)	6B	3,964	1,971
Other receivables	6B	3,348	3,674
Accrued revenue	6D	9,689	4,559
Total financial assets measured at amortised cost		356,770	253,452
Financial assets measured under AASB 9 at fair value through surplus/ (deficit)			
Forward exchange contracts	6B	134	58
Total financial assets measured at fair value through surplus/(deficit)		134	58
Total financial assets		356,904	253,510
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost			
Trade creditors	8A	81,566	80,111
Other payables	8B	3,476	1,972
Loans	9A	1,500	2,268
Total financial liabilities measured at amortised cost		86,542	84,351
Total financial liabilities		86,542	84,351

(a) Goods and services receivables in the above table are presented net of the impairment allowance in Note 6B Receivables.

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

14. Financial Instruments (continued)

Accounting Policy

Financial Instruments

Financial Assets

The Corporation classifies its financial assets in the following categories:

- financial assets measured at amortised cost; and
- financial assets at fair value through surplus/(deficit).

The classification depends on the nature and purpose of the financial assets and is determined at the time of initial recognition. Financial assets are recognised and derecognised upon trade date.

The carrying value of financial instruments specifically excludes the following line items, illustrated in the reconciliation below. These items do not fall under the definition of financial instruments:

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Total financial assets stated in the Statement of Financial Position adjusted for:		363,673	259,683
– Net GST receivable from the Australian Taxation Office	6B	(6,769)	(6,173)
Total financial assets classified as financial instruments		356,904	253,510
Total payables and interest bearing liabilities stated in the Statement of Financial Position adjusted for:		642,701	646,065
– Lease liability	9B	(507,189)	(513,666)
– Salaries and wages (including separation and redundancies)	8B	(25,631)	(24,438)
– Superannuation	8B	(906)	(690)
– Unearned revenue	8B	(22,433)	(22,920)
Total financial liabilities classified as financial instruments		86,542	84,351

Effective Interest Method

Income is recognised on an effective interest rate basis except for financial assets that are recognised at fair value through surplus/(deficit).

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset and of allocating interest income over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset, or, where appropriate, a shorter period.

Financial Assets at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss or surplus/(deficit)

Financial assets are classified as financial assets at fair value through surplus/(deficit) where the financial assets:

- have been acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the near future;
- are derivatives (except for derivative instruments that are designated as, and are highly effective hedging instruments); or
- are parts of an identified portfolio of financial instruments that the Corporation manages together and have a recent actual pattern of short-term profit-taking.

Forward exchange contracts in this category are classified as current assets.

Financial assets at fair value through surplus/ (deficit) are stated at fair value, with any resultant gain or loss recognised in surplus/ (deficit). The net gain or loss recognised in surplus/(deficit) incorporates any interest earned on the financial asset. The Corporation's financial assets in this category are forward exchange contracts which are derivative financial instruments. Gains and losses on these items are recognised through surplus/(deficit) except if they are classified as a cash flow hedge where they are recognised in the hedging reserve within equity if material in value.

Financial Liabilities

Financial liabilities, including borrowings, are initially measured at fair value, net of transaction costs. These liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, with interest expense recognised on an effective interest basis.

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Net gains or losses from financial assets and liabilities			
Other investments			
Interest on term deposits with an original maturity date greater than 90 days	4B	10,016	1,181
Net foreign exchange gain	4E	820	826
Net gain on other investments		10,836	2,007
Loans, receivables and cash			
Interest	4B	1,533	220
Net gain from loans and receivables		1,533	220
Net gains from financial assets recognised in Statement of Comprehensive Income		12,369	2,227
Financial liabilities at amortised cost			
Finance costs	3F	(94)	(65)
Net loss from financial liabilities - at amortised cost		(94)	(65)
Net loss from financial liabilities recognised in Statement of Comprehensive Income		(94)	(65)

Derivatives

Forward exchange contracts are initially recognised at fair value on the date on which the contracts are entered into and are subsequently revalued to reflect changes in fair value.

Forward exchange contracts are carried as assets when their net fair value is positive and as liabilities when their net fair value is negative. For the purpose of hedge accounting, the Corporation's hedges are classified as cash flow hedges when they hedge exposure to variability in cash flows that is attributable either to a particular risk associated with a recognised asset, liability or to a highly probable forecast transaction.

At the inception of a hedge relationship, the Corporation formally designates and documents the hedge relationship to which the Corporation wishes to apply hedge accounting and the risk management objective and strategy for undertaking the hedge. The documentation includes identification of the hedging instrument, the hedged item or transaction, the nature of the risk being hedged and how the Corporation will assess the hedging instrument's effectiveness in offsetting the exposure to changes in the hedged item's fair value or cash flow attributable to the hedged risk.

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

14. Financial Instruments (continued)

Such hedges are expected to be highly effective in achieving offsetting changes in fair value or cash flows and are assessed on an ongoing basis to determine that they have been highly effective throughout the financial reporting periods for which they were designated.

The effective portion of the gain or loss on the cash flow hedge, where material, is recognised directly in equity, while the ineffective portion is recognised in surplus/(deficit). Immaterial gains and losses on cash flow hedges are recognised in surplus/(deficit).

Amounts taken to equity are transferred to surplus/(deficit) when the hedged transaction affects the surplus/(deficit), such as when hedged income or expenses are recognised or when a forecast sale or purchase occurs. When the hedged item is the cost of a non-financial asset or liability, the amounts taken to equity are transferred to the initial carrying amount of the non-financial asset or liability. If the forecast transaction is no longer expected to occur, amounts previously recognised in equity are transferred to surplus/(deficit). If the hedging instrument expires or is sold, terminated, or exercised without replacement or rollover, or if its designation as a hedge is revoked, amounts previously recognised in equity remain until the forecast transaction occurs. If the related transaction is not expected to occur, the amount is taken to surplus/(deficit).

14C Financial Risk Management

The Corporation's financial risk management policies and procedures are established to identify and analyse the risks faced by the Corporation, to set appropriate risk limits and controls to monitor risks and adherence to limits. The Corporation's policies are reviewed regularly to reflect changes in the Corporation's activities. There has been no change in the policies from the previous year. Compliance with policies and exposure limits are reviewed by the Corporation's internal auditors on a regular basis.

To meet the Corporation's regular financial risk management objectives, surplus cash is invested in short-term, highly liquid investments with maturities at acquisition date of greater than three months. These investments are included as *other receivables*.

The Corporation's Treasury function provides advice and services to the business, coordinates access to foreign currency contracts and monitors and assesses the financial risks relating to the operations of the Corporation through internal risk reports. Where appropriate, the Corporation seeks to minimise the effects of its financial risks by using derivative financial instruments to hedge risk exposures. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the Corporation's policies, which provide written principles on foreign exchange risk, credit risk, the use of financial derivatives and investment of funds. The Corporation does not enter into or trade financial instruments for speculative purposes.

Under Section 25B of the *Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983*, the Corporation's Foreign Exchange Policy is conducted to reduce or eliminate risk on the Corporation's known exposures and activities and is recorded under accepted accounting standards.

The Corporation's aims, by entering into foreign currency hedging arrangements, are outlined in Note 4 *Own Source Income* under the heading *Foreign currency transactions*.

14D Fair Values of Financial Instruments

Forward exchange contracts

The fair value of forward exchange contracts is taken to be the unrealised gain or loss at balance date calculated by reference to current forward exchange rates for contracts with similar maturity profiles. At 30 June 2023 this was a net receivable of **\$134,000** (2022 receivable of \$58,000).

The fair values of financial instruments that are not traded in an active market (such as over-the-counter derivatives) are determined using Level 2 inputs based on the forward exchange rates at the end of the reporting period using assumptions that are reflective of market conditions at the end of each reporting period.

Loans

The fair values of any long-term borrowings are estimated using discounted cash flow analysis, based on current interest rates for liabilities with similar risk profiles.

14E Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that a counterparty will default on its contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the Corporation. Credit risk arises from the financial assets of the Corporation, which comprise cash and cash equivalents, trade and other receivables, short term investments and derivative instruments.

The Corporation has a policy of only dealing with creditworthy counterparties and obtaining collateral where appropriate, as a means of mitigating the risk of financial loss from defaults. The Corporation assesses credit ratings through independent ratings agencies and if not available, uses publicly available financial information and its own trading record to rate customers.

The Corporation manages its credit risk by undertaking credit checks on customers who wish to take on credit terms. The Corporation has policies that set limits for each individual customer. Ongoing credit evaluations are performed on the financial condition of accounts receivable. The Corporation has no material concentration of credit risk with any single customer as the Corporation has a large number of customers spread across a range of industries and geographical areas.

The credit risk arising from dealings in financial instruments is controlled by a strict policy of credit approvals, limits and monitoring procedures. Credit exposure is controlled by counterparty limits that are reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors. The Corporation does not have any significant credit risk exposure to any single counterparty. The credit risk on liquid funds and derivative financial instruments is limited because the counterparties are banks with credit ratings of at least A as assigned by Standard & Poor's.

The Corporation's maximum exposure to credit risk at reporting date in relation to each class of recognised financial assets is the carrying amount, net of the expected credit loss provision, of those assets as indicated in the Statement of Financial Position.

Credit exposure of foreign currency and interest rate bearing investments is represented by the net fair value of the contracts.

14F Hedging Instruments

Foreign Exchange Hedges

The Corporation enters into non-speculative forward exchange contracts to cover foreign currency payments. The following table sets out the gross value to be received under forward exchange contracts outstanding at the end of the reporting period.

	Sell Australian Dollars		Average Exchange Rate	
	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2023	2022
<i>Buy USD</i>				
Less than 1 year	1,479	1,686	0.6680	0.6987
<i>Buy GBP</i>				
Less than 1 year	1,077	–	0.5580	–
<i>Buy EUR</i>				
Less than 1 year	162	–	0.6149	–

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Contingent Items

15. Contingent Assets and Liabilities

Note 15A

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
15A Contingent liabilities – guarantees		
Balance at beginning of year	644	641
Net change during the year	(29)	3
Total contingent liabilities – guarantees	615	644

The Corporation has provided guarantees and an indemnity to the Reserve Bank of Australia in support of bank guarantees required in the day-to-day operations of the Corporation.

Accounting Policy

Contingent assets and liabilities

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Statement of Financial Position. They may arise from uncertainty as to the existence of an asset or liability or represent an asset or liability in respect of which the amount cannot be reliably measured.

Contingent assets are disclosed when settlement is probable but not virtually certain and contingent liabilities are disclosed when the likelihood of settlement is greater than remote.

Quantifiable and significant remote contingencies

The Corporation has neither material contingent assets nor remote contingent liabilities at 30 June 2023 (2022 nil).

Unquantifiable contingencies

In the normal course of activities, claims for damages and other recoveries have been lodged at the date of this report against the Corporation and its staff. The Corporation has disclaimed liability and is actively defending these actions. It is not possible to estimate the amounts of any eventual payments which may be required or amounts that may be received in relation to any of these claims.

Commitments

Lease revenue and capital purchases commitments are disclosed in Note 4 *Own-Source Income* and Note 7 *Non-Financial Assets* respectively.



ABC presenter Annabel Crabb with the Ferrone family in *Back In Time For The Corner Shop*.

Appendices

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Foreign Correspondent on location in Somalia.
Image: Stephanie March.



Appendix 1 – ABC Charter and duties of the Board

From the Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983

6 Charter of the Corporation

- (1) The functions of the Corporation are:
 - (a) to provide within Australia innovative and comprehensive broadcasting services of a high standard as part of the Australian broadcasting system consisting of national, commercial and community sectors and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, to provide:
 - (i) broadcasting programs that contribute to a sense of national identity and inform and entertain, and reflect the cultural diversity of, the Australian community; and
 - (ii) broadcasting programs of an educational nature;
 - (b) to transmit to countries outside Australia broadcasting programs of news, current affairs, entertainment and cultural enrichment that will:
 - (i) encourage awareness of Australia and an international understanding of Australian attitudes on world affairs; and
 - (ii) enable Australian citizens living or travelling outside Australia to obtain information about Australian affairs and Australian attitudes on world affairs; and
 - (ba) to provide digital media services; and
 - (c) to encourage and promote the musical, dramatic and other performing arts in Australia.
- (2) In the provision by the Corporation of its broadcasting services within Australia:
 - (a) the Corporation shall take account of:
 - (i) the broadcasting services provided by the commercial and community sectors of the Australian broadcasting system;
 - (ii) the standards from time to time determined by the ACMA in respect of broadcasting services;
 - (iii) the responsibility of the Corporation as the provider of an independent national broadcasting service to provide a balance between broadcasting programs of wide appeal and specialized broadcasting programs;
 - (iv) the multicultural character of the Australian community; and
 - (v) in connection with the provision of broadcasting programs of an educational nature—the responsibilities of the States in relation to education; and
 - (b) the Corporation shall take all such measures, being measures consistent with the obligations of the Corporation under paragraph (a), as, in the opinion of the Board, will be conducive to the full development by the Corporation of suitable broadcasting programs.
- (3) The functions of the Corporation under subsection (1) and the duties imposed on the Corporation under subsection (2) constitute the Charter of the Corporation.
- (4) Nothing in this section shall be taken to impose on the Corporation a duty that is enforceable by proceedings in a court.

Note: See also section 31AA (Corporation or prescribed companies to be the only providers of Commonwealth-funded international broadcasting services).

8 Duties of the Board

- (1) It is the duty of the Board:
- (a) to ensure that the functions of the Corporation are performed efficiently and with the maximum benefit to the people of Australia;
 - (b) to maintain the independence and integrity of the Corporation;
 - (c) to ensure that the gathering and presentation by the Corporation of news and information is accurate and impartial according to the recognized standards of objective journalism; and
 - (d) to ensure that the Corporation does not contravene, or fail to comply with:
 - (i) any of the provisions of this Act or any other Act that are applicable to the Corporation; or
 - (ii) any directions given to, or requirements made in relation to, the Corporation under any of those provisions; and
 - (e) to develop codes of practice relating to:
 - (i) programming matters; and
 - (ii) if the Corporation has the function of providing a datacasting service under section 6A—that service; and to notify those codes to the ACMA.
- (2) If the Minister at any time furnishes to the Board a statement of the policy of the Commonwealth Government on any matter relating to broadcasting or digital media services, or any matter of administration, that is relevant to the performance of the functions of the Corporation and requests the Board to consider that policy in the performance of its functions, the Board shall ensure that consideration is given to that policy.
- (3) Nothing in subsection (1) or (2) is to be taken to impose on the Board a duty that is enforceable by proceedings in a court.

Appendix 2 – ABC Board and board committees

The ABC Board held 7 scheduled meetings during 2022–23.

Member	Meetings eligible to attend	Meetings attended
Ita Buttrose AC, Chair	7	7
Peter Tonagh, Deputy Chair	7	7
David Anderson, Managing Director	7	7
Dr Jane Connors, Staff-elected Director ¹	6	6
Joseph Gersh ²	6	6
Fiona Balfour ³	5	3
Peter Lewis	7	5 ⁴
Georgie Somerset	7	7
Mario D'Orazio	7	7
Laura Tingle, Staff-elected Director ⁵	1	1

In addition, the Board met on three additional occasions on 20 July 2022, 4 October 2022 and 17 November 2022.

1 Until expiry of her term on 30 April 2023.

2 Until expiry of his term on 10 May 2023.

3 Until her resignation as a member of the ABC Board effective 31 January 2023.

4 Part attended Board meeting on 24 & 25 August 2022.

5 Appointed effective 1 May 2023.

Requests made to the Board under section 8(2) of the ABC Act

In 2022-23, the Minister for Communications made no requests to the Board under section 8(2) of the *Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983*.

Audit & Risk Committee

The Audit & Risk Committee was established by the ABC Board on 8 February 2018.

The responsibilities of the Committee are set out in the Charter approved by the ABC Board on 22 February 2022 and include assisting the Board by reviewing and providing recommendations regarding the appropriateness of the Corporation's:

- Financial reporting;
- Financial performance;
- Performance reporting;
- Risk management / system of oversight and management;
- System of internal control;
- Insurance coverage;
- Compliance framework and action in relation to significant non-compliance;
- External audit;
- Internal audit.

The Charter is available here: [about.abc.net.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/ARC-Charter-2022-Current.pdf](https://www.abc.net.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/ARC-Charter-2022-Current.pdf)

The members of the Committee are appointed by the Board. The qualifications and skills brought to the Committee by the Board member appointees are outlined in their Board profiles.

The membership of the Committee meets the requirements of s.17 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014*.

External member, Mr Cross is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants and a Certified Practising Accountant. He is the chair or a member of several public sector agency audit and risk committees and subcommittees. He was a partner at KPMG from 1998 to 2019 and lead partner for KPMG's key strategic

federal government accounts. His public sector experience includes government program delivery and reform, financial statements audit and internal audit and risk management advice to policy, regulatory and service delivery agencies.

The Audit & Risk Committee held five meetings in 2022-23.

Member	Position on Committee	Meetings eligible to attend	Meetings attended
Peter Lewis	Committee Chair	5	5
Peter Tonagh	Director	5	5
Dr Jane Connors	Director	4	4
Fiona Balfour ⁶	Director	3	0 ⁷
Richard Rassi	External Member	1	1
Don Cross	External Member	3	2

⁶ Until her resignation as a member of the ABC Board effective 31 January 2023.

⁷ Due to a conflict of interest Fiona Balfour asked for a leave of absence for all three meetings.

Committee meetings were attended by representatives of the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) and its nominated representative KPMG. Meetings were also attended by people occupying the following positions with standing invitations: ABC Chair, Managing Director, Chief Financial Officer, Head Group Audit and Head Risk & Procurement.

In 2022-23, the Audit & Risk Committee considered:

- financial management reports and the Corporation's Portfolio Budget Statements and Annual Financial Statements;
- the Corporation's Annual Performance Statement;
- an annual review of compliance reports prepared by Group Audit;
- reports from management regarding compliance and regulation, financial delegations, policies, projects, property management and cyber-security;

- the adequacy and effectiveness of the Corporation’s internal control systems and processes, policies, delegations, and related assurance activities;
- the Corporation’s actual and emerging principal risk exposures and trends, management’s reporting and risk management responses, resilience plans for critical infrastructure, policies for management of risk, fraud and organisational resilience, the Corporation’s risk appetite and tolerance, risk culture and insurance arrangements;
- the internal group audit program, Internal audit reports concerning the effectiveness of internal control and risk management and the implementation of audit recommendations by management. The Head Group Audit had direct access to the Audit & Risk Committee and its Chair; and
- external audit coverage, plans and reports; the performance, independence and objectivity of the external auditor; and the coordination of audit programs conducted by internal and external audit. The Committee had access to external audit representatives without the presence of management.

Board members do not receive an additional fee for membership of the Audit & Risk Committee. Fees paid to Board members are governed by the Remuneration Tribunal (Remuneration and Allowances for Holders of Part-time Public Office) Determination 2022. The ABC contracts with Riclin Equity Pty Ltd for the external member services provided by Mr Rassi. Riclin Equity was paid a fee of \$6,938.84 plus GST. The ABC contracts with DJX Advisory Pty Ltd for the external member services provided by Mr Cross. DJX Advisory was paid a fee of \$28,000 plus GST.

People & Sustainability Committee

The People & Sustainability Committee was established by the ABC Board in February 2022.

The responsibilities of the Committee are set out in the Charter approved by the ABC Board on 22 February 2022 and include assisting the Board to fulfil its duties by providing an

objective, independent non-executive review of the Corporation’s:

- Overarching people strategy and approach to culture and engagement;
- Remuneration strategies and structures including any incentive arrangements;
- Succession planning and talent development;
- Diversity and inclusion policies and practices;
- Work health and safety;
- Industrial relations strategy, plans and action;
- Modern slavery policy and implementation;
- Environmental sustainability policies, plans and actions;
- Policies relevant to the responsibilities of the Committee; and
- Reputational matters relevant to the responsibilities.

The People & Sustainability Committee held five meetings in 2022–23.

Member	Position on Committee	Meetings eligible to attend	Meetings attended
Joseph Gersh	Committee Chair	5	5
Georgina Somerset	Director	5	5
Mario D’Orazio	Director	5	4

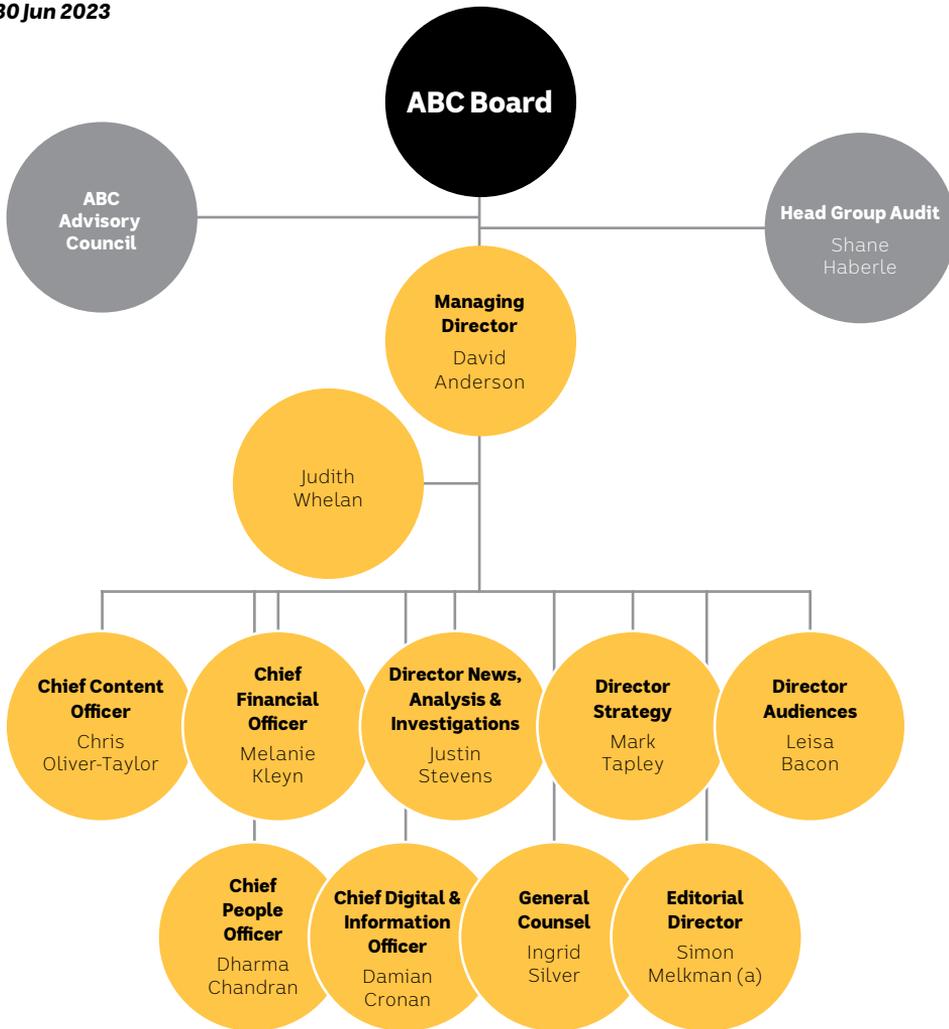
Committee meetings were also attended by the ABC Chair and Managing Director.

In 2022-23, the People & Sustainability Committee considered:

- Industrial relations strategy, including Enterprise Agreement
- Health, Safety & Wellbeing
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Gender pay equity
- Elevate Reconciliation Action Plan
- KMP Remuneration Framework
- Leadership team succession and talent development
- Environmental sustainability
- Policies, and
- Other People and Culture projects.

Appendix 3 – ABC organisational structure

as at 30 Jun 2023



(a) Acting

Appendix 4 – ABC Code of Practice (& associated standards)

I. Regulatory Framework

The ABC Board is required, under paragraph 8(1) (e) of the ABC Act, to develop a code of practice relating to its television and radio programming, and to notify this code to the Australian Communications and Media Authority ('the ACMA').

A complaint alleging the ABC has acted contrary to its Code of Practice in its television or radio programming may be made to the ABC. A complainant is entitled under section 150 of the Broadcasting Services Act 1992 (Cth) ('the BSA') to take their complaint to the ACMA if, after 60 days, the ABC fails to respond to the complainant or the complainant considers the ABC's response is inadequate.

The ACMA has a discretionary power to investigate a complaint alleging the ABC has, in providing a national broadcasting service, breached its Code of Practice. Section 151 of the BSA provides that the ACMA may investigate the complaint if it thinks that it is desirable to do so.

The ACMA's jurisdiction under sections 150-151 does not encompass the ABC's print content or content disseminated by the ABC over the internet or through mobile devices.

However, the eSafety Commissioner has separate jurisdiction under Schedule 7 to the BSA in relation to content hosted on websites or transmitted through mobile services where that content is either "prohibited content"¹ or "age-restricted content"².

The eSafety Commissioner is empowered under Schedule 7 to require content service providers and content hosts to remove or prevent access to these types of content.

The ABC voluntarily complies with the Content Services Code, which is registered as an industry code with the eSafety Commissioner under clause 85 of Schedule 7 to the BSA.

The Content Services Code does not apply to content delivered through online or mobile services where that content has been previously transmitted on radio or television.

Except as expressly provided by the BSA, the regulatory regime established by the BSA does not apply to the ABC: subsection 13(5) of the BSA, and section 79 of the ABC Act.

II. Scope of the Code

The requirements of this Code are set out in the sections dealing with Interpretation and Standards in Part IV and the Associated Standard in Part V. The Standards in Part IV apply to radio and television programs broadcast by the ABC on its free-to-air television or radio broadcasting services. The Associated Standard in Part V applies only to television programs broadcast by the ABC on its domestic free-to-air television services.

Complaints about content on the services named above fall within the scope of the Code except where:

- the complaint concerns content which is or becomes the subject of a legal claim;
- the complaint was anonymous, offensive, abusive, frivolous, vexatious or not made in good faith;
- the complaint was lodged with the ABC more than three months from the date the content was first made available by the ABC on its free-to-air radio or television services.

1 Prohibited content essentially involves content that is classified either as RC (Refused Classification) or X18+. This includes real depictions of actual sexual activity, child pornography, detailed instruction in crime, and violence or drug use.

2 Age-restricted content involves content classified as R18+ or MA15+ that is delivered through a mobile device or through a service that provides audio or video content for a fee. This type of content must be subject to a restricted access system, i.e. measures put in place to protect children under the age of 15 from exposure to unsuitable material. This category of content includes material containing strong depictions of nudity, implied sexual activity, drug use or violence, very frequent or very strong coarse language, and other material that is strong in impact.

III. Resolved Complaints

The ABC seeks to comply fully with the Code and to resolve complaints as soon as practicable.

A failure to comply will not be a breach of the Code if the ABC has, prior to the complaint being made to the ACMA, taken steps which were adequate and appropriate in all the circumstances to redress the cause of the complaint.

To illustrate, a failure to comply with Standards 2.1 or 2.2 (Accuracy) will not be taken to be a breach of the Code if a correction or clarification, which is adequate and appropriate in all the circumstances, is made prior to or within 30 days of the ABC receiving the complaint.

IV. Principles and Standards

Preamble

The ABC belongs to the Australian people.

Earning and retaining their trust is essential to fulfilling the ABC's charter and its responsibilities under the ABC Act to provide innovative and comprehensive services of a high standard to Australian and international audiences.

The principles and standards set out below are the means by which the ABC seeks to meet these obligations.

They uphold the fundamental journalistic principles of accuracy and impartiality, to protect the ABC's independence and integrity.

They recognise that ABC content must be created in a way that is respectful towards audiences and mindful of community standards in areas like harm and offence.

At the same time, they recognise that the ABC needs to be adventurous, brave and creative:

- Adventurous in encouraging new and sometimes confronting forms of art and entertainment.
- Brave in reporting without fear or favour, even when that might be uncomfortable or unpopular; and
- Creative in finding new ways of telling Australian stories, reflecting Australian culture and sharing in the Australian conversation.

By holding to these principles and standards, the ABC seeks to be accountable to the Australian people who fund us.

1. Interpretation

In this Code, the Standards must be interpreted and applied in accordance with the Principles applying in each Section. From time to time, the ABC publishes Guidance Notes which do not in themselves impose obligations on the ABC, but which may be relevant in interpreting and applying the Code.

The Standards in Parts IV and V are to be interpreted and applied with due regard for the nature of the content under consideration in particular cases. The ABC is conscious that its dual obligations – for accountability and for high quality – can in practice interact in complex ways. It can be a sign of strength not weakness that journalism enrages or art shocks. The Standards are to be applied in ways that maintain independence and integrity, preserve trust and do not unduly constrain journalistic enquiry or artistic expression.

2. Accuracy

Principles: The ABC has a statutory duty to ensure that the gathering and presentation of news and information is accurate according to the recognised standards of objective journalism. Credibility depends heavily on factual accuracy. Types of fact-based content include news and analysis of current events, documentaries, factual dramas and lifestyle programs. The ABC requires that reasonable efforts must be made to ensure accuracy in all fact-based content. The ABC gauges those efforts by reference to:

- the type, subject and nature of the content;
- the likely audience expectations of the content;
- the likely impact of reliance by the audience on the accuracy of the content; and
- the circumstances in which the content was made and presented.

The ABC accuracy standard applies to assertions of fact, not to expressions of opinion. An opinion, being a value judgement or conclusion, cannot be found to be accurate or inaccurate in the way facts can. The accuracy standard requires that opinions be conveyed accurately, in the sense that quotes should be accurate and any editing should not distort the meaning of the opinion expressed.

The efforts reasonably required to ensure accuracy will depend on the circumstances. Sources with relevant expertise may be relied on more heavily than those without. Eyewitness testimony usually carries more weight than second-hand accounts. The passage of time or the inaccessibility of locations or sources can affect the standard of verification reasonably required.

The ABC should make reasonable efforts, appropriate in the context, to signal to audiences gradations in accuracy, for example by querying interviewees, qualifying bald assertions, supplementing the partly right and correcting the plainly wrong.

Standards:

- 2.1 Make reasonable efforts to ensure that material facts are accurate and presented in context.
- 2.2 Do not present factual content in a way that will materially mislead the audience. In some cases, this may require appropriate labels or other explanatory information.

3. Corrections and clarifications

Principles: A commitment to accuracy includes a willingness to correct errors and clarify ambiguous or otherwise misleading information. Swift correction can reduce harmful reliance on inaccurate information, especially given content can be quickly, widely and permanently disseminated. Corrections and clarifications can contribute to achieving fairness and impartiality.

Standards:

- 3.1 Acknowledge and correct or clarify, in an appropriate manner as soon as reasonably practicable:
 - a. significant material errors that are readily apparent or have been demonstrated; or
 - b. information that is likely to significantly and materially mislead.

4. Impartiality and diversity of perspectives

Principles: The ABC has a statutory duty to ensure that the gathering and presentation of news and information is impartial according to the recognised standards of objective journalism.

Aiming to equip audiences to make up their own minds is consistent with the public service character of the ABC. A democratic society depends on diverse sources of reliable information and contending opinions. A broadcaster operating under statute with public funds is legitimately expected to contribute in ways that may differ from commercial media, which are free to be partial to private interests.

Judgements about whether impartiality was achieved in any given circumstances can vary among individuals according to their personal and subjective view of any given matter of contention. Acknowledging this fact of life does not change the ABC's obligation to apply its impartiality standard as objectively as possible. In doing so, the ABC is guided by these hallmarks of impartiality:

- a balance that follows the weight of evidence;
- fair treatment;
- open-mindedness; and
- opportunities over time for principal relevant perspectives on matters of contention to be expressed.

The ABC aims to present, over time, content that addresses a broad range of subjects from a diversity of perspectives reflecting a diversity of experiences, presented in a diversity of ways from a diversity of sources, including content created by ABC staff, generated by audiences and commissioned or acquired from external content-makers.

Impartiality does not require that every perspective receives equal time, nor that every facet of every argument is presented.

Assessing the impartiality due in given circumstances requires consideration in context of all relevant factors including:

- the type, subject and nature of the content;
- the circumstances in which the content is made and presented;
- the likely audience expectations of the content;
- the degree to which the matter to which the content relates is contentious;
- the range of principal relevant perspectives on the matter of contention; and
- the timeframe within which it would be appropriate for the ABC to provide opportunities for the principal relevant perspectives to be expressed, having regard to the public importance of the matter of contention and the extent to which it is the subject of current debate.

Standards:

- 4.1 Gather and present news and information with due impartiality.
- 4.2 Present a diversity of perspectives so that, over time, no significant strand of thought or belief within the community is knowingly excluded or disproportionately represented.
- 4.3 Do not state or imply that any perspective is the editorial opinion of the ABC. The ABC takes no editorial stance other than its commitment to fundamental democratic principles including the rule of law, freedom of speech and religion, parliamentary democracy and equality of opportunity.
- 4.4 Do not misrepresent any perspective.
- 4.5 Do not unduly favour one perspective over another.

5. Fair and honest dealing

Principles: Fair and honest dealing is essential to maintaining trust with audiences and with those who participate in or are otherwise directly affected by ABC content. In rare circumstances, deception or a breach of an undertaking may be justified. Because of the potential damage to trust, deception or breach of an undertaking must be explained openly afterwards unless there are compelling reasons not to do so.

Standards:

Dealing with participants

- 5.1 Participants in ABC content should normally be informed of the general nature of their participation.
- 5.2 A refusal to participate will not be overridden without good cause.

Opportunity to respond

- 5.3 Where allegations are made about a person or organisation, make reasonable efforts in the circumstances to provide a fair opportunity to respond.

Attribution and sources

- 5.4 Aim to attribute information to its source.
- 5.5 Where a source seeks anonymity, do not agree without first considering the source's motive and any alternative attributable sources.

5.6 Do not misrepresent another's work as your own.

Undertakings

5.7 Assurances given in relation to conditions of participation, use of content, confidentiality or anonymity must be honoured except in rare cases where justified in the public interest.

Secret recording and other types of deception

5.8 Secret recording, misrepresentation or other types of deception must not be used by the ABC or its co-production partners to obtain or seek information, audio, pictures or an agreement to participate except where:

- (a) justified in the public interest and the material cannot reasonably be obtained by any other means; or
- (b) consent is obtained from the subject or identities are effectively obscured; or
- (c) the deception is integral to an artistic work.

In all cases, the potential for harm must be taken into consideration.

6. Privacy

Principles: Privacy is necessary to human dignity and every person reasonably expects that their privacy will be respected. But privacy is not absolute. The ABC seeks to balance the public interest in respect for privacy with the public interest in disclosure of information and freedom of expression.

Standards:

6.1 Intrusion into a person's private life without consent must be justified in the public interest and the extent of the intrusion must be limited to what is proportionate in the circumstances.

7. Harm and offence

Principles: The ABC broadcasts comprehensive and innovative content that aims to inform, entertain and educate diverse audiences. This involves a willingness to take risks, invent and experiment with new ideas. It can result in challenging content which may offend some of the audience some of the time. But it also

contributes to diversity of content in the media and to fulfilling the ABC's function to encourage and promote the musical, dramatic and other performing arts. The ABC acknowledges that a public broadcaster should never gratuitously harm or offend and accordingly any content which is likely to harm or offend must have a clear editorial purpose.

The ABC potentially reaches the whole community, so it must take into account community standards. However, the community recognises that what is and is not acceptable in ABC content largely depends upon the particular context, including the nature of the content, its target audience, and any signposting that equips audiences to make informed choices about what they see, hear or read. Applying the harm and offence standard, therefore, requires careful judgement. What may be inappropriate and unacceptable in one context may be appropriate and acceptable in another. Coarse language, disturbing images or unconventional situations may form a legitimate part of reportage, debate, documentaries or a humorous, satirical, dramatic or other artistic work.

Standards:

- 7.1 Content that is likely to cause harm or offence must be justified by the editorial context.
- 7.2 Where content is likely to cause harm or offence, having regard to the context, make reasonable efforts to provide information about the nature of the content through the use of classification labels or other warnings or advice.
- 7.3 Ensure all domestic television programs – with the exception of news, current affairs and sporting events – are classified and scheduled for broadcast in accordance with the ABC's Associated Standard on Television Program Classification.
- 7.4 If inadvertent or unexpected actions, audio or images in live content are likely to cause harm or offence, take appropriate steps to mitigate.

- 7.5 The reporting or depiction of violence, tragedy or trauma must be handled with extreme sensitivity. Avoid causing undue distress to victims, witnesses or bereaved relatives. Be sensitive to significant cultural practices when depicting or reporting on recently deceased persons.
- 7.6 Where there is editorial justification for content which may lead to dangerous imitation or exacerbate serious threats to individual or public health, safety or welfare, take appropriate steps to mitigate those risks, particularly by taking care with how content is expressed or presented.
- 7.7 Avoid the unjustified use of stereotypes or discriminatory content that could reasonably be interpreted as condoning or encouraging prejudice.

8. Children and young people

Principles: The ABC aims to provide children and young people (under the age of 18) with enjoyable and enriching content, as well as opportunities for them to express themselves.

Children and young people participate and interact with the ABC in various ways – as actors, presenters, interviewees, subjects, content makers and audience members.

The ABC has a responsibility to protect children and young people from potential harm that might arise during their engagement with the ABC and its content. The ABC shares this responsibility with parents/guardians and with the child or young person him/herself.

In particular, the ABC recommends that parents/guardians supervise children and young people's access to content, their participation in interactive services, and their exposure to news and current affairs. It is not always possible to avoid presenting content that may be distressing to some audience members.

Standards:

- 8.1 Take due care over the dignity and physical and emotional welfare of children and young people who are involved in making, participating in and presenting content produced or commissioned by the ABC.

- 8.2 Before significant participation of a child or young person in content produced or commissioned by the ABC, or in interactive services offered by the ABC, consider whether it is appropriate to obtain the consent of both the child/young person and the parent/guardian.
- 8.3 Adopt appropriate measures wherever practicable to enable children and young people, or those who supervise them, to manage risks associated with the child/young person's participation with, use of and exposure to ABC content and services designed for them.
- 8.4 Take particular care to minimise risks of exposure to unsuitable content or inappropriate contact by peers or strangers.

V. Associated Standard:

Television Program Classification

Status of Associated Standard

This Associated Standard is approved by the ABC Board and is binding. It is for consideration by relevant editorial decision-makers when providing advice on compliance and by complaints bodies when dealing with complaints. The Associated Standard is provided to assist interpretation of or otherwise supplement the standard in the Editorial Policies to which the Associated Standard relates.

This Associated Standard forms part of the Code of Practice notified to the Australian Communications and Media Authority under section 8(1)(e) of the *Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983*.

Key Editorial Standard

- 7.3 Ensure all domestic television programs – with the exception of news, current affairs and sporting events – are classified and scheduled for broadcast in accordance with the ABC's Associated Standard on Television Program Classification.

Principles:

The ABC applies the classifications listed below to the broadcast of all its domestic television programs with the exception of news, current affairs and sporting events.

The ABC classifications are adapted from the Guidelines for the Classification of Films and Computer Games issued by the Classification Board made under the *Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995*.

The guiding principle in the application of the following classifications is context. What is inappropriate and unacceptable in one context may be appropriate and acceptable in another. Factors to be taken into account include: the artistic or educational merit of the production, the purpose of a sequence, the tone, the camera work, the intensity and relevance of the material, the treatment, and the intended audience.

Standards:**Television Classifications****G – GENERAL**

G programs may be shown at any time. G programs, which include programs designed for pre-school and school-aged children, are suitable for children to watch on their own.

Some G programs may be more appropriate for older children.

The G classification does not necessarily indicate that the program is one that children will enjoy. Some G programs contain themes or storylines that are not of interest to children.

Whether or not the program is intended for children, the treatment of themes and other classifiable elements will be careful and discreet.

Themes: The treatment of themes should be discreet, justified by context, and very mild in impact. The presentation of dangerous, imitable behaviour is not permitted except in those circumstances where it is justified by context. Any depiction of such behaviour must not encourage dangerous imitation.

Violence: Violence may be very discreetly implied, but should:

- have a light tone, or
- have a very low sense of threat or menace, and
- be infrequent, and
- not be gratuitous.

Sex: Sexual activity should:

- only be suggested in very discreet visual or verbal references, and
- be infrequent, and
- not be gratuitous.

Artistic or cultural depictions of nudity in a sexual context may be permitted if the treatment is discreet, justified by context, and very mild in impact.

Language: Coarse language should:

- be very mild and infrequent, and
- not be gratuitous.

Drug Use: The depiction of the use of legal drugs should be handled with care. Illegal drug use should be implied only very discreetly and be justified by context.

Nudity: Nudity outside of a sexual context should be:

- infrequent, and
- not detailed, and
- not gratuitous.

PG – PARENTAL GUIDANCE

(Parental Guidance recommended for people under 15 years)

Subject to the Implementation Guidelines at 7.3.2, PG programs may be shown in accordance with Time Zone Charts at 7.3.5.

PG programs may contain themes and concepts which, when viewed by those under 15 years, may require the guidance of an adult. The PG classification signals to parents that material in this category contains depictions or references which could be confusing or upsetting to children without adult guidance. Material classified PG will not be harmful or disturbing to children.

Parents may choose to preview the material for their children. Some may choose to watch the material with their children. Others might find it sufficient to be accessible during or after the viewing to discuss the content.

Themes: The treatment of themes should be discreet and mild in impact. More disturbing themes are not generally dealt with at PG level. Supernatural or mild horror themes may be included.

Violence: Violence may be discreetly implied or stylised and should also be:

- mild in impact, and
- not shown in detail.

Sex: Sexual activity and nudity in a sexual context may be suggested, but should:

- be discreet, and
- be infrequent, and
- not be gratuitous.

Verbal references to sexual activity should be discreet.

Language: Coarse language should be mild and infrequent.

Drug Use: Discreet verbal references and mild, incidental visuals of drug use may be included, but these should not promote or encourage drug use.

Nudity: Nudity outside of a sexual context should not be detailed or gratuitous.

M – MATURE

(Recommended for people aged 15 years and over)

Subject to the Implementation Guidelines at 7.3.2, M programs may be shown in accordance with the Time Zone Charts at 7.3.5.

The M category is recommended for people aged over 15 years. Programs classified M contain material that is considered to be potentially harmful or disturbing to those under 15 years.

Depictions and references to classifiable elements may contain detail.

While most themes may be dealt with, the degree of explicitness and intensity of treatment will determine what can be accommodated in the M category – the less explicit or less intense material will be included in the M classification and the more explicit or more intense material, especially violent material, will be included in the MA15+ classification.

Themes: Most themes can be dealt with, but the treatment should be discreet and the impact should not be strong.

Violence: Generally, depictions of violence should:

- not contain a lot of detail, and
- not be prolonged.

In realistic treatments, depictions of violence that contain detail should:

- be infrequent, and
- not have a strong impact, and
- not be gratuitous.

In stylised treatments, depictions of violence may contain more detail and be more frequent if this does not increase the impact.

Verbal and visual references to sexual violence may only be included if they are:

- discreet and infrequent, and
- strongly justified by the narrative or documentary context.

Sex: Sexual activity may be discreetly implied.

Nudity in a sexual context should not contain a lot of detail or be prolonged.

Verbal references to sexual activity may be more detailed than depictions if this does not increase the impact.

Language: Coarse language may be used.

Generally, coarse language that is stronger, detailed or very aggressive should:

- be infrequent, and
- not be gratuitous.

Drug Use: Drug use may be discreetly shown.

Drug use should not be promoted or encouraged.

Nudity: Nudity outside of a sexual context may be shown but depictions that contain any detail should not be gratuitous.

MA15+ – MATURE AUDIENCE

(Not suitable for people under 15 years)

Subject to the Implementation Guidelines at 7.3.2, MA15+ programs may be shown in accordance with the Time Zone Charts at 7.3.5.

MA15+ programs, because of the matter they contain or because of the way it is treated, are not suitable for people aged under 15 years.

Material classified MA15+ deals with issues or contains depictions which require a more mature perspective. This is because the impact of individual elements or a combination of elements is considered likely to be harmful or disturbing to viewers under 15 years of age. While most themes may be dealt with, the degree of explicitness and intensity of treatment will determine what can be accommodated in the MA15+ category – the more explicit or more intense material, especially violent material, will be included in the MA15+ classification and the less explicit or less intense material will be included in the M classification.

Themes: The treatment of themes with a high degree of intensity should not be gratuitous.

Violence: Generally, depictions of violence should not have a high impact.

In realistic treatments, detailed depictions of violence with a strong impact should:

- be infrequent, and
- not be prolonged, and
- not be gratuitous.

Depictions of violence in stylised treatments may be more detailed and more frequent if this does not increase the impact.

Depictions of sexual violence are permitted only if they are not frequent, prolonged, gratuitous or exploitative.

Sex: Sexual activity may be implied.

Depictions of nudity in a sexual context which contain detail should not be exploitative.

Verbal references may be more detailed than depictions if this does not increase the impact.

Language: Coarse language may be used.

Coarse language that is very strong, aggressive or detailed should not be gratuitous.

Drug Use: Drug use may be shown but should not be promoted or encouraged.

More detailed depictions should not have a high degree of impact.

Nudity: Nudity should be justified by context.

7.3.2 Implementation Guidelines

The time zones for each program classification are guides to the most likely placement of programs within that classification. They are not hard and fast rules and there will be occasions on which programs or segments of programs appear in other time zones.

There must be sound reasons for any departure from the time zone for a program classification. Possible reasons might include, for example, the need to schedule programs which are serious presentations of moral, social or cultural issues, in timeslots most suitable for their target audiences.

Programs, including those having a particular classification under the Classification Board's Guidelines for the Classification of Films and Computer Games, may be modified so that they are suitable for broadcast or suitable for broadcast at particular times.

Broken Hill in New South Wales shares a time zone with South Australia but ordinarily receives the ABC's New South Wales TV services. Given the time zone difference, some programs are broadcast outside their classification time zone. Similarly, services delivered via satellite in South Australia and the Northern Territory may be delivered in different time zones to their terrestrial equivalents.

7.3.3 Television Classification Symbols

The classification symbol of the PG, M or MA15+ program (except for news, current affairs or sporting events) being shown will be displayed at the beginning of the program.

The classification symbol of the PG, M or MA15+ program (except for news, current affairs or sporting events) being promoted will be displayed during the promotion.

7.3.4 Consumer Advice

Audio and visual consumer advice on the reasons for an M or MA15+ classification will be given prior to the beginning of an M or MA15+ program.

7.3.5 Classification of Live Content

Many live programs fall into the classification exemption categories (news, current affairs and sporting events). Some, such as live music or comedy programs, do not fall into the exemption categories and pose a particular challenge to classify accurately. The ABC makes reasonable efforts to classify these programs accurately by reviewing scripts, lyrics, outlines, and any pre-recorded material, and briefing program makers and talent as required.

A failure to provide an accurate classification symbol or consumer advice prior to a live (or as-live) program will not be regarded as a breach of standards as long as reasonable efforts were made to classify it and appropriate steps are taken to mitigate any harm or offence.

7.3.6 Time Zone Charts

ABC TV and ABC NEWS

Time	5am	12pm	3pm	7.30pm	8.30pm	9pm	5am
G	•	•	•	•	•	•	
PG	•	•	•	•	•	•	
M		•		•	•	•	
MA					•	•	

ABC TV Plus

Time	5am	12pm	3pm	7.30pm	8.30pm	9pm	5am
G	(ABC TV Plus is not on air at this time)			•	•	•	
PG	(ABC TV Plus is not on air at this time)			•	•	•	
M	(ABC TV Plus is not on air at this time)			•	•	•	
MA	(ABC TV Plus is not on air at this time)				•	•	

ABC Kids

Time	5am	12pm	3pm	7.30pm	8.30pm	9pm	5am
G	•	•	•	(ABC Kids is not on air at this time)			
PG				(ABC Kids is not on air at this time)			
M				(ABC Kids is not on air at this time)			
MA				(ABC Kids is not on air at this time)			

ABC ME

Time	5am	12pm	3pm	7.30pm	8.30pm	9pm	5am
G	•	•	•	•	•	•	
PG	•	•	•	•	•	•	
M					•	•	
MA						•	

How to make a complaint

If you are concerned that a radio or television program broadcast by the ABC does not comply with this Code of Practice, you are entitled to make a complaint.

The law requires that you first make your complaint to the ABC. You can do so by completing the online Complaint Form at www.abc.net.au/contact/complain.htm or by writing to:

**ABC Audience Support
Australian Broadcasting Corporation
GPO Box 9994
Sydney NSW 2001**

Your complaint should:

- include your name and an address where you can be contacted (this can be an email address);
- specify the ABC program which concerned you;
- include the time, date and channel/station of the broadcast;
- be made within three months of the date of broadcast or, if made after three months, explain why you believe the ABC should nevertheless investigate the matter;
- provide a short summary of what concerned you, including any relevant Standard of the Code you believe may have been breached (see the section 'Principles and Standards').

The ABC endeavours to respond to simple complaints within 30 days and more complex, significant complaints within 60 days. Some complaints may take longer to finalise due to their complexity and the availability of staff.

If you are dissatisfied with the ABC's response, or if you have not received a response within 60 days of making your complaint to the ABC, then you are entitled to complain to the Australian Communications and Media Authority (the ACMA).

You can write to the ACMA at:

<https://www.acma.gov.au/broadcasting-complaint-form>

**Australian Communications and Media Authority
PO Box Q500
Queen Victoria Building
NSW 1230**

If you make a complaint to the ACMA, you should provide:

- a copy of your complaint to the ABC
- a copy of the ABC's response to you, if received
- the reasons you consider the ABC's response to be inadequate.

Note: ABC complaints procedures do not form part of the ABC Code of Practice.

Appendix 5 – Employee profile

Reports required by paragraph 17BE(ka) of the PGPA Rule

All Ongoing Employees Current Report Period (2022-23)

Location	Man/Male			Woman/Female			Non-binary			Prefers not to answer			Uses a different term			Total
	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	
NSW	761	79	840	775	266	1,041	9	1	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,891
Qld	168	24	192	172	73	245	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	438
SA	107	12	119	105	44	149	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	268
Tas	54	5	59	40	23	63	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	122
Vic	249	33	282	237	103	340	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	623
WA	90	9	99	61	39	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	199
ACT	69	9	78	53	15	68	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	146
NT	47	8	55	41	6	47	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	104
External Territories	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Overseas	8	-	8	6	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Total	1,553	179	1,732	1,490	569	2,059	12	2	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,805

All Non-Ongoing Employees Current Report Period (2022-23)

Location	Man/Male			Woman/Female			Non-binary			Prefers not to answer			Uses a different term			Total
	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	
NSW	122	21	143	183	39	222	5	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	371
Qld	32	8	40	34	17	51	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	91
SA	10	-	10	16	7	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33
Tas	2	-	2	7	7	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
Vic	51	19	70	48	27	75	3	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	150
WA	6	5	11	14	5	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
ACT	2	-	2	8	4	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
NT	2	-	2	8	1	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
External Territories	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Overseas	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Total	229	53	282	318	107	425	8	3	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	718

Note: Statistics are calculated based on employee headcount, excluding casual employees, for employees paid in the last pay period of June 2023. Does not include employees engaged locally overseas.

All ongoing employees current report period (2021-22)

Location	Male			Female			Gender Diverse			Total
	Full time	Part time	Total male	Full time	Part time	Total female	Full time	Part time	Indeterminate	
NSW	774	84	858	788	275	1,063	8	1	9	1,930
Qld	164	21	185	162	65	227	1	–	1	413
SA	104	12	116	102	47	149	–	–	–	265
Tas	55	7	62	38	21	59	–	–	–	121
Vic	242	45	287	239	90	329	2	1	3	619
WA	85	12	97	69	40	109	–	–	–	206
ACT	71	9	80	57	15	72	–	–	–	152
NT	42	10	52	40	10	50	2	–	2	104
External Territories	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Overseas	6	–	6	9	–	9	–	–	–	15
Total	1,543	200	1,743	1,504	563	2,067	13	2	15	3,825

All non-ongoing employees current report period (2021-22)

Location	Male			Female			Gender Diverse			Total
	Full time	Part time	Total male	Full time	Part time	Total female	Full time	Part time	Indeterminate	
NSW	116	27	143	160	47	207	4	2	6	356
Qld	23	8	31	50	15	65	–	–	–	96
SA	12	4	16	17	6	23	–	–	–	39
Tas	4	1	5	10	3	13	–	–	–	18
Vic	48	17	65	64	24	88	2	1	3	156
WA	13	4	17	17	7	24	–	–	–	41
ACT	3	1	4	7	5	12	–	–	–	16
NT	9	–	9	4	1	5	–	–	–	14
External Territories	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Overseas	2	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	2
Total	230	62	292	329	108	437	6	3	9	738

Appendix 6 – Executive remuneration reporting

As a Commonwealth entity, the ABC is required to disclose executive remuneration information in annual reports in accordance with the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014 (PGPA Rule)*.

Commonwealth entities are required to present remuneration for key management personnel, senior executives, and other highly paid staff, as defined in the PGPA Rule.

Key management personnel

Key management personnel (**KMP**) are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the entity, directly or indirectly, including any director (whether executive or otherwise) of that entity. The Corporation determined KMP as the members of the Board, the Managing Director, Content Team Directors, and the Chief Financial Officer.

Senior executives

Senior executives are employees employed in a position equivalent to classification Groups 9 to 11 of the table in Schedule 1 of the Public Service Classification Rules 2000. The Corporation determined senior executives as executive directors who are not KMP (**Senior Executives**).

Other highly paid staff

Other highly paid staff are employees who are neither KMP nor senior executive and whose total remuneration paid during the year exceeded \$240,000 (**Other Highly Paid Staff**).

Total remuneration

Total remuneration is defined in the PGPA rule as the sum of the following (calculated on an accrual basis):

- Base salary;
- Performance pay and bonuses;
- Other benefits and allowances;
- Superannuation contributions (made by the employer);
- Long service leave;
- Other long-term benefits;
- Termination benefits.

Executive and employee remuneration policy

At the core of the ABC's approach to remuneration is a need to ensure the Corporation can realise its strategic priorities through an ability to attract and retain employees who deliver on its priorities and deliver value for audiences into the future.

Remuneration principles



Equitable

We ensure our remuneration approach is consistent and equitable



Market competitive

We attract and retain the best talent to meet our current and future workforce needs



Performance aligned

We recognise and reward for contribution to performance goals and targets



Transparent

We have a transparent and disciplined approach to managing remuneration decisions and costs



Remuneration framework

Fixed remuneration

At risk remuneration

Element	Fixed remuneration	At risk remuneration
	Fixed remuneration comprises base salary, superannuation, and benefits.	The ABC removed at risk pay as an element of remuneration for executive KMP, senior executives and other highly paid staff with effect from 1 January 2021. The Commonwealth Remuneration Tribunal has consented to the removal of at risk pay from the position of Managing Director (MD).
Performance	Reviewed annually to reflect the experience, competence and contribution of individuals whilst remaining conservatively competitive against the market.	Some other highly paid staff are eligible to receive a one off bonus payment in lieu of a salary increase, for exceptional performance in accordance with the ABC Enterprise Agreement 2019-22.
Alignment	Attracts and retains the best talent to meet ABC's strategic priorities.	



Remuneration governance

All executive KMP, senior executives and other highly paid staff are employees of the ABC. Remuneration and other terms of employment are formalised as follows:

- **executive KMP and senior executives (executives):** Individual employment agreement.
- **other highly paid staff:** Individual employment agreement or engaged through either the ABC Senior Employment Agreement 2016 or the ABC Enterprise Agreement 2019-22.

During the year ended 30 June 2023, ABC's People & Sustainability Committee (**PSC**) assisted the Board in fulfilling its governance responsibilities in relation to remuneration. Outlined below is the ABC's approach for setting, monitoring and approving remuneration policy and amounts. Note that the Managing Director's (**MD**) remuneration arrangements, including the MD's annual total remuneration amount, are set by the Commonwealth Remuneration Tribunal (**the Tribunal**).

Non-executive director (NED) remuneration

All ABC NEDs are appointed by the Commonwealth of Australia through the Shareholder Ministers.

The Commonwealth Remuneration Tribunal, an independent statutory body overseeing the remuneration of key Commonwealth offices, determines fees for all ABC NEDs. ABC is required to comply with the Tribunal's determinations and plays no role in the consideration or determination of NED fees.

The Tribunal sets annual Chair, Deputy Chair and Board Member fees (exclusive of statutory superannuation contributions) which are inclusive of all activities undertaken by NEDs on behalf of the ABC (that is, inclusive of Committee participation). Statutory superannuation is paid in addition to the fees set by the Tribunal.

The Commonwealth Remuneration Tribunal determination for the relevant period set the following ABC Board fees:

- **Chair:** \$183,100
- **Deputy Chair:** \$90,390
- **Member:** \$60,290

Senior executive remuneration

Senior Executives are employees employed in a position equivalent to classification Groups 9 to 11 of the Table in schedule 1 of the Public Service Classification rules 2000. The Corporation determined senior executives as executive directors who are not KMP.

MD	PSC	ABC Board
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Recommend Executive KPIs ✓ Evaluate and provide recommendations regarding remuneration structures and incentive plans for Executives, including any changes to those structures or plans ✓ Approve Executive remuneration with respect to individual remuneration arrangements, KPIs, performance assessments and remuneration outcomes ✓ Approve performance assessments and remuneration outcomes for Other Highly Paid Staff, as recommended by ABC's managers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Review and recommend to the Board Executive remuneration structures and incentive plans, policies and practices including any changes to those plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Review and approve recommendations referred by the PSC

Key management personnel remuneration

Name	Position title	Short-term benefits			Post-employment benefits	Other long-term benefits		Termination benefits	Total remuneration
		Base salary	Bonuses	Other benefits and allowances	Superannuation contributions	Long service leave	Other long-term benefits		
Executives									
David Anderson	Managing Director	974,453	–	–	146,711	35,805	–	–	1,156,969
Michael Carrington	Director, Entertainment & Specialist	15,480	–	–	1,026	(722)	–	171,308	187,092
Melanie Kley	Chief Financial Officer	578,921	–	–	25,292	14,242	–	–	618,455
Chris Oliver-Taylor	Chief Content Officer	192,982	–	–	7,268	1,663	–	–	201,913
Justin Stevens	Director, News	451,741	–	–	70,061	12,015	–	–	533,817
Judith Whelan	Director, Regional & Local	252,781	–	–	15,117	10,998	–	–	278,896
Non-executive Directors (Part-Time)									
Ita Buttrose	Chair	183,100	–	–	28,197	–	–	–	211,297
Peter Tonagh	Deputy Chair	90,390	–	–	9,491	–	–	–	99,881
Fiona Balfour	Director	35,169	–	–	3,693	–	–	–	38,862
Mario D'Orazio	Director	60,290	–	–	6,330	–	–	–	66,620
Joseph Gersh	Director	50,242	–	–	5,275	–	–	–	55,517
Peter Lewis	Director	60,290	–	–	9,285	–	–	–	69,575
Georgina Somerset	Director	60,290	–	–	6,330	–	–	–	66,620
Jane Connors	Staff Elected Director	50,242	–	–	9,445	–	–	–	59,687
Laura Tingle	Staff Elected Director	10,048	–	–	1,547	–	–	–	11,595

Notes on remuneration

- The following Executive Managers served for part of the reporting period:
 - Michael Carrington served from 1 July 2022 to 8 July 2022 (resigned).
 - Judith Whelan served from 1 July 2022 to 5 February 2023 (changed roles).
 - Chris Oliver-Taylor served from 20 March 2023 to 30 June 2023.
- The following Board members served for part of the reporting period:
 - Fiona Balfour served from 1 July 2022 to 31 January 2023 (resigned).
 - Jane Connors served from 1 July 2022 to 30 April 2023 (term ended).
 - Joseph Gersh served from 1 July 2022 to 10 May 2023 (term ended).
 - Laura Tingle served from 1 May 2023 onwards.
- The above table is prepared on an accrual basis. Other long-term employee benefits: Long Service Leave reflects the estimated entitlement to long service leave that was accrued during the period, calculated in accordance with the methodology explained in Note 11 to the financial statements. This includes changes to the value of an employee's accrued leave entitlement that resulted from a change in their salary during the period and changes to the discount rate and other factors used to calculate the present value of the liability.
- Remuneration of the Chair and Directors of the Board is determined by the Remuneration Tribunal. In addition to the remuneration of the Chair and Directors of the Board disclosed above, the Board incurred expenses of \$396,000.

Senior executive remuneration

Senior Executives are employees employed in a position equivalent to classification Groups 9 to 11 of the Table in schedule 1 of the Public Service Classification rules 2000. The Corporation determined senior executives as executive directors who are not KMP.

Total remuneration bands	Number of senior executives	Short-term benefits			Post-employment benefits	Other long-term benefits	Termination benefits	Total remuneration
		Average base salary	Average bonuses	Average other benefits and allowances	Average superannuation contributions	Average long service leave	Average other long-term benefits	Average total remuneration
\$0-\$220,000	4	\$135,380	\$-	\$-	\$16,599	\$9,623	\$-	\$161,602
\$220,001-\$245,000	-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
\$245,001-\$270,000	1	\$187,438	\$-	\$-	\$58,698	\$-	\$-	\$246,136
\$270,001-\$295,000	-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
\$295,001-\$320,000	-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
\$320,001-\$345,000	-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
\$345,001-\$370,000	-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
\$370,001-\$395,000	-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
\$395,001-\$420,000	1	\$313,032	\$50,000	\$-	\$47,990	\$2,509	\$-	\$413,532
\$420,001-\$445,000	-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
\$445,001-\$470,000	-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
\$470,001-\$495,000	2	\$414,228	\$-	\$-	\$68,506	\$8,738	\$-	\$491,473
\$495,001-\$520,000	2	\$450,224	\$-	\$-	\$36,472	\$19,142	\$-	\$505,838
\$520,001-\$545,000	1	\$501,572	\$-	\$-	\$25,292	\$12,347	\$-	\$539,211

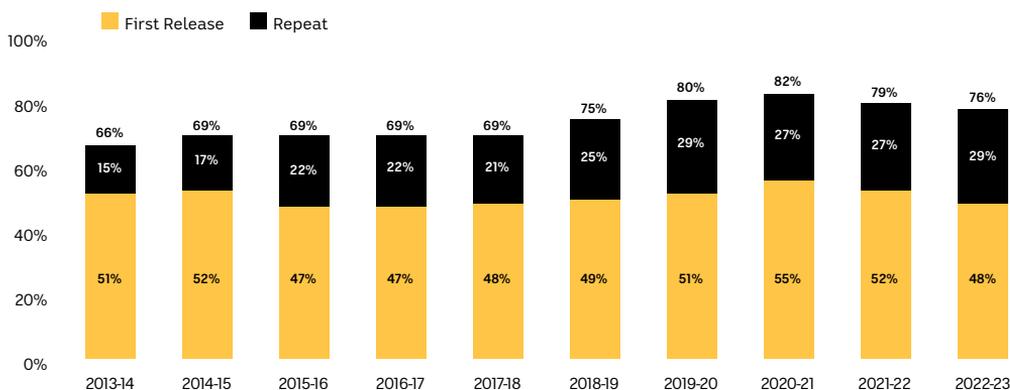
Other highly paid staff remuneration

Other highly paid staff are employees who are neither KMP or senior executive and whose total remuneration paid during the year exceeded \$240,000.

Total remuneration bands	Number of other highly paid staff	Short-term benefits			Post-employment benefits	Other long-term benefits	Termination benefits	Total remuneration
		Average base salary	Average bonuses	Average other benefits and allowances	Average superannuation contributions	Average long service leave	Average other long-term benefits	Average total remuneration
\$240,000-\$245,000	7	\$182,072	\$342	\$-	\$29,081	\$5,340	\$25,770	\$242,605
\$245,001-\$270,000	39	\$215,291	\$134	\$-	\$32,813	\$9,895	\$-	\$258,133
\$270,001-\$295,000	20	\$238,397	\$-	\$-	\$33,187	\$9,925	\$-	\$281,510
\$295,001-\$320,000	28	\$251,277	\$574	\$-	\$33,209	\$11,747	\$9,980	\$306,787
\$320,001-\$345,000	8	\$241,921	\$474	\$-	\$44,293	\$5,816	\$42,901	\$335,405
\$345,001-\$370,000	9	\$314,188	\$-	\$-	\$33,221	\$10,719	\$-	\$358,128
\$370,001-\$395,000	4	\$309,926	\$-	\$-	\$45,387	\$20,210	\$-	\$375,522
\$395,001-\$420,000	5	\$330,293	\$498	\$-	\$48,208	\$28,111	\$-	\$407,109
\$420,001-\$445,000	3	\$357,825	\$-	\$-	\$57,154	\$17,176	\$-	\$432,155
\$445,001-\$470,000	2	\$379,049	\$-	\$-	\$49,258	\$22,174	\$-	\$450,480
\$470,001-\$495,000	-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
\$495,001-\$520,000	-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
\$520,001-\$545,000	-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
\$545,001-\$570,000	-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
\$570,001-\$595,000	-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
\$595,001-\$620,000	1	\$432,874	\$-	\$-	\$65,447	\$97,363	\$-	\$595,684

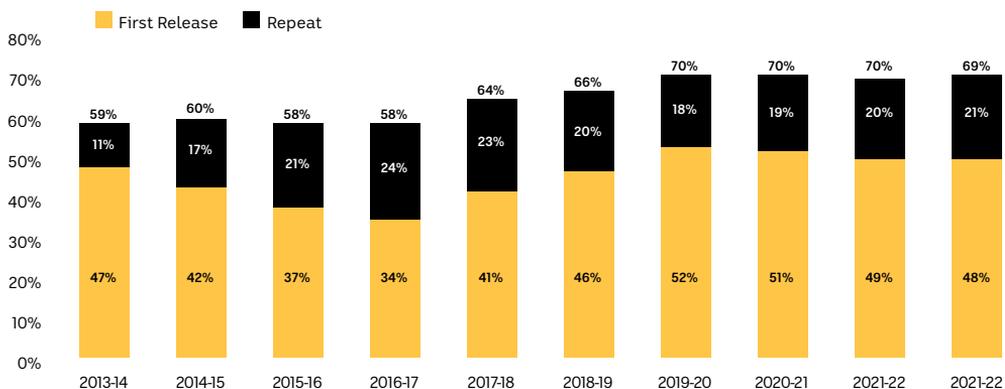
Appendix 7 – Television content analysis

ABC TV, Australian First-Release and Repeat Content as a Percentage of Linear Hours Broadcast – 6am to Midnight



Notes: This table reflects linear hours broadcast from the Sydney transmitter, comprising national and NSW transmission. Figures may differ slightly in other States and Territories as a result of varying levels of local content. Hours have been rounded to nearest whole number.

ABC TV, Australian First-Release and Repeat Content as a Percentage of Linear Hours Broadcast – 6pm to Midnight



Notes: This table reflects linear hours broadcast from the Sydney transmitter, comprising national and NSW transmission. Figures may differ slightly in other States and Territories as a result of varying levels of local content. Hours have been rounded to nearest whole number.

Australian children’s content – ABC KIDS and ABC ME

Levels of Australian Children’s Content on ABC ME and ABC Kids (ABC2)

ABC TV Channel	1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022			1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023		
	Total hours broadcast	Hours of Australian Children’s Content	% of total	Total hours broadcast	Hours of Australian Children’s Content	% of total
ABC ME [^]	6,221	2,069	33.3%	6,342	1,951	30.8%
ABC Kids [^] (5am-7.30pm)	5,293	1,863	35.2%	5,253	1,804	34.3%
TOTAL	11,513	3,932	34.2%	11,595	3,754	32.4%

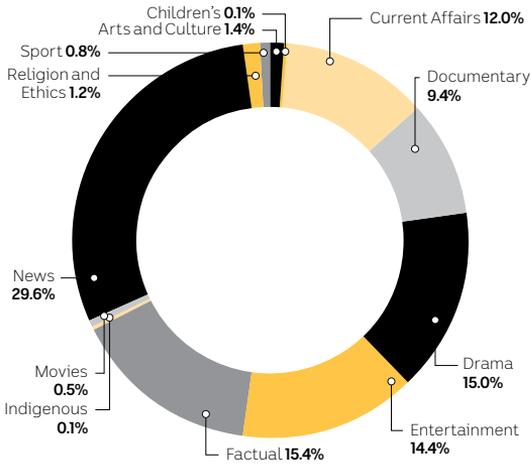
[^] Australian Hours includes interstitials

Note: 7.30pm is the normal end time for ABC Kids transmission, however there were variations to that across the period. From 1/01/2023 – 5/02/2023 the end time was 6.30pm. From 6/02/2023 – 12/02/2023 the end time was 7.00pm.

Source: Transmission Statistics July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2023

ABC Main Channel

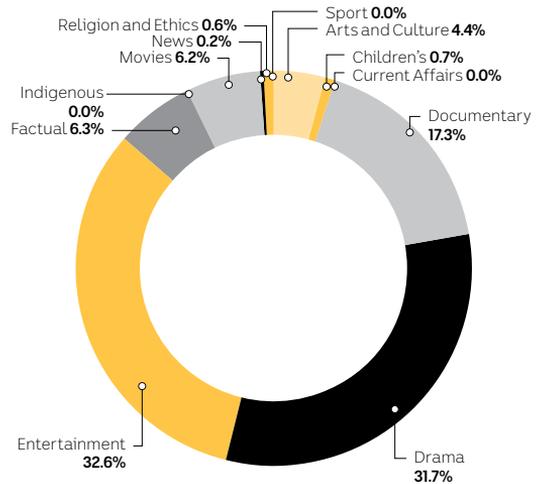
ABC TV 2022/23: Genre mix
(Percentage of linear hours broadcast 6 am – midnight, excluding interstitial material)



Notes: This table reflects linear hours broadcast from the Sydney transmitter, comprising national and NSW transmission. Figures may differ slightly in other States and Territories as a result of varying levels of local content. Hours have been rounded to nearest whole number.

ABC TV Plus

ABC TV Plus (7:30pm – 2am) – Genre mix for 2022/23
(Percentage of linear hours broadcast, excluding interstitial material)



Notes: This table reflects linear hours broadcast from the Sydney transmitter, comprising national and NSW transmission. Figures may differ slightly in other States and Territories as a result of varying levels of local content. Hours have been rounded to nearest whole number.

The end transmission time for ABC2 of 2am may vary, on average transmission closes at 2am.

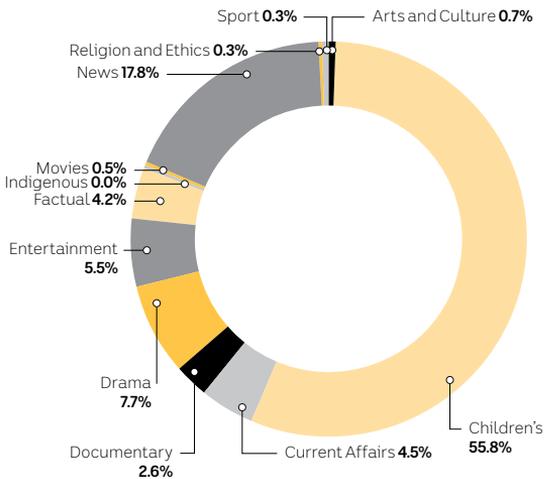
These statistics are calculated until 2am.

7.30pm is the normal start time for ABC TV Plus, however there were variations to that across the period.

From 1/01/2023 – 5/02/2023 the start time was 6.30pm. From 6/02/2023 – 12/02/2023 the start time was 7.00pm.

ABC iview

ABC iview 2022/23: Genre mix
(Percentage of content uploaded)



Notes: This Table reflects the hours of content loaded onto the ABC iview streaming platform. Hours have been rounded to nearest whole number.

ABC main channel

ABC TV linear program hours transmitted – 24 hours July 2022 – June 2023

Genre	Australian			Overseas			Total	
	First Release	Repeat	Total Australian	First Release	Repeat	Total Overseas	2022-23	2021-22
Arts and Culture	21	86	108	0	0	0	108	123
Children's	0	1	1	0	5	5	7	5
Current Affairs	641	534	1,175	0	0	0	1,175	1,203
Documentary	57	387	445	15	204	219	664	674
Drama	42	314	357	56	1,007	1,063	1,420	1,428
Entertainment	1,308	564	1,872	11	89	100	1,972	1,927
Factual	125	483	608	11	451	462	1,070	813
Indigenous	3	6	8	0	0	0	8	11
Movies	0	0	0	0	39	39	39	13
News	1,805	85	1,890	0	0	0	1,890	2,133
Religion and Ethics	9	40	49	14	14	28	77	75
Sport	27	23	50	0	0	0	50	65
Total Program Hours	4,039	2,524	6,563	107	1,809	1,917	8,479	8,471
% of Total Program Hours	47.6%	29.8%	77.4%	1.3%	21.3%	22.6%	100.0%	100.0%
*Other			281				281	289
Total Hours			6,843			1,917	8,760	8,760
% of Total Hours			78%			22%		

* Other: includes interstitial material, program announcements and community service announcements.

Notes: This table reflects linear hours broadcast from the Sydney transmitter, comprising national and NSW transmission. Figures may differ slightly in other States and Territories as a result of varying levels of local content. Hours have been rounded to nearest whole number.

ABC TV linear program hours transmitted – 6am – midnight July 2022 – June 2023

Genre	Australian			Overseas			Total	
	First Release	Repeat	Total Australian	First Release	Repeat	Total Overseas	2022-23	2021-22
Arts and Culture	21	65	87	0	0	0	87	93
Children's	0	1	1	0	5	5	7	5
Current Affairs	593	169	761	0	0	0	761	832
Documentary	57	333	390	15	190	205	595	575
Drama	42	155	198	56	700	756	953	950
Entertainment	347	476	824	11	82	93	916	822
Factual	124	470	594	11	375	386	980	772
Indigenous	3	3	5	0	0	0	5	6
Movies	0	0	0	0	35	35	35	10
News	1,796	81	1,877	0	0	0	1,877	2,127
Religion and Ethics	9	39	48	14	14	28	76	74
Sport	27	23	50	0	0	0	50	65
Total Program Hours	3,020	1,816	4,835	107	1,400	1,507	6,343	6,333
% of Total Program Hours	47.6%	28.6%	76.2%	1.7%	22.1%	23.8%	100.0%	100.0%
*Other			227				227	237
Total Hours			5,063			1,507	6,570	6,570
% of Total Hours			77%			23%		

* Other: includes interstitial material, program announcements and community service announcements.

Notes: This table reflects linear hours broadcast from the Sydney transmitter, comprising national and NSW transmission. Figures may differ slightly in other States and Territories as a result of varying levels of local content. Hours have been rounded to nearest whole number.

ABC TV linear program hours transmitted – 6pm – midnight July 2022 – June 2023

Genre	Australian			Overseas			Total	
	First Release	Repeat	Total Australian	First Release	Repeat	Total Overseas	2022-23	2021-22
Arts and Culture	12	24	36	0	0	0	36	42
Children's	0	1	1	0	1	1	2	3
Current Affairs	439	42	481	0	0	0	481	528
Documentary	57	92	149	14	70	83	232	217
Drama	42	111	154	56	334	389	543	546
Entertainment	97	68	165	10	46	55	220	210
Factual	75	42	117	11	79	90	207	190
Indigenous	2	3	5	0	0	0	5	1
Movies	0	0	0	0	26	26	26	6
News	283	53	336	0	0	0	336	330
Religion and Ethics	9	9	18	0	0	0	18	18
Sport	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
Total Program Hours	1,016	447	1,463	90	555	645	2,108	2,107
% of Total Program Hours	48.2%	21.2%	69.4%	4.3%	26.3%	30.6%	100.0%	100.0%
*Other			82				82	83
Total Hours			1,545			645	2,190	2,190
% of Total Hours			71%			29%		

* Other: includes interstitial material, program announcements and community service announcements.

Notes: This table reflects linear hours broadcast from the Sydney transmitter, comprising national and NSW transmission. Figures may differ slightly in other States and Territories as a result of varying levels of local content. Hours have been rounded to nearest whole number.

ABC TV Plus and ABC Kids

ABC2 linear program hours transmitted – 5am – varied close – July 2022 – June 2023

Genre	Australian			Overseas			Total	
	First Release	Repeat	Total Australian	First Release	Repeat	Total Overseas	2022-23	2021-22
Arts and Culture	18	35	53	0	46	46	99	161
Children's	36	1,330	1,366	74	3,403	3,477	4,843	4,811
Current Affairs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Documentary	6	89	96	4	325	330	425	391
Drama	0	90	90	8	670	678	767	807
Entertainment	1	337	338	47	392	439	776	836
Factual	0	63	63	4	90	94	157	161
Indigenous	0	2	2	0	0	0	2	5
Movies	0	0	0	0	154	154	154	92
News	9	0	9	0	0	0	9	9
Religion and Ethics	4	4	8	3	3	6	14	24
Sport	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Total Program Hours	74	1,949	2,023	140	5,084	5,223	7,246	7,305
% of Total Program Hours	1.0%	26.9%	27.9%	1.9%	70.2%	72.1%	100.0%	100.0%
Other			752				752	644
Total Hours			2,775			5,223	7,998	7,949
% of Total Hours			35%			65%		

* Other: includes interstitial material, program announcements and community service announcements.

Notes: This Table reflects linear hours broadcast from the Sydney transmitter, comprising national and NSW transmission. Figures may differ slightly in other States and Territories as a result of varying levels of local content. Hours have been rounded to nearest whole number.

ABC Kids (ABC2) linear program hours transmitted – 5am – 7:30pm* July 2022 – June 2023

Genre	Australian			Overseas			Total	
	First Release	Repeat	Total Australian	First Release	Repeat	Total Overseas	2022-23	2021-22
Arts and Culture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Children's	36	1,325	1,361	74	3,375	3,449	4,810	4,787
Current Affairs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Documentary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drama	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Entertainment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Factual	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Indigenous	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Movies	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
News	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Religion and Ethics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sport	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Program Hours	36	1,325	1,361	74	3,376	3,449	4,810	4,788
% of Total Program Hours	0.7%	27.6%	28.3%	1.5%	70.2%	71.7%	100.0%	100.0%
Other			443				443	505
Total Program Hours, including interstitials			1,804			3,449	5,253	5,293
% of Total Hours			34%			66%		

* Other: includes interstitial material, program announcements and community service announcements.

Notes: This Table reflects linear hours broadcast from the Sydney transmitter, comprising national and NSW transmission. Figures may differ slightly in other States and Territories as a result of varying levels of local content. Hours have been rounded to nearest whole number. 7.30pm is the normal end time for ABC Kids transmission, however there were variations to that across the period. From 1/01/2023 – 5/02/2023 the end time was 6.30pm. From 6/02/2023 – 12/02/2023 the end time was 7.00pm.

ABC TV Plus (ABC2) linear program hours transmitted – 7:30pm* – 2am July 2022 – June 2023

Genre	Australian			Overseas			Total	
	First Release	Repeat	Total Australian	First Release	Repeat	Total Overseas	2022-23	2021-22
Arts and Culture	18	34	52	0	46	46	98	158
Children's	0	4	4	0	11	11	15	0
Current Affairs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Documentary	6	85	91	4	291	295	386	363
Drama	0	85	85	8	614	622	706	638
Entertainment	1	333	335	47	345	392	727	789
Factual	0	58	58	4	78	81	139	152
Indigenous	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	4
Movies	0	0	0	0	139	139	139	86
News	3	0	4	0	0	0	4	2
Religion and Ethics	4	4	8	3	3	6	14	24
Sport	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Total Program Hours	33	605	637	66	1,526	1,592	2,229	2,223
% of Total Program Hours	1.5%	27.1%	28.6%	3.0%	68.5%	71.4%	100.0%	100.0%
Other			183				183	150
Total Hours			820			1,592	2,412	2,373
% of Total Hours			34%			66%		

* Other: includes interstitial material, program announcements and community service announcements.

Notes: This Table reflects linear hours broadcast from the Sydney transmitter, comprising national and NSW transmission. Figures may differ slightly in other States and Territories as a result of varying levels of local content. Hours have been rounded to nearest whole number. The end transmission time for ABC TV Plus (ABC2) of 2am may vary, on average transmission closes at 2am. These statistics are calculated until 2am. 7.30pm is the normal start time for ABC TV Plus, however there were variations to that across the period. From 1/01/2023 – 5/02/2023 the start time was 6.30pm. From 6/02/2023 – 12/02/2023 the start time was 7.00pm.

ABC ME

ABC ME linear program hours transmitted – 6 am – varied close July 2022 – June 2023

Genre	Australian			Overseas			Total	
	First Release	Repeat	Total Australian	First Release	Repeat	Total Overseas	2022-23	2021-22
Arts/Culture	0	0	0	0	25	25	25	13
Children's	102	1,259	1,361	104	4,254	4,358	5,719	5,563
Current Affairs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Documentary	1	3	4	0	0	0	4	4
Drama	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	68
Entertainment	0	276	276	0	0	0	276	267
Factual	0	9	9	0	4	4	13	18
Indigenous	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Movies	0	0	0	0	3	3	3	2
News	0	3	4	0	0	0	4	6
Religion and Ethics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sport	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Program Hours	103	1,551	1,654	104	4,288	4,392	6,045	5,940
% of Total Program Hours	1.7%	25.6%	27.4%	1.7%	70.9%	72.6%	100.0%	100%
Other*			297				297	281
Total Program Hours, including interstitials			1,951			4,392	6,342	6,221
			31%			69%		

* Other: includes interstitial material, program announcements and community service announcements.

Notes: This Table reflects linear hours broadcast from the Sydney transmitter, comprising national and NSW transmission. Figures may differ slightly in other States and Territories as a result of varying levels of local content. The ABC ME close times are varied. Hours have been rounded to nearest whole number.

ABC iview

ABC iview program hours – 24 hours July 2022 – June 2023

Genre	Australian			Overseas			Total	
	First Release	Repeat	Total Australian	First Release	Repeat	Total Overseas	2022-23	2021-22
Arts and Culture	2	90	92	0	29	29	121	139
Children's	9	1,658	1,667	103	7,545	7,648	9,315	8,978
Current Affairs	40	713	754	0	0	0	754	825
Documentary	4	152	157	6	264	269	426	550
Drama	3	162	165	4	1,119	1,123	1,288	1,633
Entertainment	64	571	635	0	286	286	921	851
Factual	29	329	358	9	333	342	700	440
Indigenous	1	6	7	0	0	0	7	9
Movies	0	0	0	0	79	79	79	39
News	61	2,902	2,963	0	0	0	2,963	2,730
Religion and Ethics	0	20	20	0	30	30	51	63
Sport	24	35	58	0	0	0	58	73
Total Program Hours	237	6,639	6,876	122	9,685	9,807	16,684	16,329
% of Total Program Hours	1.4%	39.8%	41.2%	0.7%	58.1%	58.8%	100.0%	100.0%
*Other			1				1	1
Total Hours			6,877			9,807	16,685	16,330
% of Total Hours			41%			59%		

* Other: includes interstitial material, program announcements and community service announcements.

Notes: This table reflects hours of content detailed in the OnAir schedule that were uploaded to ABC iview.

Appendix 8 – Commissioned Australian content (screen)

During 2022-23, the ABC’s total commitment towards commissioned Australian content was \$130 million. This will result in an estimated total Australian production value of \$233 million.

Commissioned Content Area	Total ABC Contribution	Total Production Budget
Drama	\$28,463,444	\$81,845,761
Children’s	\$17,605,044	\$36,668,834
Factual & Documentaries	\$43,445,695	\$66,777,736
Other	\$40,929,147	\$47,681,970
Total Commissioned Investment	\$130,443,330	\$232,974,301

Please note:

Estimations of total production value may vary as production occurs over current and future financial years.

Drama includes: Drama, Narrative Comedy, and Indigenous Drama & Narrative Comedy.

Other includes: Arts & Culture, Indigenous (non-drama), Sports, Events, and Entertainment.

Volumes of Australian premiere content broadcast across all platforms by genre throughout the year appears in Appendix 7.

Appendix 9 – Enhanced News Gathering and Regional Presence

This annual report contains additional information on the ABC’s regional activities, the ENG program, and the quantum of its investment in Australian content in key genres and further demonstrates the ABC’s commitment to transparency.

This additional information includes:

- Tables on regional employees and cadets (p 77)
- Where We Are map (p 10-11)
- Regional Public Interest Journalism Investment entry in This Is The ABC (p 27)
- Commissioned Australian content (see Appendix 8)

Enhanced News Gathering

The Enhanced News Funding program has given the ABC the ability to deliver more tailored news, more local news and bring news from across the country to a national audience. The program has enabled ABC News to make a significant investment in its regional newsgathering capacity and locate content-makers in regions where the ABC was previously under-represented or not represented at all.

Key activities and related FTE supported by Enhanced News Gathering

Program Area	FTE	Activities supported behind funding
National Reporting Team	15.3	Specialist & investigative reporting, filing digital explainers and features (ie. Social Affairs, Disability, Environment, Fact Check)
State Editions	16.0	Digital roles based in State Newsrooms around the country, creating digital articles & delivering local editions of the ABC News website tailored for the local community.
Improved regional and local coverage	10.0	Expanded digital and linear coverage in suburban areas, funding journalists in Parramatta, Geelong, and Ipswich. Video Journalist positions in regional postings in Wollongong, Renmark and Bunbury
Regional live linking capacity	3.0	Camera operators in Alice Springs, Broome and Newcastle, as well as improved live linking capacity to enable more live breaking news from the regions on the News Channel.
Interactive Digital Storytelling team	23.0	Supporting analytical digital articles and distribution thereof, based in Brisbane.
Other content-related costs (e.g. critical coverage fund)	2.0	State Elections, specials and critical coverage (major weather events) Employees to coordinate coverage and live linking planning Funding Strategy / Projects team
Other support costs	3.0	Includes rights for images/ videos, content services support for program research, training & property costs in new locations and broadcast technology support for live linking.
TOTAL	72.3	

ABC regional bureau locations supported by Enhanced News Gathering

1. Alice Springs (NT)
2. Broome (WA)
3. Bunbury (WA)
4. Geelong (Vic)
5. Ipswich (Qld)
6. Newcastle (NSW)
7. Renmark (SA)
8. Wollongong (NSW)

Appendix 10 – Law reform

In 2022–23, the ABC made the following submissions on law reform:

- Digital Industry Group Inc. (DIGI) Review of the Australian Code of Practice on Disinformation and Misinformation (July 2022)
- Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts review of National Cultural Policy (August 2022)
- Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts consultation paper ‘The Broadcasting Service Exclusion Determination’ (September 2022)
- Parliamentary Joint Standing Committee on Public Works inquiry ‘Australian Broadcasting Corporation – Fit-out of Parramatta and Ultimo Offices’ (September 2022)
- Australian Competition and Consumer Commission issues paper ‘Digital Platform Services Inquiry – March 2023 Report on social media services’ (September 2022)
- Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts review of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (Staff-Elected Director) Regulation 2012 (September 2022)
- Parliamentary Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters ‘Inquiry into the 2022 Federal Election’ (October 2022)
- Parliamentary Joint Select Committee on National Anti-Corruption Commission Legislation ‘National Anti-Corruption Commission Bills 2022’ (October 2022)
- Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts – Future of Broadcasting Working Group ‘Prominence Background Paper’ (October 2022)
- Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts – Future of Broadcasting Working Group ‘Remote Broadcasting and Satellite-Delivered Television Background Paper’ (October 2022)
- Parliamentary Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade – Foreign Affairs and Aid Subcommittee ‘Inquiry into supporting democracy in our region’ (November 2022)
- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade on a new international development policy (November 2022)
- Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts consultation paper ‘Review of the anti-siphoning scheme’ (December 2022)
- Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts proposals paper ‘Prominence framework for connected TV devices’ (February 2023)
- Senate Economics References Committee issues paper ‘Inquiry into international digital platforms operated by Big Tech companies’ (February 2023)
- Senate Environment and Communications References Committee inquiry ‘National Cultural Policy’ (March 2023)
- Attorney-General’s Department in response to the Copyright Enforcement Review Issues Paper (March 2023)
- Australian Communications and Media Authority consultation paper ‘A new framework for measuring media diversity in Australia’ (March 2023)
- Attorney-General’s Department in response to the Privacy Act Review Report 2022 (April 2023)

- Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts targeted stakeholder consultation paper 'Australian screen content requirements on streaming services' (May 2023)
- Australian Communications and Media Authority consultation paper 'Proposal to remake the Broadcasting Services (Television Captioning) Standard 2013' (June 2023)
- Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee inquiry 'The operation of Commonwealth Freedom of Information (FOI) laws' (June 2023).

The ABC also contributed to three submissions on law reform made by the Right to Know Coalition, including:

- Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney General on the Proposed Changes to Queensland's Information Privacy and Right to Information Framework Consultation Paper (July 2022)
- Queensland Director-General and Department of Justice Preliminary Consultation Implementing the Hear Her Voice Reports Discussion Paper (January 2023)
- Attorney-General's Department in response to the Privacy Act Review Report 2022 (April 2023).

Appendix 11 – population coverage terrestrial transmission

Proportion of the population able to receive transmissions from ABC broadcasting services (as at 30 June 2023)

	Aust	ACT/NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA
ABC Radio	99.65%	99.85%	85.76%	99.74%	99.80%	99.66%	99.95%	99.35%
triple j	96.58%	97.91%	73.60%	95.34%	95.83%	96.87%	98.51%	92.58%
RN	99.19%	99.56%	85.75%	98.99%	99.75%	99.36%	99.76%	97.91%
Classic FM	97.01%	98.31%	73.60%	96.27%	96.01%	96.87%	98.58%	93.28%
ABC NEWS on radio	97.04%	98.43%	77.78%	94.94%	98.22%	96.01%	98.07%	95.41%
Digital Radio (inc. Double J)	65.26%	62.64%	60.56%	49.74%	75.02%	47.11%	74.42%	79.18%
Digital Television	98.71%	98.99%	84.77%	97.93%	99.34%	98.62%	99.55%	98.24%

Note: Population derived from Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2021 Census data.

Appendix 12 – Television transmission channels

ABC Television Transmission Channels as at 30 June 2023

The transmitter numbers for Fully Managed Services are provided by Broadcast Australia with the apparatus licences held by the ABC and for the RBAH Provided Services, the apparatus licences are held by RBAH.

BAI Fully Managed

Digital Television		Digital Television		Digital Television	
Area Served	Channel	Area Served	Channel	Area Served	Channel
ACT		Eden	47	Richmond/Tweed	29
Canberra	8	Glen Innes	41	Stanwell Park	47
Tuggeranong	41	Gloucester	29	SW Slopes/E	46
Weston Creek/ Woden	41	Goodooga	7	Riverina	
NSW		Gosford	41	Sydney	12
Adelong	39	Goulburn	41	Talbingo	41
Albury North	31	Grafton/Kempsey	36	Tamworth	41
Armidale	36	Hay	41	Tenterfield	47
Armidale North	7	Illawarra	35	Thredbo	33
Ashford	41	Inverell	41	Tottenham	47
Balranald	40	Ivanhoe	8	Tumbarumba	41
Batemans Bay/ Moruya	41	Jerilderie	41	Tumut	41
Bathurst	7	Jindabyne	41	Ulladulla	28
Batlow	41	Kandos	47	Upper Hunter	47
Bega	31	Khancoban	46	Upper Namoi	29
Bombala	47	Kings Cross	30	Vacy	32
Bonalbo	41	Kotara	37	Wagga Wagga	41
Bouddi	41	Kyogle	41	Walcha	45
Bourke	6	Laurieton	41	Walgett	40
Bowral/Mittagong	47	Lightning Ridge	11	Wilcannia	9
Braidwood	47	Lithgow	31	Wollongong	41
Broken Hill	10	Lithgow East	47	Wyong	41
Captains Flat	41	Manly/Mosman	30	Young	41
Cassilis	30	Manning River	7	NT	
Central Tablelands	36	Menindee	41	Alice Springs	8
Central Western	12	Merewether	37	Batchelor	41
Slopes		Merriwa	43	Bathurst Island	11
Cobar	6	Mudgee	41	Borrooloola	10
Coffs Harbour	45	Murrumbidgee	28	Daly River	7
Condobolin	41	Irrigation Area		Darwin	30
Coolah	47	Murrurundi	37	Darwin City	41
Cooma Town	41	Murwillumbah	29	Galiwinku	10
Cooma/Monaro	29	Narooma	47	Groote Eylandt	7
Cowra	42	Newcastle	37	Jabiru	7
Crookwell	32	Nowra North	47	Katherine	8
Deniliquin	41	Nyngan	41	Mataranka	8
Dubbo	41	Oberon	42	Nhulunbuy	7
Dungog	41	Port Stephens	30	Pine Creek	10
		Portland/ Wallerawang	41	Tennant Creek	9A

Digital Television

Area Served	Channel
QLD	
Airlie Beach	39
Alpha	7
Aramac	8
Atherton	47
Augathella	7
Ayr	45
Babinda	48
Barcaldine	7
Bedourie	6
Bell	41
Birdsville	7
Blackall	7
Blackwater	47
Boonah	42
Bowen Town	39
Boyne Island	41
Brisbane	12
Cairns	8
Cairns East	42
Cairns North	35
Camooweal	7
Capella	31
Cardwell	48
Charleville	11
Charters Towers	45
Clermont	35
Cloncurry	6
Collinsville	35
Cooktown	40
Cunnamulla	11
Currumbin	50
Darling Downs	29
Dimbulah	42
Dirranbandi	7
Dysart	41
Eidsvold	47
Emerald	11
Esk	39
Georgetown	7
Gladstone East	33
Gladstone West	47
Gold Coast	41
Gold Coast Southern	50
Hinterland	
Goondiwindi	41
Gordonvale	48

Digital Television

Area Served	Channel
Gympie	41
Gympie Town	49
Herberton	35
Hervey Bay	41
Hughenden	8
Injune	6
Jericho	6
Julia Creek	11
Karumba	7
Longreach	10
Mackay	28
Mareeba	42
Meandarra	47
Middlemount	35
Miles	41
Miriam Vale/ Bororen	41
Mission Beach	48
Mitchell	12
Monto	41
Moranbah	48
Moranbah Town	35
Morven	8
Mossman	33
Mount Garnet	35
Mount Isa	7
Mount Molloy	42
Moura	47
Murgon	41
Muttaborra	11
Nambour	41
Nebo	35
Noosa/Tewantin	41
Normanton	8
Port Douglas	47
Proserpine	45
Quilpie	9
Ravenshoe	42
Redlynch	47
Richmond	7
Rockhampton	34
Rockhampton East	41
Roma	8
Shute Harbour	47
Southern Downs	35
Springsure	41
St George	12
Stuart	46

Digital Television

Area Served	Channel
Sunshine Coast North	49
Sunshine Coast South	39
Surat	10
Tambo	7
Tara	41
Taroom	10
Texas	41
Theodore	41
Thursday Island	9
Tieri	35
Toowoomba	47
Townsville	34
Townsville North	46
Tully	41
Wandoan	47
Wangetti	42
Warwick	41
Weipa	6
Wide Bay	11
Winton	7
Yeppoon	41
SA	
Adelaide	12
Adelaide Foothills	39
Andamooka	7
Bordertown	42
Burra	35
Caralue Bluff	47
Ceduna/Smoky Bay	39
Clare	47
Coffin Bay	44
Coober Pedy	7
Cowell	36
Craigmore/Hillbank	39
Hawker	47
Keith	38
Kingston SE/Robe	38
Lameroo	42
Leigh Creek South	8
Naracoorte	42
Pinnaroo	38
Port Lincoln	49
Quorn	47
Renmark/Loxton	31
Roxby Downs	40
South East	31

Digital Television

Area Served	Channel
Spencer Gulf North	43
Streaky Bay	11
Tumby Bay	30
Victor Harbor	39
Waikerie	47
Wirrulla	9A
Woomera	37
Wudinna	36
TAS	
Acton Road	36
Barrington Valley	48
Bicheno	36
Binalong Bay	37
Burnie	47
Cygnets	44
Derby (Tas)	47
Dover	47
Dover South	43
East Devonport	35
Geeveston	35
Gladstone	47
Goshen/Goulds Country	35
Hillwood	47
Hobart	8
Hobart NE Suburbs	47
King Island	47
Launceston	35
Lileah	8
Lilydale	47
Maydena	42
Meander	48
Montumana IBL	47
NE Tasmania	41
New Norfolk	35
Orford	41
Penguin	35
Port Sorell	28
Queenstown/Zeehan	47
Ringarooma	29
Rosebery	32
Savage River	47
Smithton	35
St Helens	29
St Marys	47
Strahan	41
Swansea	47

Digital Television

Area Served	Channel
Taroona	45
Ulverstone	35
Waratah	35
Wynyard	28
VIC	
Alexandra	47
Alexandra Environs	41
Apollo Bay	47
Bairnsdale	35
Ballarat	35
Bendigo	29
Bonnie Doon	32
Bright	31
Bruthen	47
Cann River	47
Casterton	41
Churchill	49
Cobden	41
Colac	47
Coleraine	47
Corryong	36
Eildon	34
Eildon Town	41
Ferntree Gully	43
Foster	41
Genoa	36
Goulburn Valley	37
Halls Gap	47
Hopetoun-Beulah	33
Horsham	41
Kiewa	41
Lakes Entrance	47
Latrobe Valley	29
Lorne	35
Mallacoota	47
Mansfield	47
Marysville	35
Melbourne	12
Mildura/Sunraysia	11
Murray Valley	47
Myrtleford	47
Nhill	47
Nowa Nowa	29
Orbost	41
Portland	41
Rosebud	43
Safety Beach	43
Selby	35

Digital Television

Area Served	Channel
Seymour	41
South Yarra	43
Tawonga South	31
Upper Murray	11
Upwey	35
Warburton	35
Warrnambool	50
Warrnambool City	29
Western Victoria	6
Yea	34
WA	
Albany	43
Augusta	46
Bridgetown	45
Broome	9
Bruce Rock	50
Bunbury	36
Carnamah	46
Carnarvon	6
Central	45
Agricultural	
Cervantes	47
Cue	10
Dalwallinu	49
Dampier	28
Denham	7
Derby (WA)	9
Esperance	9A
Exmouth	7
Fitzroy Crossing	41
Geraldton	41
Halls Creek	9
Hopetoun (WA)	40
Jurien	37
Kalbarri	8
Kalgoorlie	9A
Kambalda	40
Karratha	42
Katanning	45
Kojonup	50
Kununurra	8
Kununurra East	40
Lake Grace	34
Laverton	11
Leeman	6
Leinster	11
Leonora	10

Digital Television

Area Served	Channel
Mandurah/Waroona	41
Manjimup	46
Marble Bar	7
Margaret River	45
Meekatharra	9
Menzies	10
Merredin	50
Mingenew	46
Moora	38
Morawa	7
Mount Magnet	9
Mullewa	46
Nannup	31
Narembeen	50
Narrogin	50
Newman	6
Norseman	6
Northam	50
Northampton	46
Onslow	7
Pannawonica	9
Paraburdoo	9A
Pemberton	32
Perth	12
Port Hedland	8
Ravensthorpe	10
Roebourne	9A
Roleystone	41
Southern Agricultural	11
Southern Cross	7
Tom Price	12
Toodyay	47
Wagin	29
Wongan Hills	47
Wyndham	12
Yalgoo	10

RBAH Provided**Digital Television**

Area Served	Channel
ACT	
Conder	35
NSW	
Walwa/Jingellic	51
Bermagui	40
Bungendore	46
Cootamundra	40
Dalmeny	46
Eastgrove	28
Eugowra	41
Grenfell	28
Gundagai	40
Gunning	40
Harden	40
June	34
Merimbula	35
Mount Kembla	46
Mudgee Town	47
Narrandera	34
Peak Hill	47
Wellington	47
West Wyalong	40
Hillston	40
Anna Bay	46
Belmont North	28
Byron Bay	41
Elizabeth Beach	46
Coffs Harbour North	28
Forster	40
Medowie	41
Bulahdelah	46
Maclean/Ashby	46
Ocean Shores	48
Smiths Lake	40
Stroud	41
Boambee/Sawtell	46
Uralla	46
Warialda	46
Warners Bay	28
Woolgoolga	46
Agnes Water	46
QLD	
Cooloola Cove	34
Crows Nest	46

Digital Television

Area Served	Channel
Flametree/Jubilee Pocket	34
Mundubbera	41
Goldsborough Valley	34
Mount Morgan	46
Nanango	46
Peregian Beach	29
Toowoomba East	40
Point Arkwright	29
Rainbow Beach	34
Sarina Beaches	41
Tin Can Bay	34
Toowoomba South	40
Wonga Beach	34
Yarraman	35
SA	
Morgan	41
Orroroo	46
TAS	
Forth	41
Neika/Leslie Vale	46
VIC	
Ouyen	41
Robinvale	34
Underbool	34
Ballarat East	40
Birchip	40
Boolarra	46
Charlton	40
Cohuna	40
Howqua	35
Inverloch	46
Jeeralang/Yinnar South	46
Koondrook/Barham	46
Newborough	40
Terang	34
Timboon	28
Trafalgar/Yarragon	40
Warracknabeal	28
Wycheproof	40

Transmitter Statistics for 2022-23

The transmitter numbers for Fully Managed Services are provided by Broadcast Australia with the apparatus licences held by the ABC and for the RBAH Provided Services, the apparatus licences are held by RBAH.

Television Transmitter Statistics as at 30 June 2023

Television	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	Total
ABC Television Total	4	129	15	130	34	43	71	71	497
BAI Fully Managed	3	92	15	113	32	41	53	71	420
RBAH Provided	1	37	0	17	2	2	18	0	77

Notes:

- For six television services, two transmitters are in use (main and standby). These are counted as a single transmitter for the purposes of these numbers as only one is in use at any given time.
- RBAH television transmission services have limited monitoring and reporting. The contract provides electricity, maintenance and capital replacement.

Appendix 13 – Radio transmission frequencies

Digital Radio Transmission Frequencies as at 30 June 2023

The ABC has listed only terrestrial transmission services with apparatus licences held by the ABC.

Digital Radio			Digital Radio		
Area Served	Frequency (MHz)	Channel Block	Area Served	Frequency (MHz)	Channel Block
ACT			SA		
Canberra	206.352	(9C)	Adelaide	206.352	(9C)
Tuggeranong Valley	206.352	(9C)	TAS		
NSW			Hobart	206.352	(9C)
Campbelltown	206.352	(9C)	Taroona	206.352	(9C)
Collaroy Plateau	206.352	(9C)	VIC		
Penrith	206.352	(9C)	Bacchus Marsh/Melton	206.352	(9C)
Sutherland	206.352	(9C)	Melbourne	206.352	(9C)
Sydney	206.352	(9C)	Melbourne City	206.352	(9C)
Sydney City	206.352	(9C)	Port Melbourne	206.352	(9C)
Sydney Northern Beaches	206.352	(9C)	Werribee	206.352	(9C)
NT			WA		
Darwin	206.352	(9C)	Perth	206.352	(9C)
Darwin City	206.352	(9C)	Perth City	206.352	(9C)
QLD			Perth Northern Beaches	206.352	(9C)
Brisbane	206.352	(9C)			
Caboolture	206.352	(9C)			

ABC Radio Transmission Frequencies as at 30 June 2023

The ABC has listed only terrestrial transmission services with apparatus licences held by the ABC.

ABC Radio		ABC Radio		ABC Radio	
Area Served	Frequency (MHz)	Area Served	Frequency (MHz)	Area Served	Frequency (MHz)
ACT		Muswellbrook	1044	Bedourie	106.1
Canberra	666	Newcastle	1233	Biloela	94.9
NSW		Nyngan	95.1	Birdsville	106.1
Armidale	101.9	Port Stephens	95.9	Boulia	106.1
Ashford	107.9	Portland/	94.1	Brisbane	612
Batemans Bay/	103.5	Wallerawang		Cairns (AM)	801
Moruya		Richmond/	94.5	Cairns	106.7
Bega	810	Tweed		Cairns North	95.5
Bombala	94.1	SW Slopes/E	89.9	Camooweal	106.1
Bonalbo	91.3	Riverina		Charleville	603
Broken Hill	999	Sydney	702	Coen	105.9
Byrock	657	Tamworth	648	Collinsville	106.1
Central Western	107.1	Taree	756	Cooktown	105.7
Slopes		Tenterfield	88.9	Croydon	105.9
Cobar	106.1	Thredbo	88.9	Cunnamulla	106.1
Cooma	1602	Tottenham	99.3	Dimbulah	91.7
Corowa	675	Tumut	97.9	Dysart	91.7
Crookwell	106.9	Upper Hunter	105.7	Eidsvold	855
Cumnock,	549	Upper Namoi	99.1	Emerald	1548
Central NSW		Wagga Wagga	102.7	Georgetown	106.1
Dubbo	95.9	Walcha	88.5	Gladstone	99.1
Eden	106.3	Walgett	105.9	Glenden	92.5
Glen Innes	819	Wilcannia	1584	Gold Coast	91.7
Gloucester	100.9	Young	96.3	Goondiwindi	92.7
Goodooga	99.3	NT		Greenvale	105.9
Gosford	92.5	Adelaide River	98.9	Gympie	95.3
Goulburn (town)	90.3	Alice Springs	783	Gympie	1566
Grafton	738	Bathurst Island	91.3	Hughenden	1485
Grafton/	92.3	Borrooloola	106.1	Injune	105.9
Kempsey		Daly River	106.1	Julia Creek	567
Hay	88.1	Darwin	105.7	Karumba	106.1
Illawarra	97.3	Galiwinku	105.9	Lakeland	106.1
Ivanhoe	106.1	Groote Eylandt	106.1	Laura	106.1
Jindabyne	95.5	Jabiru	747	Longreach	540
Kandos	96.3	Katherine	106.1	Mackay	101.1
Kempsey	684	Mataranka	106.1	Middlemount	106.1
Lightning Ridge	92.1	Newcastle	106.1	Miriam Vale	88.3
Lithgow	1395	Waters		Mission Beach	89.3
Manning River	95.5	Nhulunbuy	990	Mitchell	106.1
Menindee	97.3	Pine Creek	106.1	Moranbah	104.9
Merriwa	101.9	Tennant Creek	106.1	Mossman	639
Mudgee	99.5	QLD		Mount Garnet	95.7
Murrumbidgee	100.5	Airlie Beach	89.9	Mount Isa	106.5
Irrigation Area		Alpha	105.7	Mount Molloy	95.7
Murrurundi	96.9	Atherton	720	Moura	96.1
Murwillumbah	720	Babinda	95.7		

ABC Radio		ABC Radio		ABC Radio	
Area Served	Frequency (MHz)	Area Served	Frequency (MHz)	Area Served	Frequency (MHz)
Nambour	90.3	NE Tasmania	91.7	Bunbury (Busselton)	684
Normanton	105.7	Orford	90.5	Carnarvon	846
Pentland	106.1	Queenstown/ Zeehan	90.5	Cue	106.1
Pialba-	855	Rosebery	106.3	Dalwallinu	531
Dundowran (Wide Bay)		Savage River/ Waratah	104.1	Derby	873
Quilpie	106.1	St Helens	1584	Esperance	837
Rockhampton	837	St Marys	102.7	Exmouth	1188
Roma	105.7	Strahan	107.5	Fitzroy Crossing	106.1
Roma/St George	711	Swansea	106.1	Geraldton	828
Southern Downs	104.9	Waratah	103.3	Halls Creek	106.1
Tambo	105.9	Weldborough	97.3	Hopetoun	105.3
Taroom	106.1	VIC		Kalbarri	106.1
Theodore	105.9	Alexandra	102.9	Kalgoorlie	648
Thursday Island (Torres Strait)	1062	Apollo Bay	89.5	Karratha	702
Toowoomba	747	Ballarat	107.9	Kununurra	819
Townsville	630	Bendigo	91.1	Laverton	106.1
Tully	95.5	Bright	89.7	Leonora	105.7
Wandoan	98.1	Cann River	106.1	Manjimup	738
Weipa	1044	Corryong	99.7	Marble Bar	105.9
Wide Bay	100.1	Eildon	98.1	Meekatharra	106.3
SA		Goulburn Valley	97.7	Menzies	106.1
Adelaide	891	Horsham	594	Mount Magnet	105.7
Andamooka	105.9	Latrobe Valley	100.7	Nannup	98.1
Coober Pedy	106.1	Mallacoota	104.9	Newman	567
Leigh Creek South	1602	Mansfield	103.7	Norseman	105.7
Marree	105.7	Melbourne	774	Northam	1215
Mount Gambier	1476	Mildura/ Sunraysia	104.3	Pannawonica	567
Naracoorte	1161	Murray Valley	102.1	Paraburdoo	567
Port Lincoln	1485	Myrtleford	91.7	Perth	720
Port Pirie	639	Omeo	720	Port Hedland	603
Renmark/Loxton	1062	Orbost	97.1	Ravensthorpe	105.9
Roxby Downs	102.7	Portland	96.9	Southern Cross	106.3
Streaky Bay	693	Sale	828	Tom Price	567
Woomera	1584	Upper Murray, Albury/Wodonga	106.5	Wagin	558
TAS		Warrnambool	1602	Wyndham	1017
Bicheno	89.7	Western Victoria	94.1	Yalgoo	106.1
Burnie	102.5	WA			
East Devonport	100.5	Albany	630		
Fingal	1161	Argyle	105.9		
Hobart	936	Augusta	98.3		
King Island	88.5	Bridgetown	1044		
Launceston City	102.7	Broome	675		
Lileah	91.3				

ABC RN Transmission Frequencies as at 30 June 2023

The ABC has listed only terrestrial transmission services with apparatus licences held by the ABC.

RN		RN		RN	
Area Served	Frequency (MHz/KHz)	Area Served	Frequency (MHz/KHz)	Area Served	Frequency (MHz/KHz)
ACT		Portland/	92.5	Bouliia	107.7
Canberra	846	Wallerawang		Bowen	92.7
NSW		Richmond/	96.9	Brisbane	792
Armidale	720	Tweed		Cairns	105.1
Balranald	93.1	SW Slopes/E	89.1	Cairns North	93.9
Batemans Bay/	105.1	Riverina		Camooweal	107.7
Moruya		Sydney	576	Capella	107.3
Bathurst (City)	96.7	Tamworth	93.9	Charleville	107.3
Bega/Cooma	100.9	Tenterfield	90.5	Charters Towers	97.5
Bonalbo	92.1	Thredbo	90.5	Clermont	107.7
Bourke	101.1	Tumut	99.5	Cloncurry	107.7
Broken Hill	102.9	Upper Namoi	100.7	Coen	107.5
Central	104.3	Wagga Wagga	104.3	Collinsville	107.7
Tablelands		Walcha	90.1	Cooktown	107.3
Central Western	107.9	Walgett	107.5	Corfield	107.3
Slopes		Wilcannia	1485	Croydon	107.5
Cobar	107.7	Wollongong	1431	Cunnamulla	107.7
Condobolin	88.9	Young	97.1	Darling Downs	105.7
Cooma (town)	95.3	NT		Dimbulah	93.3
Crookwell	104.5	Adelaide River	100.5	Dirranbandi	107.3
Deniliquin	99.3	Alice Springs	99.7	Dysart	93.3
Eden	107.9	Bathurst Island	92.9	Eidsvold	102.7
Emmaville	93.1	Borrooloola	107.7	Emerald	93.9
Glen Innes	105.1	Daly River	107.7	Georgetown	107.7
Gloucester	102.5	Darwin	657	Gladstone	95.9
Goodooga	100.9	Galiwinku	107.5	Glenden	93.3
Goulburn Town	97.7	Groote Eylandt	107.7	Gold Coast	90.1
Grafton/	99.5	Jabiru	107.7	Goondiwindi	94.3
Kempsey		Katherine	639	Greenvale	101.9
Hay	88.9	Mataranka	107.7	Gympie	96.9
Ivanhoe	107.7	Newcastle	107.7	Herberton	93.1
Jerilderie	94.1	Waters		Hughenden	107.5
Jindabyne	97.1	Nhulunbuy	107.7	Injune	107.5
Kandos	100.3	Pine Creek	107.7	Isisford	107.7
Lightning Ridge	93.7	Tennant Creek	684	Jericho	107.7
Lithgow	92.1	QLD		Julia Creek	107.5
Manning River	97.1	Airlie Beach	93.1	Karumba	107.7
Menindee	95.7	Alpha	107.3	Lakeland	107.7
Merriwa	103.5	Aramac	107.9	Laura	107.7
Murrumbidgee	98.9	Augathella	107.7	Longreach	99.1
Irrigation Area		Babinda	94.1	Mackay	102.7
Murrurundi	104.1	Barcaldine	107.3	Meandarra	104.3
Newcastle	1512	Bedourie	107.7	Middlemount	107.7
Nowra	603	Birdsville	107.7	Miles	92.1
Port Stephens	98.3	Blackall	107.9	Miriam Vale	89.9
		Blackwater	94.3		

RN	Frequency (MHz/KHz)	RN	Frequency (MHz/KHz)	RN	Frequency (MHz/KHz)
Area Served		Area Served		Area Served	
Mission Beach	90.9	Streaky Bay	100.9	Carnarvon	107.7
Mitchell	107.7	Tumby Bay	101.9	Cue	107.7
Monto	101.9	Wirrulla	107.3	Dalwallinu	612
Moranbah	106.5	Woomera	105.7	Dampier	107.9
Morven	107.5	Wudinna	107.7	Denham	107.5
Mossman	90.1	TAS		Derby	107.5
Mount Garnet	97.3	Bicheno	91.3	Eneabba	107.7
Mount Isa	107.3	Hobart	585	Esperance	106.3
Mount Molloy	97.3	Lileah	89.7	Exmouth	107.7
Moura	96.9	NE Tasmania	94.1	Fitzroy Crossing	107.7
Muttaborra	107.7	Orford	88.9	Geraldton	99.7
Normanton	107.3	Queenstown	630	Halls Creek	107.7
Pentland	107.7	Rosebery	107.9	Hopetoun (WA)	106.9
Quilpie	107.7	St Helens	96.1	Jurien	107.9
Richmond	107.7	St Marys	101.1	Kalbarri	107.7
Rockhampton	103.1	Strahan	105.9	Kalgoorlie	97.1
Roma	107.3	Swansea	107.7	Kambalda	93.9
Southern Downs	106.5	Waratah	104.9	Karratha	100.9
Springure	100.9	Weldborough	98.9	Kununurra	107.3
St George	107.7	VIC		Laverton	107.7
Surat	107.5	Albury/Wodonga	990	Leeman	107.3
Tambo	107.5	Alexandra	104.5	Leonora	107.3
Taroom	107.7	Bairnsdale	106.3	Marble Bar	107.5
Theodore	107.5	Bright	88.9	Meekatharra	107.9
Thursday Island	107.7	Cann River	107.7	Menzies	107.7
Townsville	104.7	Corryong	98.1	Merredin	107.3
Townsville North	96.7	Eildon	97.3	Mount Magnet	107.3
Tully	96.3	Hopetoun (VIC)	88.3	Mullewa	107.5
Wandoan	98.9	Horsham	99.7	Nannup	98.9
Weipa	107.3	Mallacoota	103.3	Narembeen	107.7
Wide Bay	100.9	Mansfield	105.3	Newman	93.7
Winton	107.9	Melbourne	621	Norseman	107.3
SA		Mildura/	105.9	Onslow	107.5
Adelaide	729	Sunraysia		Pannawonica	107.7
Andamooka	107.5	Nhill	95.7	Paraburdoo	107.7
Ceduna/	107.7	Omeo	99.7	Perth	810
Smoky Bay		Orbost	98.7	Port Hedland	95.7
Cooper Pedy	107.7	Portland	98.5	Ravensthorpe	107.5
Hawker	107.5	Swifts Creek	103.5	Roebourne	107.5
Keith	96.9	Wangaratta	756	Salmon Gums	100.7
Leigh Creek	106.1	Warrnambool	101.7	Southern	96.9
South		Western Victoria	92.5	Agricultural	
Marree	107.3	WA		Southern Cross	107.9
Mount Gambier	103.3	Argyle	107.5	Tom Price	107.3
Quorn	107.9	Augusta	99.1	Wagin	1296
Renmark/Loxton	1305	Broome	107.7	Wyndham	107.7
Roxby Downs	101.9	Bunbury	1269	Yalgoo	107.7
Spencer Gulf	106.7	(Busselton)			
North					

ABC Classic FM Transmission Frequencies as at 30 June 2023

The ABC has listed only terrestrial transmission services with apparatus licences held by the ABC.

ABC Classic		ABC Classic		ABC Classic	
Area Served	Frequency (MHz)	Area Served	Frequency (MHz)	Area Served	Frequency (MHz)
ACT		NT		Spencer Gulf North	
Canberra	102.3	Alice Springs	97.9	TAS	
Tuggeranong	99.1	Darwin	107.3	Hobart	93.9
NSW		QLD		NE Tasmania	93.3
Armidale	103.5	Airlie Beach	95.5	VIC	
Batemans Bay/Moruya	101.9	Brisbane	106.1	Ballarat (Lookout Hill)	105.5
Bathurst (City)	97.5	Cairns	105.9	Bendigo	92.7
Bega/Cooma	99.3	Cairns North	94.7	Bright	88.1
Broken Hill	103.7	Clermont	104.5	Goulburn Valley	96.1
Central	102.7	Darling Downs	107.3	Latrobe Valley	101.5
Tablelands		Emerald	90.7	Melbourne	105.9
Central Western Slopes	105.5	Gold Coast	88.5	Mildura/Sunraysia	102.7
Goulburn (town)	89.5	Gympie	93.7	Murray Valley	103.7
Grafton/Kempsey	97.9	Mackay	97.9	Upper Murray	104.1
Illawarra	95.7	Mount Isa	101.7	Warrnambool	92.1
Manning River	98.7	Nambour	88.7	Western Victoria	93.3
Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area	97.3	Rockhampton	106.3	WA	
Newcastle	106.1	Roma	97.7	Bunbury	93.3
Richmond/Tweed	95.3	Southern Downs	101.7	Central	98.9
SW Slopes/E Riverina	88.3	Townsville	101.5	Agricultural	
Sydney	92.9	Townsville North	95.9	Esperance	104.7
Tamworth	103.1	Wide Bay	98.5	Geraldton	94.9
Upper Namoi	96.7	SA		Kalgoorlie	95.5
Wagga Wagga	105.9	Adelaide	103.9	Narrogin	92.5
		Adelaide Foothills	97.5	Perth	97.7
		Mount Gambier	104.1	Southern Agricultural	94.5
		Renmark/Loxton	105.1		
		Roxby Downs	103.5		

ABC triple j Transmission Frequencies as at 30 June 2023

The ABC has listed only terrestrial transmission services with apparatus licences held by the ABC.

triple j		triple j		triple j	
Area Served	Frequency (MHz)	Area Served	Frequency (MHz)	Area Served	Frequency (MHz)
ACT		Wagga Wagga	101.1	TAS	
Canberra	101.5	NT		Hobart	92.9
Tuggeranong	95.9	Alice Springs	94.9	NE Tasmania	90.9
NSW		Darwin	103.3	VIC	
Armidale	101.1	QLD		Ballarat (Lookout Hill)	107.1
Bathurst (City)	95.9	Brisbane	107.7	Bendigo	90.3
Bega/Cooma	100.1	Cairns	107.5	Goulburn Valley	94.5
Broken Hill	102.1	Cairns North	97.1	Latrobe Valley	96.7
Central	101.9	Darling Downs	104.1	Melbourne	107.5
Tablelands		Gold Coast	97.7	Mildura/Sunraysia	101.1
Central Western Slopes	102.3	Mackay	99.5	Murray Valley	105.3
Goulburn (town)	88.7	Mount Isa	104.1	Upper Murray	103.3
Grafton/Kempsey	91.5	Nambour	89.5	Warrnambool	89.7
Illawarra	98.9	Rockhampton	104.7	Western Victoria	94.9
Manning River	96.3	Southern Downs	103.3	WA	
Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area	96.5	Townsville	105.5	Bunbury	94.1
Newcastle	102.1	Townsville North	97.5	Central	98.1
Richmond/Tweed	96.1	Wide Bay	99.3	Agricultural	
SW Slopes/E Riverina	90.7	SA		Geraldton	98.9
Sydney	105.7	Adelaide	105.5	Kalgoorlie	98.7
Tamworth	94.7	Adelaide	95.9	Perth	99.3
Upper Namoi	99.9	Foothills		Southern Agricultural	92.9
		Mount Gambier	102.5		
		Renmark/Loxton	101.9		
		Spencer	103.5		
		Gulf North			

ABC NEWS on radio Transmission Frequencies as at 30 June 2023

The ABC has listed only terrestrial transmission services with apparatus licences held by the ABC.

ABC NEWS on radio		ABC NEWS on radio		ABC NEWS on radio	
Area Served	Frequency (MHz)	Area Served	Frequency (MHz)	Area Served	Frequency (MHz)
ACT		Upper Namoi	101.5	East Devonport	102.1
Canberra	103.9	Wagga Wagga	105.1	Hobart	747
Tuggeranong	99.9	NT		NE Tasmania	92.5
NSW		Alice Springs	104.1	VIC	
Armidale	102.7	Darwin	102.5	Bairnsdale	107.9
Batemans Bay/ Moruya	100.5	Katherine	105.3	Ballarat	94.3
Bathurst	98.3	QLD		Bendigo	89.5
Bega/Cooma	89.7	Airlie Beach	93.9	Colac	104.7
Broken Hill	104.5	Bowen	96.7	Goulburn Valley	107.7
Central Tablelands	91.9	Brisbane	936	Horsham	89.3
Central Western Slopes	106.3	Cairns	101.1	Latrobe Valley	95.1
Deniliquin	100.9	Cairns North	96.3	Melbourne	1026
Gosford	98.1	Emerald	89.1	Mildura/ Sunraysia	100.3
Goulburn	99.9	Gladstone	96.7	Murray Valley	95.9
Grafton/ Kempsey	90.7	Gold Coast	95.7	Portland	97.7
Illawarra	90.9	Gympie	94.5	Upper Murray	100.9
Inverell	93.5	Mackay	104.3	Warrnambool	91.3
Lithgow	91.3	Mount Isa	104.9	Western Victoria	91.7
Manning River	94.7	Rockhampton	105.5	WA	
Mudgee	101.1	Sunshine Coast	94.5	Broome	106.9
Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area	98.1	Toowoomba	96.7	Bunbury (Busselton)	1152
Newcastle	1458	Townsville	94.3	Carnarvon	106.1
Port Stephens	95.1	Townsville North	93.5	Central	99.7
Richmond/ Tweed	98.5	Warwick	96.3	Agricultural	
SW Slopes/E Riverina	91.5	Wide Bay	97.7	Esperance	103.1
Sydney	630	SA		Geraldton	101.3
Tamworth	91.7	Adelaide	972	Kalgoorlie	100.3
Upper Hunter	104.9	Mount Gambier	105.7	Karratha	104.1
		Renmark/Loxton	93.9	Perth	585
		Spencer Gulf North	102.7	Port Hedland	94.9
		Tumby Bay	91.5	Southern	92.1
		TAS		Agricultural	
		Burnie	90.5	Wagin	96.3

Radio Transmitter Statistics as at 30 June 2023

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Total
ABC Digital Radio	2	7	2	2	1	2	5	3	24
ABC Radio	1	59	15	68	13	19	24	41	240
RN	1	52	15	87	18	13	21	50	257
ABC Classic FM	2	19	2	18	6	2	11	8	68
ABC triple j	2	18	2	13	5	2	10	6	58
ABC NEWS on radio	2	26	3	18	5	4	14	12	84
Total	10	181	39	206	48	42	85	120	731

All Radio and Television Transmitter Statistics as at 30 June 2023

	2022-23	2021-22
Digital Television	497	497
Analog Radio	707	707
via AM	109	110
via FM	598	597
Digital Radio	24	24
International Radio	13	13
via fully managed service	5	5
via partner agreement	8	8
Total	1,241	1,241

Appendix 14 – Radio Australia and ABC Australia distribution and transmission

Radio Australia Frequencies

ABC Radio Australia – 24 hours transmission		
Tonga	Nuku'alofa	103 FM
Fiji	Nadi	106.6 FM
	Suva	106.6 FM
Vanuatu	Port Vila	103 FM
Solomon Islands	Honiara	107 FM
	Port Moresby	101.9 FM
	Lae	101.9 FM
	Goroka	101.9 FM
	Mt Hagan	101.9 FM
Papua New Guinea	Arawa	101.9 FM
	Apia	102 FM
East Timor	Dili	106.5FM

ABC Radio Australia – Part-rebroadcast		
Papua New Guinea	NBC network	1 national station and 19 provincial
Papua New Guinea	FM100 network:	
	Lae	100.3 FM
	Kimbe	100.8 FM
	Kavieng	100.3 FM
	Goroka	100.2 FM
	Buka	100.8 FM
	Boregoro	107.7 FM
	Dimodimo	107.1 FM
Republic of Marshall Islands	V7AB	AM 1098 kHz
Republic of Palau	Eco Paradise FM (EPFM)	87.9 FM
	EPFM Ngerel Belau	AM 1584 kHz
Republic of Nauru	Nauru Radio	105.1 FM
Samoa	Samoa Quality Broadcasting	89.9 FM
Solomon Islands	Honiara	97.7/101.7 FM
	Paoa FM	
Tonga	Tonga Broadcasting	101.7 AM

Languages other than English – rebroadcast partner stations		
Tok Pisin		
Papua New Guinea	FM100 Network	
	Madang	100.8 FM
	Lae	100.3 FM
	Kimbe	100.8 FM
	Kavieng	100.3 FM
	Goroka	100.2 FM
	Buka	100.8 FM
	Boregoro	107.7 FM
	Dimodimo	107.1 FM
	NBC Provincial Stations	
	Bougainville	
Central		
East New Britain		
East Sepic		
Eastern Highlands		
Enga		
Gulf		
Madang		
Manus		
Milne Bay		
Marobe		
New Island		
Northern		
Simbu		
Southern Highlands		
West New Britain		
West Sepik		
Western		
Western Highlands		
Solomon Islands	Honiara	1035 AM

Satellite distribution – ABC Australia and ABC Radio Australia

ABC Radio Australia is transmitted on Intelsat18 in two streams enabling audiences in Melanesia to hear Tok Pisin news program Wantok alongside English language content, while audiences across Polynesia receive a full-English language service.

ABC Australia

The ABC Australia television service is distributed by Intelsat 18 and 20 across the Indo-Pacific region. It is downlinked by approximately 110 rebroadcasters in this region, across 38 countries and territories. The Intelsat 18 stream which covers the Pacific also allows for Direct to Home transmission. Information on rebroadcast partners can be found on the ABC Australia website: <http://www.abcaustralia.com/tuning>

Appendix 15 – ABC offices

Australian Capital Territory

ABC Radio Canberra

Cnr Northbourne and Wakefield Avenues
Dickson ACT 2602
(GPO Box 9994
Canberra ACT 2601)
Phone (02) 6275 4555
SMS: 0467 922 666
Editor, ABC Canberra:
Julie Doyle

New South Wales

ABC Radio Sydney

ABC Ultimo Centre
700 Harris Street
Ultimo NSW 2007
(GPO Box 9994
Sydney NSW 2001)
Phone (02) 8333 1234
SMS: 0467 922 702
Manager, ABC Radio Sydney:
Andrew Clark

Batemans Bay

Unit 2, 13 Orient Street
Batemans Bay NSW 2536
SMS 0467 922 684

Bega

Unit 1, First Floor
The Roy Howard Building
Ayers Walkway
184 Carp Street
(PO Box 336)
Bega NSW 2550
Phone (02) 6491 6011
SMS 0467 922 684
(Local Radio station:
ABC South East NSW)

Broken Hill

454-456 Argent Street
Broken Hill
Phone (08) 8082 4011
SMS 0467 922 783
(Local Radio station:
ABC Broken Hill)

Coffs Harbour

24 Gordon Street
Coffs Harbour NSW 2450
Phone (02) 6650 3611
SMS 0467 922 684
(Local Radio station:
ABC Coffs Coast)

Dubbo

45 Wingewarra Street
(PO Box 985)
Dubbo NSW 2830
Phone (02) 6881 1811
SMS 0467 922 684
(Local Radio station:
ABC Western Plains)

Gosford

131 Donnison Street
Gosford NSW 2250
Phone (02) 4367 1911
SMS 0467 922 684
(Local Radio station:
ABC Central Coast)

Lismore

61 High Street
(PO Box 908)
Lismore Heights NSW 2480
Phone (02) 6627 2011
SMS 0467 922 684
(Local Radio station:
ABC North Coast)

Muswellbrook

36A Brook Street
Muswellbrook NSW 2333
Phone (02) 6542 2800
SMS 0487 991 233
(Local Radio station:
ABC Upper Hunter)

Newcastle

24 Wood Street
(Cnr Wood and Parry Streets)
Newcastle West NSW 2302
PO Box 2205
Dangar NSW 2309
Phone (02) 4922 1200
SMS 0487 991 233
(Local Radio station:
ABC Newcastle)

Orange

46 Bathurst Road
(PO Box 8549)
East Orange NSW 2800
Phone (02) 6393 2511
SMS 0467 922 684
(Local Radio station:
ABC Central West NSW)

Port Macquarie

51 Lord Street
(PO Box 42)
Port Macquarie NSW 2444
Phone (02) 6588 1211
SMS 0467 922 684
(Local Radio station:
ABC Mid North Coast)

Tamworth

470 Peel Street
Level 1, Parry Shire Building
(PO Box 558)
Tamworth NSW 2340
Phone (02) 6760 2411
SMS 0467 922 684
(Local Radio station:
ABC New England North West)

Wagga Wagga

100 Fitzmaurice Street
Wagga Wagga NSW 2650
Phone (02) 6923 4811
SMS 0467 922 684
(Local Radio station:
ABC Riverina)

Wollongong

13 Victoria St
Wollongong NSW 2500
(PO Box 973
Wollongong NSW 2520)
Phone (02) 4224 5011
SMS 0467 922 684
(Local Radio station:
ABC Illawarra)

Northern Territory**ABC Radio Darwin**

1 Cavenagh Street
Darwin NT 0800
(GPO Box 9994
Darwin NT 0801)
Phone (08) 8943 3222
SMS 0487 991 057
Manager ABC Radio Darwin:
Stephen McClelland

Alice Springs

Cnr Gap Road and
Speed Street
Alice Springs NT 0870
(PO Box 1144
Alice Springs NT 0871)
Phone (08) 8950 4711
SMS 0487 991 057
(Local Radio station:
ABC Alice Springs)

Katherine

Stuart Highway
Katherine NT 0850
(PO Box 1240
Katherine NT 0851)
Phone (08) 8972 5711
SMS 0487 991 057
(Local Radio station:
ABC Katherine)

Queensland**ABC Radio Brisbane**

114 Grey Street
South Brisbane QLD 4101
(GPO Box 9994
Brisbane QLD 4001)
Phone (07) 3377 5222
SMS 0467 922 612
Manager ABC Radio Brisbane:
Anthony Frangi (Acting)

Bundaberg

Shop 6
58 Woongarra Street
(PO Box 1152)
Bundaberg QLD 4670
Phone (07) 4155 4911
SMS 0487 993 222
(Local Radio station:
ABC Wide Bay)

Cairns

Cnr Sheridan and
Upward Streets
(PO Box 932)
Cairns QLD 4870
Phone (07) 4044 2011
SMS 0487 993 222
(Local Radio station:
ABC Far North Queensland)

Charleville

81B Galatea Street
Charleville QLD 4470
SMS 0487 993 222

Gold Coast

Cnr Gold Coast Highway
and Francis Street
(PO Box 217)
Mermaid Beach QLD 4218
Phone (07) 5595 2917
SMS 0487 993 222
(Local Radio station:
ABC Gold Coast)

Hervey Bay

Unit 4, 156 Boat Harbour Drive
Pialba QLD 4655
SMS 0487 993 222

Longreach

Duck Street
(PO Box 318)
Longreach QLD 4730
Phone (07) 4658 4011
(Local Radio station:
ABC Western Queensland)

Mackay

2 Wellington Street
(PO Box 127)
Mackay QLD 4740
Phone (07) 4957 1111
SMS 0487 993 222
(Local Radio station:
ABC Tropical North)

Mt Isa

114 Camooweal Street
Mt Isa QLD 4825
Phone (07) 4744 1311
SMS 0487 993 222
(Local Radio station:
ABC North West Queensland)

Rockhampton

236 Quay Street
(PO Box 911)
Rockhampton QLD 4700
Phone (07) 4924 5111
SMS 0487 993 222
(Local Radio station:
ABC Capricornia)

Sunshine Coast

Level 1
15 Carnaby Street
(PO Box 1212)
Maroochydore QLD 4558
Phone (07) 5475 5000
SMS 0487 993 222
(Local Radio station:
ABC Sunshine Coast)

Toowoomba

297 Margaret Street
(PO Box 358)
Toowoomba QLD 4350
Phone (07) 4631 3811
SMS 0487 993 222
(Local Radio station:
ABC Southern Queensland)

Townsville

8-10 Wickham Street
(PO Box 694)
Townsville QLD 4810
Phone (07) 4722 3011
SMS 0487 993 222
(Local Radio station:
ABC North Queensland)

South Australia**ABC Radio Adelaide**

85 North East Road
Collinswood SA 5081
(GPO Box 9994
Adelaide SA 5001)
Phone (08) 8343 4000
SMS 0467 922 891
Manager ABC Radio Adelaide:
Graeme Bennett

Broken Hill

(administered by ABC
South Australia)
454 Argent Street
(PO Box 315)
Broken Hill NSW 2880
Phone (08) 8082 4011
SMS 0467 922 783
(Local Radio station:
ABC Broken Hill)

Mount Gambier

31 Penola Road
(PO Box 1448)
Mt Gambier SA 5290
Phone (08) 8724 1011
SMS 0467 922 783
(Local Radio station:
ABC South East SA)

Port Lincoln

First Floor, Civic Centre 60
Tasman Terrace
(PO Box 679)
Port Lincoln SA 5606
Phone (08) 8683 2611
SMS 0467 922 783
(Local Radio station:
ABC Eyre Peninsula)

Port Pirie

85 Grey Terrace
(PO Box 289)
Port Pirie SA 5540
Phone (08) 8638 4811
SMS 0467 922 783
(Local Radio station:
ABC North and West SA)

Renmark

Ral Ral Avenue
(PO Box 20)
Renmark SA 5341
Phone (08) 8586 1311
SMS 0467 922 783
(Local Radio station:
ABC Riverland)

Tasmania**ABC Radio Hobart**

ABC Centre
1-7 Liverpool Street
(GPO Box 9994
Hobart TAS 7001)
Phone: (03) 6235 3217
SMS: 0438 922 936
Manager ABC Radio Hobart:
Samantha Stayner

Burnie

81 Mount Street
(PO Box 533)
Burnie TAS 7320
Phone (03) 6430 1211
SMS 0467 922 917
(Local Radio station:
ABC Northern Tasmania)

Launceston

45 Ann Street
 (PO Box 201)
 Launceston TAS 7250
 Phone (03) 6323 1011
 SMS 0467 922 917
 (Local Radio station:
 ABC Northern Tasmania)

Victoria**ABC Radio Melbourne**

ABC Southbank Centre
 120 Southbank Boulevard
 Southbank VIC 3006
 (GPO Box 9994
 Melbourne VIC 3001)
 Phone (03) 8646 1500
 SMS 0437 774 774
 Manager ABC Radio
 Melbourne: Dina Rosendorff

Ballarat

5 Dawson Street South
 Ballarat VIC 3350
 (PO Box 7
 Ballarat VIC 3353)
 Phone (03) 5320 1011
 SMS 0467 842 722
 (Local Radio station:
 ABC Ballarat)

Bendigo

278 Napier Street
 (PO Box 637)
 Bendigo VIC 3550
 Phone (03) 5440 1711
 SMS 0467 842 722
 (Local Radio station:
 ABC Central Victoria)

Horsham

Shop 3
 148 Baillie Street
 Horsham VIC 3400
 (PO Box 506
 Horsham VIC 3402)
 Phone (03) 5381 5311
 SMS 0467 842 722
 (Local Radio station:
 ABC Wimmera)

Mildura

73 Pine Ave
 (PO Box 10083)
 Mildura VIC 3502
 Phone (03) 5022 4511
 SMS 0467 842 722
 (Local Radio station:
 ABC Mildura-Swan Hill)

Sale

340 York Street
 (PO Box 330)
 Sale VIC 3850
 Phone (03) 5143 5511
 SMS 0467 842 722
 (Local Radio station:
 ABC Gippsland)

Shepparton

50A Wyndham Street
 (PO Box 1922)
 Shepparton VIC 3630
 Phone (03) 5820 4011
 SMS 0467 842 722
 (Local Radio Station:
 ABC Goulburn-Murray)

Warragul

15 Napier Street
 Warragul VIC 3820
 SMS 0467 842 722

Warrnambool

166B Koroit Street
 (PO Box 310)
 Warrnambool VIC 3280
 Phone (03) 5560 3111
 SMS 0467 842 722
 (Local Radio station:
 ABC South West Victoria)

Wodonga

1 High Street
 (PO Box 1063)
 Wodonga VIC 3690
 Phone (02) 6049 2011
 SMS 0467 842 722
 (Local Radio station:
 ABC Goulburn-Murray)

Western Australia**ABC Radio Perth**

30 Fielder Street
 East Perth WA 6004
 (GPO Box 9994
 Perth WA 6848)
 Phone (08) 9220 2700
 SMS 0437 922 720
 Manager ABC Radio Perth:
 Sarah Knight

Albany

2 St Emilie Way
 Albany WA 6330
 Phone (08) 9842 4011
 SMS 0448 922 604
 (Local Radio Station:
 ABC Great Southern WA)

Broome

23 Hamersley Street
 (PO Box 217)
 Broome WA 6725
 Phone (08) 9191 3011
 SMS 0448 922 604
 (Local Radio station:
 ABC Kimberley)

Bunbury

72 Wittennoom Street
 (PO Box 242)
 Bunbury WA 6231
 Phone (08) 9792 2711
 SMS 0448 922 604
 (Local Radio station:
 ABC South West WA)

Carnarvon

15 Stuart Street
 Carnarvon WA 6701
 SMS 0448 922 604

Esperance

80b Windich Street
 (PO Box 230)
 Esperance WA 6450
 Phone (08) 9083 2011
 SMS 0448 922 604
 (Local Radio station:
 ABC Goldfields)

Geraldton

245 Marine Terrace
(PO Box 211)
Geraldton WA 6531
Phone (08) 9923 4111
SMS 0448 922 604
(Local Radio station:
ABC Midwest and Wheatbelt)

Kalgoorlie

353 Hannan Street
(PO Box 125)
Kalgoorlie WA 6430
Phone (08) 9093 7011
SMS 0448 922 604
(Local Radio station:
ABC Goldfields)

Karratha

DeGrey Place
(PO Box 994)
Karratha WA 6714
Phone (08) 9183 5011
SMS 0448 922 604
(Local Radio station:
ABC Pilbara)

Kununurra

114b Collibah Drive
(PO Box 984)
Kununurra WA 6743
Phone: (08) 9168 4300
SMS 0448 922 604
(Local Radio station:
ABC Kimberley)

In addition: ABC Regional
& Local has a home-based
reporter in Nowra.

The ABC has overseas
offices in:

New Delhi , India

Phone: +91 11 261 54307

Bangkok, Thailand

Phone: +662 254 8322

Beijing, China

Phone: + (8610) 6532 6810

Fax: + (8610) 6532 2514

Jakarta, Indonesia

Phone: + (62) 21 390 812

London, United Kingdom

Phone: + (4420) 7808 1360

Fax: + (4420) 7799 5482

Port Moresby,**Papua New Guinea**

Phone: + (675) 321 2666

Fax: + (675) 321 2131

Tokyo, Japan

Phone: + (813) 3469 8099

Fax: + (813) 3468 844

Washington, USA

Phone: + (1202) 466 8575

In addition, the ABC has home
based reporters in Taipei
(Taiwan), Jerusalem (Israel),
Istanbul (Turkey), and a
producer in Beirut (Lebanon).

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Stuff the British Stole presenter Marc Fennell.



Compliance index

ABC Annual Report 2023

Reports required under section 80 of the *Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983*

Section	Requirement	Statement/Location
s.80(a)s-80(daa)	Directions from the Minister relating to a broadcast or provision of content on a digital media service	No such directions received 2022-23
s.80(da)	Codes of practice developed under subsection 8(1)	See Appendix 4 (pp. 213–223)
s.80(e)	Particulars of any request made to the Board by the Minister during that year under subsection 8(2) and the action (if any) taken by the Board in respect of the request	No such request made 2022-23
s.80(f)	Particulars of any gift, devise or bequest accepted by the Corporation during that year	The Corporation received no gifts or donations within the meaning of section 80 of the <i>Australian Broadcasting Act 1983</i>
s.80(g)	Particulars of any advice received by the Board during that year from the ABC Advisory Council	See ABC Advisory Council (pp. 124–128)
s.80(j)	Activities under subsection 25A	See Financial Statements, Note 12 (pp. 194–195)
s.80(k)	Particulars of any activities during the year of any authorised business with which the Corporation is associated under that subsection	See Financial Statements, Note 12 (pp. 194-195)
s.80(l)	Particulars of significant changes of transmission coverage and quality	See (pp. 146–147)

Reports required under section 43 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*

Section	Requirement	Statement/Location
s.43(1)	Auditor-General's report	Provided to the Minister on 22 August 2023 (pp. 154–155).
s.43(4)	Financial Statements	See Financial Statements (pp. 148–205)

Reports required under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014*

Section	Requirement	Statement/Location
s.17BE(ka)	Statistics on numbers of employees	See Appendix 5 (pp. 224–225) s.17BE(q)
s.17BE(q)	Judicial decisions and reviews by Outside Bodies	Matters referred to the Australian Communications and Media Authority for review, see (p. 133). No other judicial decisions or decision of administrative tribunals were made in 2020-21 which had, or may have, a significant effect on the ABC's operations
s.17BE(t)	Indemnities and insurance premiums for Officers	See Risk (p. 130)
s.17BE(ta)	Information about executive remuneration in accordance with Subdivision C	See Appendix 6 (pp. 225–229)
s.17BE(taa)	Details of audit committee	See Appendix 2 (pp. 209–211) s.17BE(u)
s.17BE(u)	Index of Annual Report Requirements	This Compliance Index satisfies section 17BE(u)

Other requirements of section 17BE of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014*

Section	Requirement	Statement/Location
s.17BE(a)	Details of the legislation establishing the body	See Enabling Legislation (p. 122)
s.17BE(b)(i)	Summary of the objects and functions of the entity	See Purpose and Vision (p. 10) and Appendix 1 (pp. 208–209)
s.17BE(b)(ii)	Purposes of the entity as included in the <i>ABC Corporate Plan 2017-18</i>	The Annual Performance Statements (pp. 134–147)
s.17BE(c)	The responsible Minister	See Responsible Minister (p. 122)
s.17BE(d)	Ministerial directions	Nil
s.17BE(e)	Government policy orders	Nil
s.17BE(g)	Annual Performance Statements	See Annual Performance Statements (pp. 134–147)
s.17BE(h)	Statement regarding significant non-compliance	See Compliance reporting (p. 123)
s.17BE(j)	Information about members of the accountable authority	See The Board (pp. 4–6)
s.17BE(k)	Outline of organisational structure	See Appendix 3 (p. 212)
s.17BE(l)	Outline of location of major activities or facilities	See Where We Are (p. 12) and Appendix 14 (pp. 244–252)
s.17BE(m)	Information in relation to the main corporate governance practices	See Corporate governance (p. 122)
s.17BE(n)	Related entity transactions	Nil
s.17BE(p)	Significant activities and changes affecting the agency	All sections
s.17BE(r)	Particulars of reports on the ABC	Nil
s.17BE(s)	Obtaining information from subsidiaries	N/A

Reports required under *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*

Section	Requirement	Statement/Location
s516A(6)(a)&(b)	Report on the compliance with and contribution to the principles of ecologically sustainable development	Environmental Sustainability section
s516A(6)(c)	Effect of activities on environment	
s516A(6)(d)	Measures taken to minimise environmental impact	
s516A(6)(e)	Mechanisms for reviewing and increasing the effectiveness of measures	

Abbreviations list

ABC ID ABC International Development

ABC IBDS International Broadcast and Digital Services

ACMA Australian Communications and Media Authority

AI artificial intelligence

BVOD broadcaster video-on-demand

CALD culturally and linguistically diverse

DAB+ digital audio broadcasting plus

GST Goods and Services Tax

NBC National Broadcasting Corporation

PGPA Act *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013 (Cth)*

PGPA Rule Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014

PBS Portfolio Budget Statements

PSM public-service media

SSA Sustainable Screens Australia

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