

## **Budget Estimates 2011-2012**

### **Questions Taken During Hearing**

#### **Questions relating to the portfolio of Arts**

**Question:**

1. The Hon Lynda Voltz: How much funding comes from Arts NSW for the North Coast music conservatorium hub for the area that covers Coffs Harbour to Bulahdelah?

**Answer:**

In 2011 funding of \$23,993 was provided under the Arts Funding Program to Coffs Harbour Regional Conservatorium. A further \$32,842 will be provided under the Arts Funding Program in 2012.

**Question:**

2. The Hon Lynda Voltz: Can you inform this Committee who did attend the Cannes Film Festival in France?

**Answer:**

Tania Chambers, Chief Executive, Screen NSW.

**Question:**

3. The Hon Steve Whan: Have you got anything you can tell us about any involvement the Film and Television Office has at the moment in attracting films to utilise the facilities at Broken Hill?

**Answer:**

The Screen NSW Production Attraction Team markets the Broken Hill studios, locations and capabilities to local and international filmmakers through formal location pitches, its website, face-to-face meetings and inbound and outbound missions.

Since the Broken Hill Studios were announced in 2010, Screen NSW has pitched Broken Hill as a potential filming destination on several feature film projects, including international and domestic films.

In August, Screen NSW engaged Film Broken Hill in an 18 month contract as part of a panel of NSW Regional Screen Offices, to deliver production attraction and facilitation services.

**Question:**

4. The Hon Lynda Voltz: What community arts projects were funded in Newcastle in the Hunter region, just the dollar amount? You said \$3.5 million in western Sydney. What is the amount that has been spent in the Hunter region?

**Answer:**

In 2011, funding of \$515,180 was provided to arts projects and programs located in the Hunter across all art forms including the Hunter Writers' Centre Inc, Newcastle Region Art Gallery and Tantrum Theatre Co-operative Ltd.

**Question:**

5. The Hon Paul Green: I agree that libraries are the hub of the community and are very important. What grants are available for local governments throughout New South Wales to get access to build new libraries? Will you take that question on notice?

**Answer:**

The State Library administers the Library Development Grants and Country Library Fund Grants. Under these programs, councils may apply for up to \$200,000 to improve library services. Buildings are eligible under these programs. Applications for this year's program close on Monday 19 December 2011.

**Question:**

6. The Hon Paul Green: Mobile libraries are also very important in regional and rural New South Wales. Do you propose to increase funding for mobile libraries in the coming years given their importance to isolated towns and villages?

**Answer:**

The NSW Government recognises mobile libraries are important in ensuring people in remote and isolated areas can access library services. The new Revitalising Regional Libraries grants program (\$2M over 4 years), which is available to rural and regional councils, may be expended on mobile library services.