

This questionnaire has been created by the ABC Friends (NSW&ACT) and is being sent to all candidates standing in the Wentworth by-election.

ABC Friends (NSW&ACT) is seeking information about your commitment to supporting the ABC as a strong, properly funded and independent public broadcaster. We will use candidates' responses to develop a 'How to Vote for the ABC' scorecard for distribution throughout the Wentworth electorate. ABC Friends (NSW&ACT) will be urging voters to consider candidates' views on the ABC when they vote on 20 October.

Please return the completed questionnaire to [wentworth@abcfriends.org.au](mailto:wentworth@abcfriends.org.au) by no later than **3 October 2018**.

**Your details**     *Name:* Andrea Leong

*Party:* Science Party

**Questionnaire**     *Please complete all of the questions below.*

Questions	Yes	No
1. Will you commit to ensuring that the ABC remains as a public broadcaster; that it will not be sold off?	✓	
2. Will you commit to reversing the \$84 million funding cuts to the ABC in the last federal budget?		✗
3. Do you support restoration of ABC funding to the level it received in 2013 (before the Abbott government cuts of \$254m in 2014)?		✗
4. Will you commit to maintaining the independence of the ABC Board and Management, as outlined within the ABC Act (1983) and ABC Charter?	✓	
5. Will you commit to ensuring the ABC receives sufficient funds to allow it to provide comprehensive services to rural and regional Australia?	✓	
6. Will you commit to ensuring the ABC receives sufficient funds to allow it to resume its important role as Australia's voice into Asia and the Pacific through its broadcast to the Indo-Pacific area?	✓	
7. Do you commit to ensuring that the governance of the ABC remains independent of political or external interference?	✓	
8. Do you agree that the ABC must set the gold standard for quality, ethical, specialist and inclusive broadcasting nationally so as to inform, entertain and stimulate our robust Australian democratic way of life?	✓	

**Any other comments you would like to make in relation to the ABC?**

Strengthening the ABC's independence is vital. Australia's national public broadcaster is one of our most trusted institutions and it must not be open to any suspicion of undue interference, government or otherwise. The Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act (1983) should be reviewed to ensure that the ABC's funding model and organisational structure provide independence from government.

Regarding funding, the ABC must of course be sufficiently funded to carry out its many important services, including the ones listed above, but I prefer not to commit to any particular dollar amount.

*Thank you for completing the questionnaire. We will be using the information provided here and in other candidate and party policy statements and communications to develop our scorecard. If you have any questions in relation to this please feel free to email ABC Friends NSW&ACT at: [wentworth@abcfriends.org.au](mailto:wentworth@abcfriends.org.au)*