HANDS off OUR ABC
For more than 80 years, the ABC has touched the lives of all Australians in one way or another.

Whether it is watching *Play School* as a child, debating Triple J’s Hottest 100 with friends, tuning into our favourite Radio National programs or keeping up-to-date with the latest news and current affairs, the ABC plays a pivotal role in informing and shaping our views about Australian life and contributing to our sense of nation identity.

But the ABC has never been under greater attack in its long and storied history than it is now.

Almost $340 million has been cut from its base funding since 2014. Programs have been axed, locally produced drama is way down, foreign bureaux have been closed and hundreds of years of journalistic experience has been lost. ABC journalists simply doing their job are attacked on an almost daily basis by politicians and their proxies.

On top of this, the Liberal Party’s federal council this year voted 4:1 in favour of selling off the ABC.

But the ABC isn’t theirs to sell. It belongs to us, the Australian public, and it’s time to start fighting back.

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What we stand for:

We call on all candidates in the Wentworth by-election to commit to the following five principles:

1. Restore ABC funding to a sustainable level.
2. Respect the editorial and programming independence of the ABC as enshrined in the ABC Act.
3. Keep the ABC 100% commercial-free.
4. Curtail outsourcing and do not seek to privatise or commercialise any parts of the ABC.
5. Foster and retain a diverse, skilled workforce that can create and deliver exciting Australian content.

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On October 20, vote in the Wentworth by-election for the candidate who you most trust with our ABC.

**Hands Off Our ABC** is a community campaign of the Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance

Find out more at: [handsoffourabc.org.au](http://handsoffourabc.org.au)

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