

Australian Film, Television and Radio School

**Entity resources and planned
performance**

Australian Film, Television and Radio School

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Australian Film, Television and Radio School

Section 1: Entity overview and resources

1.1 Strategic direction statement

The Australian Film, Television and Radio School (AFTRS) is the national institution for education, training and research for the screen and broadcast industries. Guided by its enabling legislation, the *Australian, Film, Television and Radio School Act 1973*, AFTRS works together with the screen and broadcast industries to provide Australians with the highest level of screen and broadcast education, training, and research so that Australian stories and culture thrive at home and around the world.

As the national screen and broadcast school, AFTRS is a global centre of excellence that is accessible to all Australians. In a time defined by the pace of change, the School is adaptive, nimble and fit for purpose in meeting the industry's evolving needs. For that reason, the School's current five-year strategy, 'Creating the Future', is constructed around three pillars: national reach, excellence and sustainability.

- **National Reach** – As the national screen and broadcast school, AFTRS engages, upskills, and supports the most talented learners in all states and territories.
- **Excellence** – Working in close partnership with industry, AFTRS offers the highest level of screen and broadcast training. The School's graduates are sought-after for their craft skills and artistry. They are enterprising, creative, and professional. They understand the power of Australian story, underpinned by a First Nations culture, enriched by the diversity of our country, to engage, entertain and connect audiences at home and around the world.
- **Sustainability** – AFTRS has a suite of scalable, adaptive offerings that allow it to grow its business whilst meeting the broad demands for graduates in a sustainable way for its staff, its school resources, and its industry.

These pillars are underpinned by the following areas of strategic focus:

- **First Nations Culture** – Embedding First Nations values within AFTRS by including First Nations' knowledges, voices, values, and pedagogies to build the capacity and knowledge of our staff, graduates, and industry.
- **Outreach and Inclusion** – Support under-represented talent across Australia to work in Australian screen and broadcast industries.
- **Talent Development** – Partner with industry to educate and train world-class storytelling talent across Australia.
- **Industry Skills Training** – Ensure Australian screen and broadcast practitioners have the skills required for its industry to thrive.
- **Research and Innovation** – Provide industry with the new knowledge it needs to keep Australia at the forefront of global innovation.

Budget 2023-24 | Portfolio Budget Statements

- **Effective Organisation** – Ensure an adaptive, efficient, and sustainable business that supports AFTRS as a global centre of excellence for screen and broadcast education, training and research.

In 2023-24, AFTRS' work will be guided by these strategies and the pillars and principles of the National Cultural Policy – *Revive: a place for every story, a story for every place.*

1.2 Entity resource statement

Table 1.1 shows the total funding from all sources available to AFTRS for its operations and to deliver programs and services on behalf of the Government.

The table summarises how resources will be applied by outcome (government strategic policy objectives) and by departmental (for AFTRS' operations) classification.

Information in this table is presented on a resourcing (that is, appropriations/cash available) basis, whilst the 'Budgeted expenses by Outcome 1' tables in Section 2 and the financial statements in Section 3 are presented on an accrual basis.

Table 1.1: AFTRS resource statement — Budget estimates for 2023-24 as at Budget May 2023

	2022-23 Estimated actual \$'000	2023-24 Estimate \$'000
Opening balance/cash reserves at 1 July	8,226	5,552
Funds from Government		
Annual appropriations - ordinary annual services ^(a)		
Outcome 1	22,997	24,283
Total annual appropriations	22,997	24,283
Total funds from Government	22,997	24,283
Funds from other sources		
Interest	373	334
Sale of goods and services	8,331	9,128
Other	171	171
Total funds from other sources	8,875	9,633
Total net resourcing for AFTRS	40,098	39,468
	2022-23	2023-24
Average staffing level (number)	140	145

Prepared on a resourcing (that is, appropriations available) basis. All figures shown above are GST exclusive - these may not match figures in the cash flow statement.

(a) Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2023-24.

AFTRS is not directly appropriated as it is a Corporate Commonwealth Entity. Appropriations are made to the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (a Non-Corporate Commonwealth Entity), which are then paid to AFTRS and are considered 'departmental' for all purposes.

1.3 Budget measures

Table 1.2: AFTRS 2023-24 Budget measures

Part 1: Measures announced since the 2022-23 October Budget

	Program	2022-23 \$'000	2023-24 \$'000	2024-25 \$'000	2025-26 \$'000	2026-27 \$'000
Payment measure						
Supporting Arts Training in Australia	1.1					
Departmental payments		-	500	-	-	-
Total		-	500	-	-	-
Total payment measure						
Departmental		-	500	-	-	-
Total		-	500	-	-	-

Prepared on a Government Finance Statistics (Underlying Cash) basis. Figures displayed as a negative (-) represent a decrease in funds and a positive (+) represent an increase in funds.

Section 2: Outcomes and planned performance

Government outcomes are the intended results, impacts or consequences of actions by the Government on the Australian community. Commonwealth programs are the primary vehicle by which government entities achieve the intended results of their outcome statements. Entities are required to identify the programs which contribute to government outcomes over the Budget and forward years.

Each outcome is described below together with its related programs. The following provides detailed information on expenses for each outcome and program, further broken down by funding source.

Note:

Performance reporting requirements in the Portfolio Budget Statements are part of the Commonwealth performance framework established by the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*. It is anticipated that the performance measures described in Portfolio Budget Statements will be read with broader information provided in an entity's corporate plans and annual performance statements – included in Annual Reports – to provide a complete picture of an entity's planned and actual performance.

The most recent corporate plan for AFTRS can be found at:

<https://www.aftrs.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/AFTRS-Corporate-Plan-2022-23.pdf>.

The most recent annual performance statement can be found at:

<https://www.aftrs.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Annual-Report-2021%E2%80%932022.pdf>.

2.1 Budgeted expenses and performance for Outcome 1

Outcome 1: Support the development of a professional screen arts and broadcast culture in Australia including through the provision of specialist industry-focused education, training, and research

Budgeted expenses for Outcome 1

This table shows how much AFTRS intends to spend (on an accrual basis) on achieving the outcome, broken down by program.

Table 2.1.1: Budgeted expenses for Outcome 1

	2022-23 Estimated actual \$'000	2023-24 Budget \$'000	2024-25 Forward estimate \$'000	2025-26 Forward estimate \$'000	2026-27 Forward estimate \$'000
Program 1.1: Delivery of specialist education					
Revenue from Government Ordinary annual services (Appropriation Bill No. 1)	22,997	24,283	24,177	24,440	24,737
Expenses not requiring appropriation in the budget year	1,116	689	165	115	65
Revenues from other independent sources	9,696	10,085	10,301	10,585	10,897
Total expenses for Program 1.1	33,809	35,057	34,643	35,140	35,699
Outcome 1 totals by resource type					
Revenue from Government Ordinary annual services (Appropriation Bill No. 1)	22,997	24,283	24,177	24,440	24,737
Expenses not requiring appropriation in the budget year	1,116	689	165	115	65
Revenues from other independent sources	9,696	10,085	10,301	10,585	10,897
Total expenses for Outcome 1	33,809	35,057	34,643	35,140	35,699
	2022-23	2023-24			
Average staffing level (number)	140	145			

Table 2.1.2: Performance measures for Outcome 1

Table 2.1.2 details the performance measures for each program associated with Outcome 1. It also provides the related key activities as expressed in the current corporate plan where further detail is provided about the delivery of the activities related to the program, the context in which these activities are delivered and how the performance of these activities will be measured. Where relevant, details of 2023-24 Budget measures that have created new programs or materially changed existing programs are provided.

Outcome 1 – Support the development of a professional screen arts and broadcast culture in Australia including through the provision of specialist industry-focused education, training, and research.		
Program 1.1 – Delivery of specialist education to meet the diverse creative needs of students and the skill requirements of industry by means of award courses, training programs and events.		
Key Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grow First Nations Community Stakeholders and Projects. • Deliver courses across the country. • Deliver accredited courses. • Deliver industry aligned training. • Partner with screen and broadcast stakeholders to provide targeted training. • Develop a faculty-driven research project that bridges industry knowledge and academic expertise. 	
Year	Performance measures	Expected Performance Results
Current year 2022-23	First Nations Culture: Embedding First Nations values within AFTRS by including First Nations' knowledges, voices, values, and pedagogies to build the capacity and knowledge of our staff, graduates, and industry	Target: 2 First Nations-led partnerships. Target expected to be met.
	Outreach and Inclusion: Supporting under-represented talent across Australia to learn, make and work in the Australian screen and broadcast industries and building an inclusive school culture that celebrates all Australians. Creating a flexible and responsive model of delivery that allows us to capitalise on established strengths delivering face-to-face learning in our world-class Sydney campus	Target: 3,000 participants in industry training. Target expected to be met. Target: 1 partnered industry event per State and Territory outside of NSW. Target expected to be met.
	Talent Development: Empower student learning through an experiential curriculum that is inclusive and flexible, and national in its reach and enable teaching excellence	Target: 300 award course enrolments (per calendar year). Target expected to be met. Target: 100 award course graduates (per calendar year). Target expected to be met.

Year	Performance measures	Expected Performance Results
Current year 2022-23 cont.	Industry Skills Training: Creating future-oriented, industry-aligned learning environments that are accessible and transformative and provide pathways to life-long careers in the screen and broadcast industries. Partnering with industry in the design, development, and delivery of courses	Target: 75% of recent graduates applying the skills they learnt in their AFTRS course professionally. Target expected to be met. Target: 10 industry training partnerships. Target expected to be met. Target: Annual consultation with industry stakeholders, including industry Advisory Panels and triennial skills survey. Target expected to be met.
	Research and Innovation: Providing the industry with the new knowledge it needs to keep Australia at the forefront of global innovation. Supporting a culture of enquiry, exploration, and rigour through the School's research programs	Target: 2 disseminated industry research projects. Target expected to be met.
Year	Performance measures	Planned Performance Results
Budget year 2023-24	First Nations Culture: Embedding First Nations values within AFTRS by including First Nations' knowledges, voices, values, and pedagogies to build the capacity and knowledge of our staff, graduates, and industry	2 First Nations-led partnerships.
	Outreach and Inclusion: Supporting under-represented talent across Australia to learn, make and work in the Australian screen and broadcast industries and building an inclusive school culture that celebrates all Australians. Creating a flexible and responsive model of delivery that allows us to capitalise on established strengths delivering face-to-face learning in our world-class Sydney campus	3,000 participants in industry training. 1 partnered industry event per State and Territory outside of NSW.
	Talent Development: Empower student learning through an experiential curriculum that is inclusive and flexible, and national in its reach and enable teaching excellence	300 award course enrolments (per calendar year). 100 award course graduates (per calendar year).
	Industry Skills Training: Creating future-oriented, industry-aligned learning environments that are accessible and transformative and provide pathways to life-long careers in the screen and broadcast industries. Partnering with industry in the design, development, and delivery of courses	75% of recent graduates applying the skills they learnt in their AFTRS course professionally. 10 industry training partnerships. Annual consultation with industry stakeholders, including industry Advisory Panels and triennial skills survey.

Year	Performance measures	Planned Performance Results
Budget year 2023-24 cont.	Research and Innovation: Providing the industry with the new knowledge it needs to keep Australia at the forefront of global innovation. Supporting a culture of enquiry, exploration, and rigour through the School's research programs	2 disseminated industry research projects.
Forward Estimates 2024-27	As per 2023-24	As per 2023-24.

Section 3: Budgeted financial statements

Section 3 presents budgeted financial statements which provide a comprehensive snapshot of AFTRS' finances for the 2023-24 Budget year, including the impact of budget measures and resourcing on financial statements.

3.1 Budgeted financial statements

3.1.1 Explanatory notes and analysis of budgeted financial statements

Comprehensive income statement

Own-source revenue is expected to increase by 4.0 per cent in 2023–24. Award Course fee income of \$7.8 million is an increase of 7.5% from the 2022–23 result and is expected to continue to increase across the forward estimates period. Income from Short and Industry Courses and Business Development is budgeted to be \$1.7 million for 2023–24 (\$1.8 million for 2022–23) and is then expected to increase throughout the forward estimates period.

Employee costs are expected to increase by 3.0 per cent to \$19.2 million in 2023–24 and then increase over the forward years. Overall, total expenses for 2023–24 (\$35.1 million) is an increase of 3.7 per cent from 2022–23. The average staffing level is planned to be 145 in the forward years.

Departmental balance sheet

The budgeted balance sheet is based on the latest forecast with due consideration to flow-ons from the capital expenditure budget, income statements and cash inflows and outflows.

3.2 Budgeted financial statements tables

Table 3.1: Comprehensive income statement (showing net cost of services) for the period ended 30 June

	2022-23 Estimated actual \$'000	2023-24 Budget \$'000	2024-25 Forward estimate \$'000	2025-26 Forward estimate \$'000	2026-27 Forward estimate \$'000
EXPENSES					
Employee benefits	18,601	19,159	19,542	19,933	20,333
Suppliers	8,413	9,447	8,371	8,280	8,372
Depreciation and amortisation	6,163	5,994	6,314	6,560	6,677
Finance costs	632	457	416	367	317
Total expenses	33,809	35,057	34,643	35,140	35,699
LESS:					
OWN-SOURCE INCOME					
Own-source revenue					
Sale of goods and rendering of services	9,163	9,552	9,768	10,052	10,364
Interest	360	360	360	360	360
Other	173	173	173	173	173
Total own-source revenue	9,696	10,085	10,301	10,585	10,897
Total own-source income	9,696	10,085	10,301	10,585	10,897
Net (cost of)/contribution by services	(24,113)	(24,972)	(24,342)	(24,555)	(24,802)
Revenue from Government	22,997	24,283	24,177	24,440	24,737
Surplus/(deficit) attributable to the Australian Government	(1,116)	(689)	(165)	(115)	(65)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME					
Total comprehensive income/(loss)	(1,116)	(689)	(165)	(115)	(65)
Total comprehensive income/(loss) attributable to the Australian Government	(1,116)	(689)	(165)	(115)	(65)
Note: Impact of net cash appropriation arrangements					
Total comprehensive income/(loss) – as per statement of Comprehensive Income	(1,116)	(689)	(165)	(115)	(65)
plus: depreciation/amortisation expenses for ROU assets ^(a)	4,379	3,970	4,038	4,038	4,038
less: lease principal repayments ^(a)	4,345	3,761	3,873	3,923	3,973
Net Cash Operating Surplus/ (Deficit)	(1,082)	(480)	-	-	-

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.

(a) Applies to leases under AASB 16 Leases.

Table 3.2: Budgeted departmental balance sheet (as at 30 June)

	2022-23 Estimated actual \$'000	2023-24 Budget \$'000	2024-25 Forward estimate \$'000	2025-26 Forward estimate \$'000	2026-27 Forward estimate \$'000
ASSETS					
Financial assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	5,552	5,623	5,623	6,055	6,698
Trade and other receivables	3,715	4,097	4,166	4,328	4,425
Total financial assets	9,267	9,720	9,789	10,383	11,123
Non-financial assets					
Land and buildings	37,580	34,657	30,619	26,581	22,544
Property, plant and equipment	8,131	8,149	7,890	7,355	6,686
Intangibles	186	102	43	14	2
Other non-financial assets	1,314	740	740	740	740
Total non-financial assets	47,211	43,648	39,292	34,690	29,972
Total assets	56,478	53,368	49,081	45,073	41,095
LIABILITIES					
Payables					
Suppliers	1,470	1,470	1,470	1,470	1,470
Other payables	4,794	4,726	4,795	4,957	5,054
Total payables	6,264	6,196	6,265	6,427	6,524
Interest bearing liabilities					
Leases	37,659	34,945	31,072	27,149	23,177
Total interest bearing liabilities	37,659	34,945	31,072	27,149	23,177
Provisions					
Employee provisions	2,967	3,328	3,010	2,878	2,840
Total provisions	2,967	3,328	3,010	2,878	2,840
Total liabilities	46,890	44,469	40,347	36,454	32,541
Net assets	9,588	8,899	8,734	8,619	8,554
EQUITY					
Parent entity interest					
Reserves	1,498	1,498	1,498	1,498	1,498
Retained surplus (accumulated deficit)	8,090	7,401	7,236	7,121	7,056
Total parent entity interest	9,588	8,899	8,734	8,619	8,554
Total equity	9,588	8,899	8,734	8,619	8,554

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.

Table 3.3: Departmental statement of changes in equity — summary of movement (Budget year 2023-24)

	Retained earnings \$'000	Asset revaluation reserve \$'000	Contributed equity/capital \$'000	Total equity \$'000
Opening balance as at 1 July 2023				
Balance carried forward from previous period	8,090	1,498	-	9,588
Adjusted opening balance	8,090	1,498	-	9,588
Comprehensive income				
Surplus/(deficit) for the period	(689)	-	-	(689)
Total comprehensive income	(689)	-	-	(689)
Estimated closing balance as at 30 June 2024	7,401	1,498	-	8,899
Closing balance attributable to the Australian Government	7,401	1,498	-	8,899

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.

Table 3.4: Budgeted departmental statement of cash flows (for the period ended 30 June)

	2022-23 Estimated actual \$'000	2023-24 Budget \$'000	2024-25 Forward estimate \$'000	2025-26 Forward estimate \$'000	2026-27 Forward estimate \$'000
OPERATING ACTIVITIES					
Cash received					
Appropriations	22,997	24,283	24,177	24,440	24,737
Sale of goods and rendering of services	8,331	9,128	9,768	10,052	10,364
Interest	373	334	360	360	360
Net GST received	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	-
Other	171	171	171	171	171
Total cash received	32,972	35,016	35,576	36,123	35,632
Cash used					
Employees	19,200	18,798	19,860	20,065	20,371
Suppliers	9,513	9,973	9,471	9,380	8,372
Interest payments on lease liability	632	457	416	367	317
Total cash used	29,345	29,228	29,747	29,812	29,060
Net cash from/(used by) operating activities	3,627	5,788	5,829	6,311	6,572
INVESTING ACTIVITIES					
Cash received					
	2	2	2	2	2
Total cash received	2	2	2	2	2
Cash used					
Purchase of property, plant and equipment and intangibles	1,958	1,958	1,958	1,958	1,958
Total cash used	1,958	1,958	1,958	1,958	1,958
Net cash from/(used by) investing activities	(1,956)	(1,956)	(1,956)	(1,956)	(1,956)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES					
Cash used					
Principal payments on lease liability	4,345	3,761	3,873	3,923	3,973
Total cash used	4,345	3,761	3,873	3,923	3,973
Net cash from/(used by) financing activities	(4,345)	(3,761)	(3,873)	(3,923)	(3,973)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	(2,674)	71	-	432	643
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	8,226	5,552	5,623	5,623	6,055
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	5,552	5,623	5,623	6,055	6,698

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.

Table 3.5: Departmental capital budget statement (for the period ended 30 June)

	2022-23 Estimated actual \$'000	2023-24 Budget \$'000	2024-25 Forward estimate \$'000	2025-26 Forward estimate \$'000	2026-27 Forward estimate \$'000
PURCHASE OF NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS					
Funded internally from departmental resources ^(a)	1,958	1,958	1,958	1,958	1,958
TOTAL	1,958	1,958	1,958	1,958	1,958
RECONCILIATION OF CASH USED TO ACQUIRE ASSETS TO ASSET MOVEMENT TABLE					
Total purchases	1,958	1,958	1,958	1,958	1,958
Total cash used to acquire assets	1,958	1,958	1,958	1,958	1,958

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.

- (a) Funded from annual appropriations and may include donations and contributions, gifts, internally developed assets, and proceeds from the sale of assets.

Table 3.6: Statement of departmental asset movements (Budget year 2023-24)

	Asset Category			Total \$'000
	Buildings \$'000	Other property, plant and equipment \$'000	Computer software and intangibles \$'000	
As at 1 July 2023				
Gross book value	-	12,048	3,821	15,869
Gross book value - ROU assets	55,585	-	-	55,585
Accumulated depreciation/amortisation and impairment	-	(3,917)	(3,635)	(7,552)
Accumulated depreciation/amortisation and impairment - ROU assets	(18,005)	-	-	(18,005)
Opening net book balance	37,580	8,131	186	45,897
Capital asset additions				
Estimated expenditure on new or replacement assets				
By purchase - appropriation ordinary annual services ^(a)	-	1,958	-	1,958
Total additions	-	1,958	-	1,958
Other movements				
Depreciation/amortisation expense	-	(1,940)	(84)	(2,024)
Depreciation/amortisation on ROU assets	(3,970)	-	-	(3,970)
Other - ROU assets	1,047	-	-	1,047
Total other movements	(2,923)	(1,940)	(84)	(4,947)
As at 30 June 2024				
Gross book value	-	14,006	3,821	17,827
Gross book value - ROU assets	56,632	-	-	56,632
Accumulated depreciation/ amortisation and impairment	-	(5,857)	(3,719)	(9,576)
Accumulated depreciation/amortisation and impairment - ROU assets	(21,975)	-	-	(21,975)
Closing net book balance	34,657	8,149	102	42,908

Prepared on Australian Accounting Standards basis.

(a) 'Appropriation ordinary annual services' refers to funding provided through Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2023-24 for depreciation/amortisation expenses, DCBs or other operational expenses.