



POSITION DESCRIPTION

Australian Broadcasting Corporation

Label	Description
Position Title:	HEAD STATE COVERAGE AND NEWS OPERATIONS
Position no:	30000125
Team:	[News, Analysis, Investigations]
Department:	State Coverage
Location:	Southbank, Brisbane
Reports to:	DIRECTOR NEWS, ANALYSIS & INVESTIGATIONS 30006524
Classification:	Senior Executive
Schedule:	[Executive]
Roster cycle	[Executive]
Band/level:	[Senior Executive level]
HR Endorsement:	10/11/2022

Purpose

Lead ABC News state and territory coverage and operations, driving the editorial and newsgathering efforts for local output and the national network in partnership with Regional & Local teams.

Key Accountabilities

Editorial management

- Lead a State Coverage operation committed to the highest standards of journalism and production ensuring that all coverage reflects the principles of independence, impartiality and accuracy.
- Oversee management of state & territory newsrooms, ensuring teams deliver timely and accurate coverage to audiences across local and network television, radio and digital output.
- Oversee the development of long and short term coverage strategies and direct daily local editorial processes in collaboration with Head, Newsgathering and Regional & Local teams.
- Support and grow public interest journalism and build capabilities to deliver more impactful original and investigative journalism.
- Further build an innovative newsgathering culture, including exploring new technology and emerging platforms to find and tell distinctive stories and to collaborate with the public on sourcing and covering stories of interest to it.

- Lead regular quality reviews with news teams to evaluate newsgathering, planning, allocation and strategy. Encourage open and accountable discussion to review performance and implement improvements.

Operations

- Determine effective resource allocation to provide cross-platform coverage of the highest standard.
- Explore, develop and implement innovative solutions and approaches to the management, maintenance and deployment of the ABC's resources.
- Effectively manage the State Coverage budget and resources, in collaboration with state and territory editors and ABC Finance.
- Coordinate and communicate WHS deliverables and reports to the Team Executive on the status and completion of among other things – workplace WHS inspections, Team Operational Risk Profile and Team WHS plan
- Shape News Operations teams to meet the changing skills demand of current and emerging platforms.

Leadership

- Foster a culture of original and specialist journalism which has a focus on audiences and their evolving needs.
- Lead the ongoing pivot to digital operations in state & territory newsrooms.
- Develop and implement strategies to increase cultural diversity in newsroom staff profiles and content and to broaden editorial perspectives to represent all valid community views.
- Provide direction and leadership to staff to achieve high standards of newsgathering including operational functions through regular discussions, the provision of advice, and effective performance management for direct reports. Build a capable, motivated and skilled workforce.
- Build and maintain close relationships and synergies with other parts of the corporation, particularly those in other content divisions, to ensure alignment of priorities and effective cross-divisional processes.
- Actively promote the ABC values and apply all relevant workplace policies and guidelines.
- Cooperate with any reasonable instruction, procedure or policy relating to safety and take reasonable care for your own safety and that of other people who may be affected by your conduct while at work. Additional WHS responsibilities apply to Managers and Supervisors, Team Directors, and other Officers.

Membership of the News Leadership Team

- Demonstrate initiative in contributing to the development of strategy and policy for News.
- Provide advice and support to the Director, News Analysis and Investigations and the ABC leadership.
- Contribute to maintaining safety and high standards of risk assessment and management in News.
- Contribute to the planning, governance and reporting for the ABC.

Key Capabilities/Qualifications/Experience

1. Extensive experience in editorial leadership and news operations, together with a proven track record at a senior level in radio, television and online newsgathering and production.
2. High-level leadership, negotiation, planning and communication skills.
3. Demonstrated track record in promoting diversity and inclusion, with a focus on Indigenous, gender and CALD perspectives.

4. Demonstrated experience in leading significant newsgathering resources to execute editorial strategy.
5. Extensive experience in management of staff, budgets and resources.
6. Demonstrated strong personal drive and proven experience to lead large scale change in a media environment.
7. Extensive experience in developing strategic networks and relationships at a senior level within the media industry.
8. A demonstrated and ongoing interest and passion in finding and telling stories that reflect Australia's diversity.
9. A proven ability to source and maintain contacts across the broader Australian community.
10. **ABC Principles:** Demonstrated commitment to the ABC Principles of We are ABC, Straight Talking, People Focused, Accountable and Open & Transparent.
11. **ABC Policies:** Understanding of the relevance and scope of ABC policies and the ABC Principles and a commitment to adhere to these; particularly in relation to complying with health, safety and wellbeing requirements in the workplace and acting in accordance with the ABC Principles.
12. **Diversity and Inclusion:** Experience in building an inclusive and supportive culture where diversity is valued.



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