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Free TV Broadcasters Exceed Local Content Quotas

Free TV Australia today welcomed the release of the Australian Communications and Media Authority's latest compliance report which highlights the huge commitment of commercial free-to-air broadcasters to great Australian content.

Free TV Australia CEO, Bridget Fair said: "Commercial television broadcasters are proudly Australian, bringing viewers more local content than any other platform.

"These numbers show that in 2018 all Free TV members met their requirement to show 55% Australian content on their main channel in a canter, with some broadcasters reaching almost 80%.

"Free TV broadcasters delivered over 25,000 hours of Australian content across their main and additional channels. This includes around 1800 hours of first release adult drama, documentaries and children's programming," Ms Fair said.

"This has been made possible by a record investment by Free TV members in Australian content. In 2017/18, our members invested \$1.63 billion in powerful Australian storytelling. Over 84% of total programming expenditure is now directed to Australian content, also a new record.

"Our investment has delivered great Australian dramas such as *800 Words*, *Doctor Doctor* and *Playing For Keeps* and hugely popular programs such as *Married at First Sight*, *My Kitchen Rules* and *The Bachelor Australia*. It also ensures we can provide all Australians with free access to Australia's iconic sporting events such as the AFL and NRL Grand Finals and the Melbourne Cup," she said.

"We are committed to bringing Australians the great local drama, trusted local news and current affairs, entertainment and live and free sport that they love.

"This cements our place as the cornerstone of the Australian production industry and the home of local content. No other platform comes close to this level of commitment to the best of Australian programming," Ms Fair said.

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