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Broadcasting Standards Authority Te Mana Whanonga Kaipāho

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1994

MISSION STATEMENT

To establish and maintain acceptable standards of broadcasting on all New Zealand radio and television, within the context of current social values, research and the principle of self-regulation, in a changing and deregulated industry

Submitted to the Minister of Communications for presentation to the House of Representatives pursuant to clause 14 of the First Schedule of the Broadcasting Act 1989

Iain Gallaway Chairperson Gail Powell Executive Director

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Chairperson's Overview

Each year I report that the volume of complaints has continued to increase and the past year has been no exception. However it has been an increase rather than an escalation as in the past, ie. 168 complaints have been received compared with 159 the previous year and 151 decisions have been issued compared with 144. I am appreciative of the ability and industry of Dr Michael Stace, the Complaints Manager, and Ms Phillipa Ballard, the Complaints Executive, who have been able to cope, albeit at times with difficulty.

I make no apologies for repeating comments which I made last year in connection with the length of time taken from the date on which the allegedly offending programme is broadcast until the date the decision on the complaint is issued. I believe that the time has come when we should operate under a two-tier system which would provide a less formal "fast-track" alternative to the present procedure, at the complainant's request. The Authority has raised this issue with the Minister and the Ministry of Commerce and hopes that a feasible proposal can be agreed to. Under the present legislation, a period of at least four months can elapse from the time a programme is broadcast until the formal complaint reaches the Authority's office, given the time frames permitted in the Broadcasting Act.

Undoubtedly the most significant feature of our year's activities was the national seminar on balance, fairness and accuracy. This is referred to in detail in the report which follows but, in my view, it was an outstanding success, due largely to the calibre of those who took part. In this respect I refer not only to the overseas and New Zealand speakers and presenters but to all who attended. Television and radio were represented by their most senior executives and others involved with the media in a variety of areas made most valuable contributions.

Our Minister, the Honourable Maurice Williamson, welcomed our overseas guests and gave the opening address. He and the senior executives of the Ministry of Commerce have been supportive at all times and all are conscious of our concern at our inability to carry out some of our functions adequately because of financial constraints.

Another dominant feature of the year was the 1993 Election and our responsibilities under Part VI of the Broadcasting Act. We were fortunate that the majority of those involved had also been involved in the 1990 election and their experience was invaluable. The additional

members were again Messrs David Beatson and Lloyd Falck and as previously the Authority engaged Mr Ian McLean as its consultant. As a result, and with the full cooperation of all broadcasters, the exercise went smoothly and was almost trouble free.

The year which was dominated by the complaints process is described in detail in the report which follows.

As the number of broadcasters continues to expand and programming is accessed from increasingly diverse sources, the Authority, after five years, is more convinced than ever of the importance of an independent statutory body to ensure that programme standards are maintained. The issue, as the Authority sees it, has moved beyond the question of whether or not there is a role for such an organisation in a deregulated and self-regulating environment to the question of how it can become more effective and more efficient in its role. The following report presents the Authority's quest for greater effectiveness and efficiency over the past year.

Fortunately the membership of the Authority remained stable throughout the year for, with the small number of personnel involved, it is important to develop a close and effective relationship. This does not mean of course that members' opinions do not differ on the merits of individual complaints and other matters. However there will be two changes between 30 June 1994 and the date this report is published. Ms Lindsey Dawson has retired shortly before the end of her term to return to her previous position as editor of Next magazine and Ms Rosemary Barraclough retires at the end of her three year term to move with her husband to Hamilton and then overseas. They have both been outstanding contributors to all areas of the Authority's work and we will miss them greatly. They have been replaced by Ms Lyndsay Loates of Auckland and Mr Bill Fraser of Oamaru (the first male to be appointed other than the chairperson).

The ability of Ms Joanne Morris has been further recognised by her appointment as a Law Commissioner.

Led by Ms Gail Powell, the Executive Director, our small staff, the majority of whom have either been with the Authority since its establishment more than five years ago or very soon afterwards, frequently work under considerable pressure. They continue to be highly efficient, loyal and dedicated.

MEMBERS



REPORTING PERIOD

The chairperson, Mr Iain Gallaway, Q.S.O., M.B.E., a Dunedin barrister and solicitor, has had many years "behind-themicrophone" on both radio and television sport and current affairs and also in broadcasting management, having served on the Board of the Broadcasting Corporation of New Zealand for seven and a half years including three years as Deputy Chairman of Radio New Zealand. Mr Gallaway recently retired as Chancellor of the Anglican Diocese of Dunedin after thirty four years and has been appointed a lay canon of St Paul's Cathedral. He has been involved in numerous national and local charities, business and sporting organisations. Mr Gallaway, who has four adult children, is now serving his second three-year term.

Ms Rosemary Barraclough B.A. (Hons), Dip Journ, was a print journalist in Timaru and Hamilton working both as a reporter and sub editor before leaving the paid workforce to begin a family in Auckland. She has two young children.

Ms Lindsey Dawson, Auckland, has more than twenty years print media experience and has also worked in private radio, television and public relations. She was founding editor of both *More* and *Next* magazines. She has two adult children.

Ms Joanne Morris, O.B.E., LL.M (Hons), formerly a senior law lecturer at Victoria

University in Wellington, is a member of the Waitangi Tribunal, chaired the 1988 Ministerial Committee of Inquiry into Pornography and was recently appointed as a NZ Law Commissioner. Ms Morris, who has two young children, has completed five years of service on the Authority.

NEWLY APPOINTED MEMBERS

Ms Dawson's and Ms Barraclough's terms expired after the end of the reporting period and two other members have been appointed.

Ms Lyndsay Loates, appointed in July, has had 14 years experience as a professional journalist in New Zealand and overseas and has won several national journalism awards. After a period as deputy editor and senior feature writer with *More* magazine she lived overseas and since her return has been working as a freelance journalist. Ms Loates, who lives in Auckland, has two daughters.

Mr Bill Fraser, Oamaru, whose appointment became effective in September, was a manager and owner of Foodstuffs companies in Otago and Southland and, for eight years, Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors of Foodstuffs (Otago/Southland) Limited. He was also a director of Abco Meats, Oamaru and is at present Deputy Mayor and Chairman of the Finance Committee of Waitaki District Council. He has three married daughters.

BALANCE, FAIRNESS AND ACCURACY

The issue of balance, fairness and accuracy has always been a contentious one in the public's and, in particular, the newsmakers' mind. Many people from different perspectives have at various times expressed dissatisfaction at radio's and television's lack of compliance with the standards that require news and current affairs to be balanced, fair and accurate. During an election year in particular, allegations of lack of balance, fairness and accuracy always escalate.

NATIONAL SEMINAR

The Authority first examined balance, fairness and accuracy two years ago. At that time, due to a lack of cooperation from the broadcasting industry, it reluctantly decided to cancel a comprehensive research programme aimed at obtaining hard data and a greater understanding of these issues. Instead, it decided to hold a national seminar which focused on these issues. In order to avoid the special sensitivity which might be associated with the election period, the seminar was delayed until May of this year. This delay enabled the Authority to put together a very exciting and dynamic programme.

Without question this seminar - Power & Responsibility - Broadcasters Striking a Balance - held in Wellington in May was the highlight of the Authority's year. It brought together broadcasting practitioners and management, academics, media critics and others interested in media issues to share viewpoints and learn from each other and was the Authority's major research/consultation effort this year. This was a welcome opportunity to consult with those people most interested in and knowledgeable about an area which is clearly of great importance to the Authority - both in determining formal complaints and assessing the adequacy of the existing codes of practice.

The Authority was privileged to have three outstanding speakers from overseas - Bob Phillis, Deputy Director General of the BBC and Managing Director of BBC World Service, Chris Graves, Managing Editor of Asia Business News, an 18-hour a day television news net-

work based in Singapore, and Jane Tillman Irving, Assistant Professor of the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia University and morning anchor and talkback host on New York radio. The 24 New Zealand presenters, who led workshops and participated in a panel discussion, made thoughtful and valuable contributions on a wide range of issues related to radio and television news and current affairs programmes. An evening panel discussion, led by Dr Brian Edwards, on journalism ethics was both entertaining and highly stimulating. The Authority has published a collection of the papers which it hopes will be a valuable resource both for students of journalism and others interested in this important topic.

BALANCE, FAIRNESS AND ACCURACY STANDARDS

As a result of the seminar discussions and after analysing our decisions it was reassuring to know that our current standards in the *Codes of Broadcasting Practice* appear to be adequate in respect of balance and fairness in news and current affairs programmes. However accuracy and the fair treatment of people in news programmes - especially talkback programmes and opinion pieces - are issues which the Authority will explore with all broadcasters, particularly radio broadcasters, in the coming year.

RESEARCH

Given the fact that the issues of balance, fairness and accuracy continue to generate a large number of complaints - 38% this year - the Authority felt that it was important to try to obtain hard data on current practices in this area to assess how standards have changed over recent times. It is grateful to NZ On Air for its funding assistance to enable the Authority to commission research on locally-made news programmes. Details of this research programme are still not finalised but it is hoped that the report will be ready early in 1995.

FORMAL COMPLAINTS

The number of formal complaints continues to grow despite the amendment to the Broadcasting Act on 1 July 1993 which gave the Advertising Standards Complaints Board full responsibility for all advertising complaints except political party advertising during election periods. However the growth rate has slowed down. The Authority received 168 complaints this reporting period compared with 159 in the 1992/93 year. This aspect of the Authority's role continues to dominate its work load and consume the largest share of resources.

There is still understandable dissatisfaction in some quarters at the length of time it takes from the broadcasting of a programme to the issuing of a decision. The Authority examined this and other matters related to the complaints process, including how to make the process more responsive to consumer needs, and has made recommendations to the Minister and the Ministry of Commerce. However, it is aware that if it is to have significant sanctions at its disposal (in order to give its decisions real authority) the principles of natural justice must be scrupulously observed.

The public does not seem too dissatisfied with broadcasters' standards in most areas. In a country where there are more than one hundred radio broadcasters, three national free-to-air television stations, regional television and three subscription television services, the number of complaints is not particularly high. The Authority continues to decline to uphold far more complaints than it upholds although this year it has upheld a slightly higher proportion than in previous years (refer to graphs on page 9).

AREAS OF COMPLAINT

Balance, fairness and accuracy complaints, as mentioned, comprise the largest number of complaints but those about good taste and decency continue to feature prominently as shown in the graph on page 9. The other significant area of complaint involves liquor promotions within programmes - both incidental promotion and the saturation of liquor promotion. However, despite losing jurisdiction over advertising complaints the number of alcohol related complaints has not declined. The reason is that the Broadcasting Standards Authority retained jurisdiction over the contentious issues of liquor promotion within pro-

grammes and saturation of liquor promotions.

Receiving perhaps the most adverse comment since the Authority's establishment has been the series of children's programmes *Mighty Morphin Power Rangers* which screened every weekday for 12 weeks. The Authority received formal and informal complaints about both excessive violence and glamorisation of violence in a programme aimed at children, and the series was also the subject of much public comment in the print media and on radio. The number of complaints from kindergarten and primary teachers and even school boards of trustees was particularly noteworthy.

To date, six formal complaints have been referred to the Authority and the decision on the first four, which upheld the complaints, was issued in September. TVNZ's quick and responsible action of cancelling the second series, when advised of the Authority's decision, is a good example of the effectiveness of the standards regime which combines consumer initiated complaints and an appeal to an independent body.

However, despite the renewed interest in violence on television last year - which was reflected in a number of initiatives including a private member's bill in Parliament and a proposal for a citizens' initiated referendum on television violence - the number of formal complaints about television violence remains relatively low. (The decisions on the *Mighty Morphin Power Rangers* were not issued until September and therefore not included in the statistics for the reporting period). In fact the number of formal complaints received by the Authority about television violence has averaged between 4% and 7% annually since its establishment.

This small number is inconsistent with the fact that in the three public opinion polls conducted by the Authority over the past five years far more people spontaneously say that they are more concerned about the amount of violence than about any other aspect of television. The Authority believes that there are several explanations for this inconsistency.

Possibly the most important reason for the lack of formal complaints about television violence is a prevailing belief that there is nothing which can be done about something so entrenched. The Authority also believes that there is a degree of desensitisation to screen

violence. Films on television, video and in the cinema have contained so much violence in the past that screen violence seems normal.

Furthermore most programmes containing violence are well identified as such and people not wanting to view them can choose to watch other programmes. Those who choose to watch violent programmes are unlikely to complain about them. Finally, since it is not an issue which directly affects the reputation of specific individuals or organisations, few people take the trouble to make a formal complaint.

PRIVACY

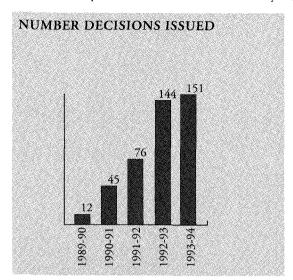
One of the areas which the Authority has explored with particular interest this year is the issue of privacy. Although amounting to only 9% of the decisions, the number of privacy complaints is growing (3% last year). Privacy issues are often complex. Viewers and listeners on occasion feel frustrated because, even though common sense appears to suggest that privacy is the issue, the Authority is not able to uphold their complaint on the privacy grounds which it has derived from legal precedents. These grounds require the disclosure of highly sensitive facts, not merely the broadcast of abuse or

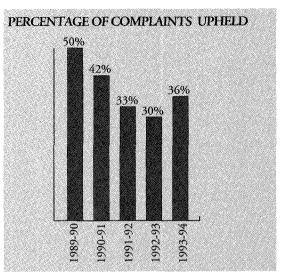
intrusive comments. However, the broadcast complained about may have contravened other standards, particularly the standard requiring fair treatment. Because of the relative frequency of this occurrence, in July this year the Authority issued its second advisory opinion to all broadcasters (see page 28). The Authority adds that its first advisory opinion also dealt with privacy.

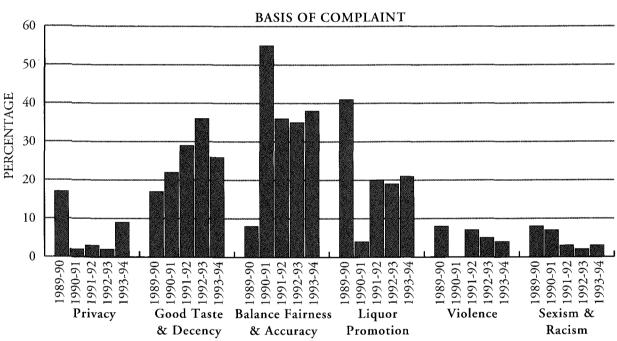
The recent opinion advised broadcasters that in the future, if it receives queries or complaints alleging a breach of privacy when in fact the programme appears more likely to have breached some other standard such as fair treatment, the Authority will advise complainants to make a complaint to the broadcaster on other grounds, in addition to the privacy complaint to the Authority. (Unlike all other areas of complaint, a complaint alleging a breach of privacy does not have to be made to the broadcaster in the first instance, but may be made directly to the Authority.) It hopes broadcasters will also be quick to consider any privacy complaints made directly to the broadcaster instead of the Authority under other more appropriate standards.

FIVE YEAR COMPARISONS DECISIONS 1989-1994

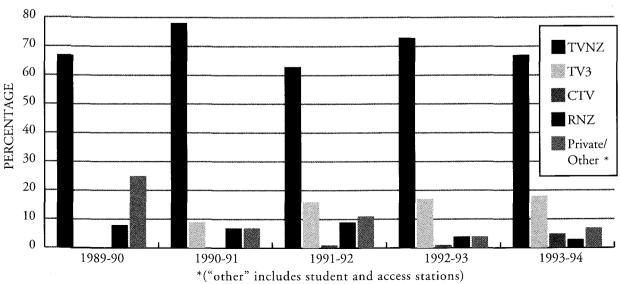
(Since only 12 decisions were issued the first year, the percentages for 1989-1990 may be misleading)







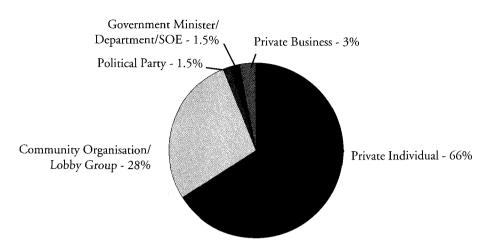
DECISION BY BROADCASTER



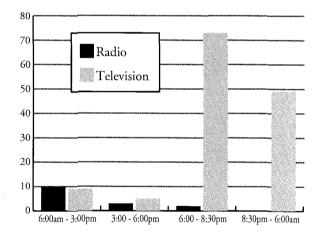
1993-94 **DECISIONS**

(151 DECISIONS)

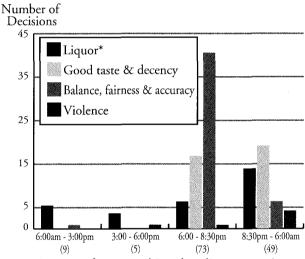
TYPE OF COMPLAINANT



NUMBER OF DECISIONS BY PROGRAMME TIME PERIODS

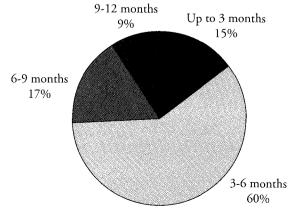


TIME PROGRAMME SCREENED AND SELECTED AREAS OF COMPLAINT (TELEVISION ONLY)



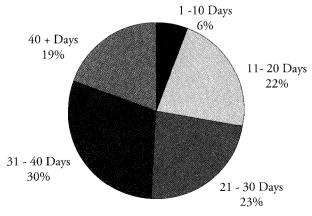
* Liquor refers to complaints about liquor promotions within programmes, not advertising complaints.

NUMBER OF MONTHS FROM WHEN PROGRAMME SCREENED UNTIL DECISION ISSUED BY BSA



AVERAGE 22 WEEKS

NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS FROM RECEIPT OF FINAL PAPERS BY BSA UNTIL DATE DECISION ISSUED



AVERAGE 32 DAYS

COMPLEX COMPLAINTS

This year, the Authority has had a larger than usual share of difficult and time-consuming complaints alleging a breach of the standards requiring balance, fairness and accuracy.

In some complaints alleging inaccuracies the Authority is provided with considerable information only to find that the facts are impossible to determine, other than by resorting to full courtroom style procedures where witnesses are called and cross-examined by legal counsel. From the amount of material received in many instances it appears that the complainants may expect the Authority to hold a formal hearing as a matter of course. While it has some of the powers of a Commission of Inquiry, the Authority has been reluctant to use them for a number of reasons.

First, that use does not sit easily with the principle in the Act that the formal complaints process should involve as little formality and technicality as is permitted by other requirements in the Act. Secondly, the time and expense involved in a formal hearing would significantly reduce the Authority's ability to keep abreast of its workload. Thirdly, while the Chairperson must be legally qualified, it is vital that the Authority as a whole possesses a range of professional skills, including expertise in journalism, as well as a range of personal viewpoints and experiences. Such a body is not necessarily well equipped to conduct formal hearings at which the credibility of witnesses is rigorously tested according to legal procedures.

Finally, and most importantly, complex complaints which make allegations of inaccuracies inevitably allege, in addition that the broadcaster did not comply with the standards requiring balance and fairness. In the Authority's experience, the matters of balance and fairness are at the heart of complex complaints and can be determined satisfactorily by assessing the broadcast in the light of the often extensive written material supplied by the complainant and the broadcaster. In the result, the Authority has sometimes declined to determine complaints of factual inaccuracies and has focused instead on reaching a decision on the more important allegations of lack of balance and fairness, determining those matters by relying upon the broadcast itself and the written, sometimes sworn, statements submitted by the complainant and broadcaster.

The complexity of some complaints this year has certainly extended the Authority's work

load and has meant that it has been able to meet one of its performance standards, that of issuing a decision within 40 working days after receipt of all the papers, for only 81% of its decisions.

The Authority is concerned about an apparent increase in the number of complaints in which either the complainant or the broadcaster has relied upon legal or other professional services. Whilst they are perfectly entitled to do so, this contributes to an increased amount of information, not all of which adds to the Authority's understanding of the important aspects of the complaint but which inevitably extends the time involved in determining the complaint. In the Authority's view every effort should be made to preserve the informality of the process so that all consumers have ready access to a fair and efficient determination of their complaints.

PAY TELEVISION

This year the Authority received its first complaint alleging a breach of standards on a pay television service. Given the different nature of subscription television services and their increasing availability, the Authority considered this complaint with great care. Released in August, it dealt with a Playboy Late Night broadcast on Sky Television at 10.45pm. The Authority upheld by a majority the complaint that the programme was inappropriate on good taste and decency grounds at that time of the evening. The complaint raised an even more difficult issue by alleging that soft pornography encourages discrimination against women as a class. By a majority the members declined to uphold that aspect of the complaint. However, it was noted in the decision that the Authority did not have adequate information, in respect of the screening of soft porn by a pay television service, to make a definitive decision on either the encouragement of discrimination against women or the good taste and decency issues and it signalled that it could modify its position after further research on public expectations and further study of international research and practices.

STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES ELSEWHERE

The Authority attempts to keep abreast of the standards issues in similar societies, albeit primarily by studying research and other publications rather than through face-to-face contact. It is interesting to compare the issues highlighted by similar standards bodies in other countries. In its 1994 annual report the Broadcasting Complaints Commission (BCC, Britain), which deals only with complaints about privacy issues, accuracy and fairness, noted two areas of special concern which the Authority shares:

- the time-consuming complexity of many of the complaints it determines
- the tendency of current affairs programmes to adopt a more entertaining stance which may lead to inaccuracies and unfairness

The Commission also expressed its hope that broadcasters will become more careful about using footage obtained through secret filming and restrict its use to the most serious abuse which requires public exposure. The Authority is pleased to observe that this is not a practice commonly followed in New Zealand. Instead its concern focuses more on the practice of "door step" journalism (confronting someone unexpectedly, seeking comments with the cameras rolling) and the implications for treating fairly the subject of the programme.

The Authority also agrees with the BCC's

observation that the value of the formal complaints procedure is not in deciding whether the complainant or the broadcaster is right, through an adversarial process in respect of a specific programme, but in providing a forum where both the broadcaster's and the complainant's perspectives can be debated openly. That discussion and the subsequent publicity given to the Authority's decisions may prevent future programmes which are similarly unsatisfactory.

Consistent with that approach the Authority considers that broadcasters, when they recognise that they have made a mistake, should respond quickly by correcting the error and apologising. The Act in fact requires that broadcasters have in place procedures approved by the Authority for correcting factual errors and redressing unfairness. In some circumstances, if the broadcaster offered an on-air statement of correction or apology, a time-consuming referral of a complaint to the Authority might be avoided and the broadcaster would earn the respect not only of the complainant but also of the viewing and listening public. The Authority intends to pursue this matter more vigorously with broadcasters in the coming year.

REVIEW OF CODES

LIQUOR PROMOTION

The Authority's major focus this year in respect of codes has been the review of the *Promotion of Liquor Within Programmes* code. When the Authority attempted to rationalise the rules for advertising liquor and approved the introduction of brand advertising of liquor in 1992, it said that its decision would be reviewed after two years. When the responsibility for all advertising, except party political advertising, was transferred to the Advertising Standards Authority, that body agreed to conduct the two-year review.

Consequently, the Authority has limited its own review to the promotion of liquor within programmes, the issue of saturation of liquor promotion and the educational messages regarding liquor use which radio and television broadcasters agreed to broadcast free of charge when brand advertising was introduced.

Although the Authority's jurisdiction over liquor advertising is limited, the issue of incidental promotion within programmes, particularly televised sporting events sponsored by liquor companies, has been very contentious and the subject of numerous formal complaints. The Authority has told broadcasters, sporting bodies and the liquor industry, both through its decisions and in meetings with their representatives, that it finds unacceptable the amount of incidental advertising in some programmes, and that the rules will be clarified and tightened in the review.

The Authority wrote to all the interested parties it could identify and, together with the Advertising Standards Authority, advertised the review widely. It received 223 submissions and 7 petitions. Generally speaking, the submissions from sporting bodies, the liquor industry and broadcasters supported continuation of the present rules, possibly with some small adjustments, whereas the overwhelming majority of submissions from community groups, health professionals, religious organisations and the general public called for a total ban on liquor promotion, or failing this, the introduction of much tighter rules regarding incidental promotion and saturation, and more educational messages about the appropriate use or non-use of liquor.

The Authority is currently considering the changes it deems necessary for discussion with the appropriate bodies.

OTHER CODES

In addition this year it recommended, and television broadcasters agreed to, a minor change to the important standard prohibiting the encouragement of discrimination in programmes. It also worked with radio broadcasters to revise the format of the *Codes of Broadcasting Practice for Radio* and approved the *Access Radio Code* which permits community groups to present programmes on controversial issues from their perspective provided that the station gives the same opportunity to other community groups which have alternative points of view.

PROGRAMME STANDARDS AND CHANGING TECHNOLOGY

New Zealand is part of an electronic media network which encircles the globe; it belongs to what is frequently called the "electronic global village".

Although the New Zealand public is accustomed to programmes from a number of overseas sources, especially television programmes, the amount of non-local programming is increasing due to the growing number of television and radio stations. Of even more significance is the burgeoning number of satellites which may soon beam programmes directly to private receivers in New Zealand homes.

The increasing variety of programme sources and delivery systems has enormous implications for New Zealand programme standards. The Authority commissioned Chris Watson, an academic on sabbatical leave in North America and Europe, to examine the issues and is very grateful for his illuminating report Regulating Aliens: Problems Relating to the Control of Extra-Terrestrial Television which at least opens the debate.

However, this is an area which requires extensive examination and vigorous public debate as to what it is realistic to control and how much we as a nation want to impose our standards on programmes received from international sources. Should local programme makers be subject to good taste and decency restrictions, on coarse language for example, or local broadcasters be required to censor films for free-to-air television, when films containing the same language or scenes can be beamed directly into a private home by satellite?

This debate must not be limited to broadcast services and is particularly critical in respect of new forms of television entertainment, especially interactive television. The Authority believes it should take an active role in such a debate, but believes other groups must also be fully involved. This is not only because the Authority lacks the resources to research the area comprehensively, but also because it is an issue involving more than broadcasting standards.

ELECTION PROGRAMMES

Under Part VI of the Broadcasting Act, the Broadcasting Standards Authority has the task of deciding which parties are eligible for funds allocated by Parliament for party political advertising during election periods and allocating those funds accordingly. This is a responsibility which the Authority has always felt was not entirely compatible with its other functions and it is grateful that the Act provides for the appointment of two additional members for the purpose. Messrs David Beatson and Lloyd Falck, the two additional members, have once again been most helpful in assisting the Authority to steer its way through a highly sensitive and potentially contentious process. In addi-

tion it could not have done without the consultant services of Mr Ian McLean, whose intimate knowledge of the legislation and meticulous attention to detail won him the respect of all who dealt with him.

As in the past the Authority was very careful in implementing both the letter and the spirit of the legislation for the November 1993 general election and is pleased to say that it received little, if any, negative comment on the manner in which it fulfilled its responsibilities. Nonetheless, it hopes that this responsibility will be transferred to the new Electoral Commission which seems admirably suited to deal with such matters.

RESEARCH

In addition to the need for research on the impact of technological changes on programme standards and on pay television services, which were highlighted earlier, the Authority is anxious to continue to examine the issue of television violence in New Zealand and regrets that due to financial constraints it was unable to repeat the television violence content analysis, first done three years ago.

Since the Authority was unable to undertake any major research of its own, it finds the research conducted by similar organisations overseas of particular interest. It is interesting to compare the concerns of New Zealanders with those in similar societies. The results of the British Standards Council's annual public opinion survey of British television viewers were similar to the Authority's own public opinion survey on good taste and decency, reported in the 1993 annual report. Television violence causes by far the highest level of

concern, followed by the depiction of sexual intimacy and bad language.

It would be interesting to repeat in New Zealand the Council's study on the Perspectives of Women in Television which included both a television content analysis and a study of the attitudes of a cross-section of women. The women generally did not mention female representation on television as a principal concern but focused on the general issues of television violence and the effect of television on children. However the content analysis showed that women were significantly under represented on television. For example, the ratio of men to women in national news was 4:1. The Broadcasting Standards Authority would like to be able to explore this and gather other information with respect to New Zealand broadcasting and has developed an ambitious research programme for 1994/95, funding permitting.

EDUCATION, PROMOTION AND PUBLICATIONS

The Authority believes that a well-informed public which vigorously debates standards issues and uses the formal complaints procedure is vital in maintaining broadcasting standards. It ran a brief campaign advertising the formal complaints procedures in all major newspapers and the Listener and TV Guide. It believes that broadcasters should do much more in informing viewers and listeners of the formal complaints process.

The Authority continues to distribute its decisions to the parties involved and other key organisations free of charge, offers an annual subscription service for \$150.00 and provides copies of individual decisions at \$5.00 per copy.

One of the major contributions to an informed and empowered public is the publication of the Codes of Broadcasting Practice and its free distribution to all public libraries. A new edition of the Codes was published this year. All the existing copies in public libraries were replaced free of charge and all other copies were updated.

Although initial discussions were held, the Authority postponed its plans to develop a media education kit for classroom teachers on programme standards and how viewers and listeners can influence standards.

FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES

In its annual report last year the Authority highlighted the fact that its resource base was declining and it was having difficulty fulfilling its statutory obligations within current funding. Regrettably that situation continues but it is pleased to report that its funding is currently under review, at the request of the Minister.

The 1993/94 financial reports show that although the Authority has not been forced to

use its overdraft facilities this year, it will not carry any funds forward as it has done in previous years. When depreciation is accounted for it has a deficit balance and unless the Authority receives an injection of funds in the forthcoming year the public equity will decline to nil and it will have to further restrict its activities.

STAFF

Executive Director Complaints Manager Complaints Executive Administration Manager Secretary/Administration Assistant Receptionist/WP Operator (shared with NZ On Air)

Gail Powell, M.A. Michael Stace, LL.M., D.Jur. Phillipa Ballard, M.A., LL.B Ann Hensley Deborah Houston Madeline Palmer

OUTPUT 1 DETERMINE FORMAL COMPLAINTS

As a quasi-judicial body and within the provisions of the Broadcasting Act 1989, the Authority will determine all complaints, both those referred after consideration by the broadcaster and those dealing with privacy matters which are sent directly to the Authority, as promptly and as informally as possible while following the principles of natural justice.

OUTCOME Improved compliance with broadcasting standards

RESOURCE COST

Financial	Actual		Budget
	\$190,545	Specific expenditure	\$101,232
	<u>\$215,574</u>	65% of overheads	(62.5%) \$267,550
	\$406,119		\$368,782
	65.5%	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	62.1%
Human	Actual		Budget
	70%	Members' time	70%
	50%	general staff time	50%
	2.1	dedicated staff	1.5

PERFORMANCE

T ERFORMANCE	1989/90	1990/91	1991/92	1992/93	1993/94
COMPLAINTS RECEIVED	43	52	106	159	168
COMPLAINTS DETERMINED					
Decisions Issued:	12	45	76	144	151
Upheld (all or in part)	6	19	25	43	.54
Not upheld	6	26	51	101	97
Interlocutory Decisions	_	1	1	3	1
Declined Jurisdiction (time bar, etc)	2	_	5	8	12
Withdrawn	-	-	7	8	11
ADVISORY OPINIONS	_	-	2	-	-
TIMELINESS			Achieved		
Decisions will be issued within 40 working days of receiving final comments from al parties, unless delayed by court proceed Complaints on party political advertising will be fast-tracked and Decisions issued	l ings 83%*	88%*	99%*	65%	81%
within 2 working days of receipt	NA	100%	NA	NA	100%
Decisions will be dispatched to the parties					
within a day of date of signature	♦	\$	100%	100%	100%

^{*} target was 60 working days

QUALITY

The Authority will respond to all queries about formal complaints procedures in a helpful and "user-friendly" manner while maintaining impartiality and providing accurate and full information. Decisions will aim both to be and to be seen to be principled, firm and just by the complainant, public and broadcasters and written in a concise and logical manner. Decisions will explain clearly the Authority's reasons so that broadcasters know and understand the Authority's expectations. In making its decisions the Authority will recognise community standards and expectations, the production realities which broadcasters face, research findings and international practice when relevant. Sanctions will be fair and effective. Complex decisions will be summarised for the media to ensure accurate reporting. When the Authority believes it will be of assistance, it will issue an advisory opinion either to an individual broadcaster or to a group of broadcasters, to inform them of it's view on a significant matter in respect of broadcasting ethics, procedures or interpretation of standards.

[♦] no target set

OUTPUT 2 REVIEW CODES OF BROADCASTING PRACTICE

The Authority, after consulting widely and mindful of local and international practices and research findings, will assess the adequacy of self-regulatory codes developed by the broadcaster. If the codes appear inadequate, the Authority will encourage broadcasters to develop new standards which meet the Authority's concerns. As a last resort, the Authority will impose codes or individual standards.

OUTCOME Adequate and easily understood codes which contribute to acceptable standards on radio and television

RESOURCE COST

Financial	Actual \$31,594 <u>\$41,456</u> \$73,051	Specific expenditure 12.5% of overheads	Budget \$16,909 \$53,510 \$70,419
	12%	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	11%
Human	Actual 12.5% 20%	Members' time general staff time dedicated staff	Budget 15% 20%

PERFORMANCE

1993/94	Alcohol Promotion 2-year review	Discrimination Standard (television)	Balance, Fairness and Accuracy Standards	Access Radio Code
- Examine code/standard to determine adequacy	in progress	√	ín progress	√
- Consult widely and review research	in progress	not achieved	held seminar	not necessary
- Invite broadcasters to draft new code/standard	in progress	√	in progress	1
- Finalise new code/standard	in progress	1	in progress	1

✓- achieved

TIMELINESS

A code will be reviewed when it is shown to be inadequate, either during consideration of formal complaints or where there is significant public demand for a review.

QUALITY

A review of a code will be handled in a professional manner including announcing the review publicly and providing detailed information to all known interested parties about the parameters of the review and the time frame. Discussion papers will be clearly written and distributed widely. Public input will be thoroughly assessed and all viewpoints given careful consideration. The Authority will work constructively with broadcasters to ensure that a new code is practical and fair but also reflects the expectations of viewers and listeners and the requirements of a just society. Interested parties will be invited, where appropriate, to comment on draft codes before final approval.

OUTPUT 3 CONDUCT RESEARCH

As finances permit, the Authority will use its own staff, as well as commission appropriate experts, to conduct New Zealand-specific research about broadcasting standards matters and publish the findings. The Authority will conduct public opinion research and visit local communities to find out the opinions of New Zealand viewers and listeners.

OUTCOME Expanded knowledge about issues which will enhance the Authority's ability to improve codes and determine complaints and will assist broadcasters in maintaining standards acceptable to ordinary viewers and listeners

RESOURCE COST

Financial	Actual \$33,309 <u>\$24,874</u> \$58,183	Specific expenditure 7.5% of overheads	Budget \$36,601 <u>\$32,106</u> \$68,707
	9.5%	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	11.6%
Human	Actual		Budget
	5%	Members' time	5%
	10%	general staff time	10%
	.4	dedicated staff	-

PERFORMANCE

	1993/94 Target and ad hoc activities	Actual
Conduct Research	- Support research into violence in televised sport	IP
	- Encourage graduate level research in sexism and racism	IP
	- Commission literature review of impact of discrimination in respect to pornography	X
	- Conduct a public opinion poll re good taste and decency issues	1
	- Commission Fairness, Balance and Accuracy research project	IP
	- Support and study results of research on pornography	NR
	- Investigate impact of technological changes on broadcasting standards	✓
	- Consult with interested groups regarding standards in children's programmes	X
	- Receive and study results of comparison of "perceived degree of impact" of violent incidents on various age and socio-economic groups	/
Publish Research	- Publish 1992/93 research results	2*
1 113,113,114 116	- Publish 1993/94 research results	1*
National Seminar	- Hold seminar on fairness, balance and accuracy in broadcast news and current affairs	1

✓ - achieved

IP - in progress

X - not achieved

NR - not received

* number publications

QUALITY AND TIMELINESS

Research priorities will be carefully assessed based on the Authority's strategic goals and public concerns. Both internal and commissioned research will meet all the professional criteria for quality research. Findings will be published as soon as they are available. Local consultations will be advertised through varied media in the local community and handled in a friendly and informal manner.

OUTPUT 4 EDUCATION, PROMOTION AND PUBLICATIONS

The Authority will use appropriate opportunities to stimulate public debate about standards matters, the role of the Authority and the way individuals and groups can influence broadcasters' decisions about standards issues, including use of the formal complaints process.

OUTCOME Raised public awareness about standards matters

RESOURCE COST

Financial	Actual \$15,718 \$16,583 \$32,301	Specific expenditure 5% of overheads	Budget \$16,909 <u>\$53,510</u> \$70,419
	5%	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	11.9%
Human	Actual		Budget
	2.5%	Members' time	2.5%
	10%	general staff time	7.5%
	nil	dedicated staff	nil

PERFORMANCE AND TIMELINESS

	1993/94 Target	Actual
Publish and distribute Codes	 publish new edition when major changes made distribute free copy to public libraries when new edition published distribute updates within 2 months to all holders 	2 editions February 🗸
Brochures	 update as required continue distribution to libraries, broadcasters, CAB's and public places and individuals 	<i>y y</i>
Advertise complaint procedures	 run a nationwide press campaign publish information in the <i>Listener</i> and <i>TV Guide</i> periodically 	<i>y y</i>
Educational material	- assist with development of media education kit for schools - provide material for student projects on request	X ✓

 $[\]checkmark$ - planned/achieved

QUALITY

Published information will be easily understood, eye-catching and look professionally produced. Essential material will be published in the Maori and Samoan languages also. The Authority's public statements will be not only informative but also stimulating and thought provoking. Answers to correspondence will be instructive and comprehensive, when appropriate. In all public contacts the Authority will be as "user-friendly" as practicable.

X - not achieved

OUTPUT 5 ALLOCATE FUNDS AND FREE TIME FOR POLITICAL ADVERTISING

The Authority will advise all political parties of the proper procedures for applying for free time and public monies for political party advertising during elections and by-elections, consult with broadcasters, hold formal hearings, allocate time and money and authorise payments to broadcasters according to the principles and requirements of the Act.

OUTCOME Fair and open allocation of public funds for party political advertising during elections

RESOURCE COST

Financial	Actual \$17,940 \$33,165 \$51,105	Specific expenditure (less grant) 10% of overheads (12.5%)	Budget (166) <u>\$53,510</u> \$53,344
	8%	TOTAL EXPENDITURE (in addition to special grant)	9%
Human	Actual 7.5% 10%	Members' time general staff time dedicated staff plus consultant	Budget 5% 10% nil

PERFORMANCE

	Target 1993/94	Actual
General Election	- announce procedure and time frame in the Gazette	previous year
Consultations	- advise all political parties and broadcasters of procedural requirements	previous year
	- hold formal hearings for broadcasters	✓
	- hold formal hearings for political parties	previous year
Allocations	- allocate time and money and advise all parties	1
Implementation	- monitor expenditure	✓
	- authorise payment within two weeks of receipt of documentation	1
	- keep Minister informed	✓.
	- notify Secretary of Commerce of any problems, including compliance	✓

✓ - achieved

QUALITY AND TIMELINESS

The procedures will be followed within the time frames specified in the Broadcasting Act and in a manner that is fair, open and helpful to both broadcasters and political parties. Procedures for by-elections will be simplified as appropriate in the time frame. The procedures will be followed within the time frame specified in the Broadcasting Act, giving the parties as much advance notice as is practicable. Payments will be authorised within five working days of receipt of documentation.

APPENDIX

ANALYSIS OF DECISIONS

JULY 1993 - JUNE 1994

JULY 1993 - JUNE 1994	COMPLAINTS RECEIVED: 168	DECISIONS ISSUED: 151
JULY 1992 - JUNE 1993	COMPLAINTS RECEIVED: 159	DECISIONS ISSUED: 144
JULY 1991 - JUNE 1992	COMPLAINTS RECEIVED: 106	DECISIONS ISSUED: 76
JULY 1990 - JUNE 1991	COMPLAINTS RECEIVED: 52	DECISIONS ISSUED: 45
JULY 1989 - JUNE 1990	COMPLAINTS RECEIVED: 43	DECISIONS ISSUED: 12

BASIS OF COMPLAINT (1992 - 1993 FIGURES IN BRACKETS)

	TOTAL	Good Taste & Decency (including lanugage)	Balance, Fairness and Accuracy
Declined Upheld (all or in part) Declined Jurisdiction Complaint Withdrawn	97 (101) 54 (43) 12 (8) 11 (8)	33 (42) 7 (10)	37 (34) 20 (17)
	Alcohol Advertising	Violence	Privacy
Declined Upheld (all or in part)	14 (18) 17 (9)	3 (2) 3 (5)	9 (1) 4 (2)
	Racism	Other	Sexism
Declined Upheld (all or in part)	3 (3) 1 (-)	- (1) - (-)	- (-) - (-)

Nine orders were made by the Authority. Five related to complaints about balance, fairness and accuracy and required the broadcast of a statement. Two related to privacy and awarded compensation of \$750 and \$2,500 respectively. A further two related to complaints about excessive incidental liquor promotion and required the broadcast of a statement.

BY BROADCASTER AND PROGRAMME

TVNZ	TOTAL	NEWS	CURRENT AFFAIRS	HOLMES	TALK BACK	DOCU- MENTARY	OTHER
Declined Upheld (all or in part)	68 (71) 34 (34)	14 (11) 9 (6)	10 (2) 3 (1)	10 (8) 2 (12)		10 (9)	$\begin{array}{cc} 24 & (41) \\ 20 & (15) \end{array}$
TV3			CURRENT	AFFAIRS			
Declined Upheld (all or in part)	15 (21) 12 (4)	5 (5) 2 (1)	7 6	(2) (1)		- (2) - (-)	3 (12) 4 (2)
CTV							
Declined Upheld (all or in part)	3 (-) 4 (2)						$egin{array}{ccc} 3 & (1) \ 4 & (2) \end{array}$
RNZ							
Declined Upheld (all or in part)	3 (6) 2 (-)	1 (3) 2 (-)			(2) (-)		2 (1) - (-)
Private and Other Rad	lio						
Declined Upheld (all or in part)	8 (3) 2 (3)				3 (1) 1 (1)		5 (2) 1 (2)

APPENDIX II

COMPLAINTS DETERMINED BY THE AUTHORITY

JULY 1993 - JUNE 1994

DECISION NUMBER	COMPLAINANT	PROGRAMME	NATURE OF COMPLAINT	DECISION
79/93	Disabled Persons Assembly (Auck)	Frontline, item on abandoned children, TVNZ	Unbalanced and denigrated women	Not Upheld
80/93	Mr Donald McDonald	Holmes, item on advertisement evoking Nazism, TVNZ	Unbalanced and distressing for children	Declined to determine in part and not upheld in part
81/93	Mr Laurie Collier	Appearance of female impersonator on <i>Celebrity Wheel of Fortune</i> , TVNZ	Lack of good taste in family viewing time	Not Upheld
82/93	Dr R J G Edwards	Tonight, item on air safety system tenders, TVNZ	Inaccurate, unfair and unbalanced	Upheld in part
83/93	Mr Morris Jones	Holmes, item on a building dispute, TVNZ	Inaccurate, unfair and unbalanced	Upheld in part Broadcast of correction and apology ordered
84/93	Mr Kerry Sharp	Sex, second series, episode 3, TVNZ	Offensive and denigrated women	Upheld in part
85/93	Church of Scientology	60 Minutes, item on Scientology, TV3	Unfair, inaccurate, partial and denigrated Scientologists	Not Upheld
86/93	Mr Denver Frater	60 Minutes, item on Scientology, TV3	Unfair, inaccurate, partial and denigrated Scientologists	Not Upheld
87/93	Mr Doug Kershaw	60 Minutes, item on Scientology, TV3	Unfair, inaccurate, partial and denigrated Scientologists	Not Upheld
88/93	Mr Paul Matthews	Crimewatch, report on cannabis use, TVNZ	Unbalanced	Not Upheld
89/93	Credo Society Inc	Radio Gala references to Rev Fred Nile, Access Radio - Auckland	Dissatisfied with correction after broadcaster upheld the complaint	Not Upheld
90/93	GOAL	References to vineyards on <i>Welcome to Canterbury</i> , CTV	Incidental liquor promotion	Not Upheld
91/93	Mr Kerry Sharp	Counterpoint discussion about family planning, TVNZ	Unbalanced	Not Upheld
92/93	Mr Owen Bracey	60 Minutes, item on serial rapist, TVNZ	Unbalanced	Not Upheld
93/93	GOAL	DB Sport, 1.3.93, CTV	Excessive incidental liquor promotion	Upheld Broadcast of summary of decision ordered
94/93	Ms A Clyne	20/20, item on "adult" magazines, TV3	Lack of good taste and denigrated women	Upheld
95/93	Mr Patrick Curran	Holmes, item on events in Northern Ireland, TVNZ	Unbalanced and inaccurate	Not Upheld
96/93	Mr Kerry Sharp	Sex, second series episodes 4 & 5 TVNZ	Offensive and denigrated women	Upheld in part
97/93	Mr Stuart Leonard-Taylor	Sex, second series episodes 4 & 5, TVNZ	Offensive and denigrated women	Upheld in part
98/93	Ms Rosemary McElroy	Sex, second series episode 7, TVNZ	Offensive and denigrated women	Upheld in part
99/93	Ms Lynda Pryor	Sex, second series episode 7, TVNZ	Offensive and denigrated women	Upheld in part
100/93	Hon Jenny Shipley, Minister of Women's Affairs	Items about fugitives from the law on <i>One Network News</i> , TVNZ	Lack of good taste and sensationalist	Upheld in part
101/93	Ms Rosemary McElroy	Sex, second series episode 8, TVNZ	Offensive and denigrated women	Not Upheld
102/93	Mr Donald McDonald	Holmes, profile of cricketer, TVNZ	Unbalanced	Not Upheld
103/93	Mr C M A Thompson	Waka Huia, Anzac Day item, TVNZ	Discriminated against non-Maori speakers	Not Upheld

DECISION NUMBER	COMPLAINANT	PROGRAMME	NATURE OF COMPLAINT	DECISION
104/93	Ms C A Armitage	Holmes, item on cross-dressing, TVNZ	item on cross-dressing, Lack of good taste in family viewing time	
105/93	Mr Kristian Harang	20/20, item on prostitution in Russia, TV3	Unbalanced in family viewing time	Not Upheld
106/93	Mid-Canterbury Community Council on Alcohol	Beer advertisement related to duck shooting, TV3	Associated alcohol consumption with dangerous activity	Not Upheld
107/93	Mr Paul Fudakowski	Nine to Noon, RNZ	Unbalanced	Not Upheld
108/93	SPUC	60 Minutes, item on infertility specialist, TV3	Poor taste, unfair and denigrated SPUC presidents	Not Upheld
109/93	Ms Carmel Armstrong	60 Minutes, item on infertility specialist, TV3	Poor taste, unfair and invaded privacy	Not Upheld
110/93	Ms C A Barker, Ms N E Rhodes and Ms J R Armstrong	60 Minutes, item on infertility specialist, TV3	Poor taste, unfair and invaded privacy	Not Upheld
111/93	Mr Richard Stephens	Breakfast session comments on 95bFM	Poor taste, dangerous and encouraged law breaking	Not Upheld
112/93	Lawyers Against Torture and Oppression Anywhere Inc	News item about a visiting French naval ship, TVNZ	Unbalanced	Declined to determine
113/93	Mr Phillip Smits	60 Minutes, item on the soliciting laws, TV3	Lack of good taste and unbalanced	Not Upheld
114/93	Christian Heritage Party	60 Minutes, item on the soliciting laws, TV3	Unbalanced	Not Upheld
115/93	Mr Harry Tawhai	News item about murder in Carterton, TV3	Inaccurate, partial and insensitive	Not Upheld
116/93	Health Action	News item on Australian cricket team, TV3	Incidental liquor promotion involved	Upheld
117/93	Mr Roger Kerr	News item about MMP debate, TV3	Unfair and partial	Upheld in part
118/93	Mr Ashley Felderhof	Film "Robocop", TVNZ	Excessively violent	Upheld in part
119/93	Mr Ross Miller	Talkback reference to Minister of Finance, Radio Pacific	Dissatisfied with broadcaster's action having upheld the complaint	Not Upheld
120/93	Mr A J and Mrs D M Moffatt-Vallance	Issues, lampoon of the Oprah Winfrey Show, TV3	Unfair and denigrated survivors of sexual abuse	Not Upheld
121/93	Ms Colleen McCloy and 14 others	Station Manager's broadcast that one named announcer's job performance was unsatisfactory, Classic Gold Radio	Breach of named announcer's privacy	Not Upheld
122/93	Ms Kate Glendorran	News item about NZ troops in Mogadishu, TVNZ	Language use in bad taste as it trivialised the horror of war	Not Upheld
123/93	Mr William Waters	News item about hostage incident in Morrinsville, TVNZ	Privacy of Armed Offenders Squad members invaded	Not Upheld
124/93	Mr D W Brandon	Talkback discussion with members of the Business Roundtable, Radio Pacific	Language used in poor taste at that hour	Not Upheld
125/93	GOAL	Welcome to Canterbury, tourist promotion, CTV	Excessive incidental liquor promotion	Not Upheld
126/93	Mr Kerry Sharp	Episode of <i>The Simpsons</i> , TVNZ	Promoted unlawful activity to impressionable children	Not Upheld
127/93	Mr Cliff Turner	Moro Sports Extra showed a brawl among baseball players, TVNZ	Gratuitous portrayal of violence	Not Upheld
128/93	Mr Russell Colina	News item about the Great Alexandra Bunny Shoot, RNZ	Unbalanced, unfair and reinforced anti-gun perspective	Not Upheld
129/93	Ms Susan Kubala	Holmes item about G-String clad male house cleaners, TVNZ	Lack of good taste in family viewing time	Not Upheld
130/93	Mr Alex Brown	Frontline, item on homebake in New Zealand, TVNZ	Irresponsibly revealed criminal information	Not Upheld
131/93	Ms Kay Ellmers	News item on street violence, TV3	Encouraged racial denigration	Not Upheld

DECISION NUMBER	COMPLAINANT	PROGRAMME	NATURE OF COMPLAINT	DECISION
132/93	New Zealand Labour Party	National Party advertisement, TVNZ	Factually inaccurate	Not Upheld
133/93	Hon Maurice Williamson, Associate Minister of Health	Frontline, item on the effect of government policies, TVNZ	Inaccurate, unbalanced and partial	Upheld in part
134/93	Mr A D Sage	Frontline, item on euthanasia, TVNZ	Unbalanced and intruded on grief of family of one person shown	Not Upheld
135/93	Mr David Long	<i>Heroes</i> , item on a tunnel rescue in 1964, TVNZ	Inaccurate and unfair to one specific ambulance officer	Upheld in part
136/93	Mr Gordon Stanley	<i>Heroes</i> , item on a tunnel rescue in 1964, TVNZ	Inaccurate and unfair to one specific ambulance officer	Upheld in part
137/93	Mrs Betty Singe	<i>Heroes</i> , item on a tunnel rescue in 1964, TVNZ	Inaccurate and unfair to one specific ambulance officer	Upheld in part
138/93	Mr Gene Leckey	Holmes, item on immigration consultants, TVNZ	Breached his privacy	Not Upheld
139/93	Mr Kristian Harang	Holmes, interview with Hon John Banks, TVNZ	Unfair and unbalanced	Not Upheld
140/93	GOAL	Rugby League on Sport on One, TVNZ	Excessive incidental liquor promotion	Not Upheld
141/93	GOAL	Number of liquor advertisements in an ad break, TVNZ	Saturation of liquor promotion	Upheld
142/93	Alcohol Healthwatch	Number of liquor advertisements in an ad break, TVNZ	Saturation of liquor promotion	Upheld
143/93	GOAL	Number of liquor advertisements in an ad break, TVNZ	Saturation of liquor promotion	Upheld
144/93	Mr John Child	Rugby League commentary, Aotearoa Maori Radio	Promoting terrorist propaganda	Not Upheld
145/93	Mr Richard Foxley	Three songs, Radmass 99.4FM	Sexually explicit language	Upheld in part
146/93	Mr J R Bryant	News item about the Bible, TV3	Unbalanced and heretical	Not Upheld
147/93	Mr Frank Macskasy	News item about toilet seat to to prevent AIDS, TV3	Inaccurate	Not Upheld
148/93	Mrs Lynne Stephens	News item about niece as murder victim, TV3	Unnecessarily distressing	Not Upheld
149/93	GOAL	News item on forthcoming rugby test, TVNZ	Excessive incidental liquor promotion	Not Upheld
150/93	GOAL	Rugby League commentary on Countrywide Bank Grandstand, TVNZ	Excessive incidental liquor promotion	Not Upheld
151/93	GOAL	Aussie League on 2, on 16 July, TVNZ	Excessive incidental liquor promotion	Not Upheld
152/93	GOAL	Aussie League on 2, on 23 July, TVNZ	Excessive incidental liquor promotion	Declined to determine
153/93	GOAL	$Aussie\ League\ on\ 2, \ {\rm on}\ 13\ {\rm August}, \\ {\rm TVNZ}$	Excessive incidental liquor promotion	${f Upheld}$
154/93	GOAL	Aussie League on 2 , on 15 August, TVNZ	Excessive incidental liquor promotion	Upheld
155/93	GOAL	Aussie League on 2, on 19 September, TVNZ	Excessive incidental liquor promotion	Not Upheld
156/93	GOAL	Number of liquor advertisements in an ad break, TVNZ	Excessive incidental liquor promotion	Upheld
157/93	GOAL	Aussie Big League, on 27 July, TV3	Excessive incidental liquor promotion	Upheld
158/93	GOAL	$\begin{array}{l} \textit{Aussie Big League}, \text{on 24 August}, \\ \text{TV3} \end{array}$	Excessive incidental liquor promotion	Upheld in part
159/93	Greenpeace NZ Inc	60 Minutes, item on its activities, TVNZ	Inaccurate, unbalanced, unfair	Not Upheld
160/93	Mr T J Runga	Waitangi Fisheries debate on <i>Marae</i> , TVNZ	Inaccurate and unbalanced	Not Upheld
161/93	Baby Relax (NZ) Ltd	Fair Go, item on baby buggy, TVNZ	Inaccurate and unbalanced	Upheld Broadcast of correction ordered

DECISION NUMBER	COMPLAINANT	PROGRAMME	NATURE OF COMPLAINT	DECISION
162/93	Mrs S Baker	Woman's breast shown on <i>Moro</i> Sports Extra, TVNZ	Offensive	Not Upheld
163/93	Hon Murray McCully, Minister of Customs	News reference to Heylen polls, TVNZ	Inaccurate, unfair and unbalanced	Not Upheld
164/93	Mr Robert Wardlaw	Film "Trains, Planes and Automobiles", TVNZ	Unacceptable language	Not Upheld
165/93	Mr Phillip Smits	News item about sentencing brothel keeper, TVNZ	Poor taste and unbalanced	Not Upheld
166/93	Mr Lance Bardwell	Documentary: Every Widow's Dream, TVNZ	Dissatisfied with action taken when complaint about offensiveness upheld	Not Upheld
167/93	Mr Kristian Harang	Documentary: Every Widow's Dream, TVNZ	Unbalanced and dissatisfied with action taken when offensive aspect upheld	Not Upheld
168/93	Mr Phillip Smits	News item about sex workers, TVNZ	Offensive and denigrated Thais	Not Upheld
169/93	Mr Owen Bracey	Holmes, item about the victim of a drunken driver, TVNZ	Inaccurate and unbalanced	Not Upheld
170/93	Ms Deirdre Kent	News item about electoral reform, TVNZ	Dissatisfied with action taken when complaint about distortion through editing upheld	Not Upheld
171/93	Canterbury Area Health Board	20/20, item on diabetes, TV3	Inaccurate and alarmist	Upheld in part
172/93	Mr A K Harris	20/20, item on diabetes, TV3	Inaccurate and alarmist	Upheld in part
173/93	GOAL	News item about liquor company's donations to foodbank, TVNZ	Incidental liquor promotion	Not Upheld
174/93	GOAL	News item about the use of some sports fields, TVNZ	Incidental liquor promotion	Not Upheld
175/93	Mr Chris Leitch	News item about NZ First, TVNZ	Inaccurate and unfair	Upheld in part
176/93	Complainant R	News item about sentencing some rapists, TVNZ	Privacy breached as identity revealed	Upheld Compensation of \$2,500 ordered
177/93	Ms H	Documentary: Every Widow's Dream, TVNZ	Privacy breached as complainant shown	Not Upheld
1/94	Mrs S	20/20, item on incest, TV3	Privacy breached as filmed without knowledge	Upheld Compensation of \$750 ordered
2/94	Nationwide Guarantee Corp	Fair Go, item on company's car warranties. TVNZ	Inaccurate, unbalanced and unfair	Upheld in part
3/94	Ms Dara Walsh	$20/2\theta$, item on child support legislation, TV3	Unbalanced, inaccurate and unfair	Upheld in part Broadcast of summary of decision ordered
4/94	Mr Paul Fudakowski	Nine to Noon, item on liable parents, RNZ	Unbalanced and partial	Not Upheld
5/94	GOAL	"Steinlager Finest Tries" competition, TVNZ	Excessive incidental liquor promotion	Not Upheld
6/94	Children's Media Watch	Shortland Street, episode on 19.11.93, TVNZ	Unsuitable for children	Not Upheld
7/94	Business Innovation Group	Holmes, item on Excellerated Learning Institute, TVNZ	Unbalanced and unfair	Not Upheld
8/94	Rape Prevention Group	Film "Gone with the Wind", TVNZ	Sexually violent behaviour encouraged	Not Upheld
9/94	GOAL	Gin advertisement, TVNZ	Not balanced by no-alcohol messages	Declined to determine
10/94	GOAL	Welcome to Canterbury, tourist information, CTV	Excessive incidental liquor promotion	Not Upheld
11/94	Mr David Thornton	Final part of $Bread$ and $Roses$, TVNZ	Unbalanced during election campaign	Not Upheld

DECISION NUMBER	COMPLAINANT	PROGRAMME	NATURE OF COMPLAINT	DECISION
41/94	Ms Wendy Shepherd	Crushing caterpillars on Living Earth, TV3	Offensive	Not Upheld
42/94	Casino Control Authority	Mana Maori news item on Authority's hearings, RNZ	Inaccurate, unfair and unbalanced	Upheld in part Broadcast of summary of decision ordered
43/94	Mrs Shirley Earlly	Talkback session on psychiatric hospitals, Radio Pacific	Breached relative's privacy	Not Upheld
44/94	Mrs Shirley Earlly	Talkback session on psychiatric hospitals, Radio Pacific	Misleading and dissatisfied with action taken on accuracy aspect upheld	Dissatisfied aspect upheld
45/94	Mr Peta Brown	News item on fishing regulations, TVNZ	Breached his privacy	Not Upheld
46/94	Mr Peta Brown	News item on fishing regulations, TVNZ	Unfair	Upheld
47/94	Mr Ian Rush	Hard Copy, item on kidnapped woman, TV3	Offensive and exploited violence	Upheld in part
48/94	GOAL	Welcome to Canterbury, tourist promotion, CTV	Excessive incidental liquor promotion	Upheld
49/94	GOAL	DB Sport, 22 November, CTV	Excessive incidental liquor promotion	Upheld
50/94	GOAL	DB player profile, TVNZ	Incidental liquor promotion	Upheld
51/94	Mr J P Lowe	Documentary: <i>Heartland Glenorchy</i> , TVNZ	Offensive	Not Upheld
52/94	Mr A B Evans	The Legend of Prince Valiant series, TVNZ	Excessive violence	Not Upheld
		OTHER DECIS	SIONS	
ID 1/94	Mr Barry Barclay	Nine to Noon items on the "Anna Penn" affair, RNZ	Inaccurate and unbalanced	Declined to accept as a formal complaint

APPENDIX III

ADVISORY OPINION

(No: AO 2/94) 26 July 1994

TO: The Chief Executive of all television and radio broadcasters and subscribers

Under s.21(1)(d) of the Broadcasting Act 1989, the Authority may issue to broadcasters "advisory opinions relating to broadcasting standards". This opinion is issued pursuant to that provision.

In an Advisory Opinion dated 25 June 1992, the Authority advised all broadcasters of the five relevant privacy principles which it intended to apply to complaints which alleged a breach of privacy under s.4(1)(c) of the Act. The Authority stated in that Opinion that the specific facts of each complaint were especially important when privacy was an issue. It also said that the principles listed on that occasion were not necessarily the only ones which would be applied.

By way of introduction, the Authority also notes that complaints which allege a breach of privacy, unlike complaints which allege a breach of any other standards, may bypass the broadcaster and be made directly to the Authority under s.8(1)(c) of the Act.

THE ISSUE

In developing the privacy principles it intended to apply when complainants alleged the unwarranted disclosure of private facts, the Authority was very conscious of the "public's right to know", and acknowledged the existence of a "public interest" defence. It also acknowledged that recording action in a public place was a defence to a complaint which alleged the intentional interference (in the nature of prying) with an individual's interest in solitude or seclusion.

As a consequence of its efforts to achieve a balance between the individual and the public, the Authority has settled on a reasonably narrow definition of privacy. In contrast, the concept of privacy advanced by some complainants is much wider than the Authority would accept. Moreover, some complainants argue that the disclosure of "untruths" is a breach of privacy whereas the principles apply only when "facts" are revealed.

THE SOLUTION

Taking into account, first, the fact that privacy complaints may be made directly to the Authority based on the complainant's version of that concept (which may not correspond with the Authority's) and secondly, that the statutory time limits during which a broadcaster must accept complaints may elapse before the Authority's decision is issued, the Authority intends to take the following action.

Upon receipt of all complaints made directly under s.8(1)(c) alleging a breach of the privacy standard in s.4(1)(c) of the Broadcasting Act 1989, the Authority when acknowledging the complaint will advise the complainant that it may be appropriate to lodge, in addition, a complaint with the broadcaster alleging a breach, as appropriate, of standard G4 of the Television Code or standard R5 of the Radio Code. It shall also follow this procedure on the rare occasions when the complainant sends to the Authority for its information a copy of a complaint to a broadcaster alleging a breach of privacy.

REASON

The Authority is established under the Broadcasting Act and its functions and powers are set out there. While it is necessary to comply conscientiously with those requirements, the Authority is of the view that its decisions on complaints should not be determined by technicalities at the expense of a complainant's central concern.

For this reason, the Authority intends to adopt the above procedure.

The Authority would also encourage all broadcasters, when they receive a privacy complaint, to consider assessing the complaint under standard G4 or R5 as appropriate.

APPENDIX IV

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS ISSUED SINCE PREVIOUS REPORT

1.	Attitudes and Perceptions of Television Violence, Dr Graeme Bassett and Roy Schuker, January 1993)
	Codes of Broadcasting Practice for Radio and Television, Reprinted March 1994	
3.	Perceptions of "Good Taste and Decency" in Television and Radio Broadcasting, AGB McNair; July 1993	
	(public opinion research) \$15.00)
4.	Regulating Aliens: Problems Relating to the control of Extra-terrestial Television, Cultural Identity,	
	Pornography and the Law; Watson CA, March 1994)
5.	Power and Responsibility: Broadcasters Striking a Balance, Broadcasting Standards Authority, October 1994)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 1994

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MANAGEMENT STATEMENT

The management of the Broadcasting Standards Authority is responsible for the preparation of these financial statements and the judgments used herein. The management of the Broadcasting Standards Authority is also responsible for establishing and maintaining a system of internal control designed to provide reasonable assurances as to the integrity and reliability of financial reporting. In the opinion of the management, these financial statements fairly reflect the financial position and operations of the Broadcasting Standards Authority for the year ended 30 June 1994.

Iain Gallaway
CHAIRPERSON

Gail Powell

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Audit New Zealand

REPORT OF THE AUDIT OFFICE

TO THE READERS OF THE STATEMENTS OF ACCOUNT OF THE BROADCASTING STANDARDS AUTHORITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1994

AUTHORITY AND SCOPE OF AUDIT

The statements of account appearing on pages 16 to 20 and 29 to 36 were prepared pursuant to section 41 of the Public Finance Act 1989 and are the responsibility of the Broadcasting Standards Authority. The Audit Office's responsibilities include a requirement, pursuant section 43 of the Public Finance Act 1989, to express an audit opinion on these statements.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, with the objective of obtaining reasonable assurance that the statements of account are free from significant errors or omissions. In our audit we reviewed the evidence to support the amounts and disclosures in all statements. We also assessed the accounting practices used.

UNQUALIFIED OPINION ON STATEMENTS OF ACCOUNT

In our opinion the statements of account of the Broadcasting Commission fairly reflect:

- The achievement in respect of the performance targets and other measures adopted for the year ended 30 June 1994;
- The financial results and cash flows for the year ended 30 June 1994; and
- The financial position as at 30 June 1994.

Karen Wallace

Audit New Zealand

On behalf of the Controller and Auditor-General

30 September 1994

Wellington

New Zealand

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1994

	NOTES	1994 Actuals \$	1994 Budget \$	1993 Actuals \$
INCOME				
Grants		548,444	548,890	577,779
Interest		8,989	7,000	8,619
Funding for Part VI		30,666	30,666	30,666
TOTAL INCOME		588,099	586,556	617,064
LESS EXPENDITURE				
Depreciation		30,531	30,000	32,343
Human Resources	1	379,178	388,722	368,746
Loss on Sale of Assets		362	-	1,900
Other	2	170,546	199,100	237,556
Part VI Functions	3	40,142	30,500	25,342
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		620,759	648,322	665,887
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE				
Transferred to Public Equity	5	\$ (32,660)	(61,766)	(48,823)

The statement of accounting policies and the notes form an integral part of and should be read in conjunction with these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 30 JUNE 1994

	NOTES	1994 \$	1993 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash, Bank & Term Deposits	6	25,634	125,100
Accounts Receivable & Accrued Interest		149	1,238
GST Receivable		11,126	3,661
		36,909	129,999
LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Westpac Banking Corporation - Current Account		-	5,219
Accounts Payable & Accruals		61,263	86,824
Revenue Received in Advance			30,666
		61,263	122,709
WORKING CAPITAL		(24,354)	7,290
NON CURRENT ASSETS	4	49,827	50,843
NET ASSETS		\$ 25,473	58,133
PUBLIC EQUITY			
Balance 30 June 1993		58,133	106,956
LESS Deficit for Year		(32,660)	(48,823)
TOTAL PUBLIC EQUITY		\$ 25,473	58,133

I W Gallaway Chairperson G Powell

Executive Director

Wellington 30 September 1994

The statement of accounting policies and the notes form an integral part of and should be read in conjunction with these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1994

	NOTES	1994	1993
		\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Cash was provided from:			
Grants & Services		548,444	645,254
Interest Received		10,079	9,477
Net GST Received from IRD		-	3,173
Cash was disbursed to:			
Payments to Employees & Members		(336,918)	(352,064)
Payments to Suppliers &			
Other Operating Expenses		(297,501)	(269,820)
Net GST paid to IRD		(4,727)	
Net Cash Flow From Operating Activities	5	(80,623)	36,020
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Cash was provided from:			
Sale of Fixed Assets		1,200	1,000
Cash was disbursed to:			
Purchase of Fixed Assets		(14,824)	(19,128)
Net Cash Flows From Investing Activities		(94,247)	(18,128)
NET INCREASE IN CASH HELD			17,892
PLUS Opening Cash Brought Forward		119,881	101,989
ENDING CASH CARRIED FORWARD		\$ 25,634	119,881
Petty Cash		100	100
Bank Accounts - Current		123	(5,219)
- Deposits		-	125,000
- Ready Access		25,411	-
ENDING CASH CARRIED FORWARD		\$ 25,634	119,881

The statement of accounting policies and the notes form an integral part of and should be read in conjunction with these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1994

1. GENERAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The general accounting principles recognised as appropriate for the measurement and reporting of financial performance and financial position on an historical cost basis are followed. Accrual accounting is used to match revenue and expenditure. Reliance is placed on the fact that the Authority is a going concern.

2. PARTICULAR ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following particular accounting policies which materially affect the measurement of income and expenditure and the financial position have been applied:

2.1 Fixed Assets

Fixed assets are recorded at historical cost less accumulated depreciation.

2.2 Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on a straight line basis on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to allocate the assets' cost less estimated residual value, over their estimated useful lives:

Partitions, Office Equipment

Furniture and Furnishings 5 years

Photocopy Equipment

Computer Hardware 3 years

Artworks Are expected to appreciate

2.3 Income Tax

The Authority is exempt from income tax under the Broadcasting Act 1989.

2 / Receivables

Accounts receivables are stated at their estimated net realisable value.

2.5 Lease Payments

Operating lease payments, where lessors effectively retain substantially all the risks and benefits of ownership of the leased items, are included in the determination of the operating result in equal instalments over the lease terms.

2.6 Goods and Services Tax (GST)

These financial statements have been prepared exclusive of GST.

2.7 Financial Instruments

The Broadcasting Standards Authority is party to financial instrument arrangements including cash and bank, short term deposits and accounts receivable as part of its everyday operations, which have been recognised in the financial statements. Revenue and expenditure in relation to all financial instruments are also recognised in the financial statements.

3. CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES

There have been no changes in accounting policies. All policies have been applied on bases consistent with those used in previous years.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1994

		199 Actu \$	ıals	1994 Budget \$	1993 Actuals \$		
	Consultancy/Contract Services		304	9,700 102,000	10,811 98,505		
	Members' Fees Staff Remuneration	97, 273,	.760 114	277,022	259,430		
		\$ 379	,178	388,722	368,746		
2.	OTHER EXPENSES						
	Audit	7,3	00	7,000	6,500		
	Complaints	9,0	68	18,000	16,182		
	Information	10,8		10,500	15,749		
	Office Expenses	32,2	228	37,600	44,667		
	Rent and Maintenance	58,4		59,000	58,241		
	Research/Seminar	14,6		23,000	55,468		
	Travel, Accommodation & Training	38,078		44,000	40,749		
		\$ 170),546	199,100	237,556		
3.	PART VI FUNCTIONS						
	These costs are incurred principally in the years in which elections are held.						
	Consultancy	21,3	354	18,000	18,263		
	Members' Éxpenses	5,9		3,500	3,595		
	Members' Fees	11,871		6,000	2,792		
	Miscellaneous	948		3,000	692		
		\$ 40,142		30,500	25,342		
4.	NON CURRENT ASSETS						
		Cost	Accum	1994	1993		
		Price	Depn	Book	Book		
				Value	Value		
		\$	\$	\$	\$		
	Art Works	5,687	-	5,687	5,687		
	Computer Equipment	87,543	57,688	29,855	7,428		
	Furniture & Furnishings	49,097	47,254	1,843	11,657		
	Partitioning & Fitout	50,621	50,620	1	10,125		
	Photocopier	7,500	3,348	4,172	6,670		
	Office Equipment	20,893	12,624	8,269	9,276		
		\$ 221,341	171,543	49,827	50,843		

RECONCILIATION OF THE NET OPERATING DEFICIT WITH NET CASH FLOWS FROM 5. OPERATING ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR

OTERATING ACTIVITIES FOR THE TEAK	1994 \$	1993 \$
Reported Deficit For The Year	(32,660)	(48,823)
Add Non-Cash Items: Depreciation	30,531	32,343
Adjust Item Classified As Investing Activity: Net Loss on Sale of Fixed Assets	362	1,900
Add Movements In Other Working Capital Items: Increase (Decrease) in Accounts Receivable Increase (Decrease) in Accounts Payable Increase (Decrease) in Provision for Holiday Pay Increase (Decrease) in Net GST Receivable Increase (Decrease) in Revenue Received in Advance	1,089 (40,806) (1,008) (7,465)	1,055 4,059 11,813 3,007 30,666
	(78,856)	50,600
Net Cash Flow From Operating Activities	\$ (80,623)	36,020

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1994 (CONTINUED)

6. CASH, BANK & TERM DEPOSITS

This comprises cash balances held on hand and in deposits with New Zealand banks.

	1994 \$	1993 \$
Cash on hand: Petty Cash	100	100
Banks: Westpac Banking Corporation - Current Accounts - Ready Access Deposit - Term Deposits	123 25,411	125,000
	\$ 25,634	125,100

7. STATEMENT OF COMMITMENTS

The following significant future commitments have been incurred by the Broadcasting Standards Authority against future years' income.

Leased Premises

The Authority has a lease from the NZ Lotteries Commission for the rental of the premises comprising part of the second floor, 54-56 Cambridge Terrace, Wellington. The lease is from 14 June 1989 until 30 June 1995.

	1994 \$	1993 \$
Less than one year One to two years Three to five years	49,563	49,563 49,563
Total Rent Expenditure Committed	\$ 49,563	99,126

8. STATEMENT OF CONTINGENT LIABILITY

As at 30 June 1994 three decisions of the Authority have been appealed to the High Court and have yet to be heard. It is not possible to predetermine the financial cost to the Authority of those appeals (1993 - \$Nil).

9. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Credit Risk

Financial instruments which potentially subject the Broadcasting Standards Authority to risk consist of cash and bank short term deposits and accounts receivable. The Broadcasting Standards Authority invests funds only with registered banks with satisfactory credit ratings. Exposure to any one financial institution is restricted in accordance with the Broadcasting Standards Authority's investment policy.

Concentration of Credit Risk

The Broadcasting Standards Authority is not exposed to any concentrations of credit risk.

Fair Values

There were no differences between the fair value and carrying amounts of financial instruments as at 30 June 1994.

Credit Facilities

The Broadcasting Standards Authority did not have bank overdraft facilities as at 30 June 1994 (1993 - \$5,219).

10. SIGNIFICANT EVENTS AFTER BALANCE DATE

There are no significant events subsequent to the balance date and up to the time of preparation of these financial statements, that materially affect the position as it existed at that stage.