



Australian Government
Attorney-General's Department
Legal Services Policy Division

19#486945DOC

22 November 2019

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Legal
And Constitutional Affairs
PO Box 6100
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Secretary

Clarification to Hansard

I write to you concerning evidence provided to the Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs during the Senate Estimates hearing on 22 October 2019.

The Royal Commissions Branch has identified the following clarification:

Evidence of Ms Samantha Byng, Assistant Secretary, Royal Commissions Branch, Attorney-General's Department

On page 134 of the transcript, in exchanges with Senator Steele-John, Ms Byng stated:

Ms Byng: Of the \$379.1 million, \$310.9 million has been provided to the royal commission for the establishment and running of that royal commission; \$17.194 million has been provided for the legal advisory service; \$20.089 million has been provided for the Legal Financial Assistance scheme—that's the one designed to provide assistance to individuals who are providing evidence to the royal commission or being interviewed by the royal commission—\$2.441 million has been provided for staff and supplier costs relating to the legal advisory service and Legal Financial Assistance scheme; \$27.5 million has been provided for the Commonwealth representation component; and \$0.9 million has been allocated to in the year 2023-24 for the management of royal commission records.

I write to provide a clarification regarding the allocation of \$0.9 million in 2023-24 for the management of records as part of the total funding of \$379.1m. The funding of \$379.1 million is for the five years 2018-19 to 2022-23. Funding for records management commences in 2022-23 with an allocation of \$0.9 million and this is included in the \$379.1 million total. Funding for records management for the royal commission continues for a further six years beyond 2022-23.

Yours sincerely

Samantha Byng
Assistant Secretary, Royal Commissions Branch
Attorney-General's Department