



Australian Government
Department of Social Services

Senator Wendy Askew
Chair
Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
Senate
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator

Correction of evidence/clarification of an answer to 2019-20 Additional Estimates Hearing on 5 March 2020.

I am writing to correct evidence provided to the Committee during its examination of the Department of Social Services in relation to Outcome 2.

The department tabled the Cashless Debit Card and Income Management summary with the Committee on 5 March 2020, which included Cashless Debit Card wellbeing exemptions data (Table 1.3). The total number provided for the number of people who were granted an exemption through the Cashless Debit Card wellbeing exemption process was 169. However, this number is incorrect and was actually 173.

The correct data is revised in the table below.

<i>As at 31 January 2020</i>	Ceduna	East Kimberley	Goldfields	BHB	Total
Total participants exempt	33	33	99	8	173

The department also provided the incorrect figure in response to a question from Senator Siewert (Commonwealth of Australia, Proof Committee Hansard, Senate, Community Affairs Legislation Committee, Estimates, 5 March 2020, page 102).

Question on Notice SQ20-000214 provides the revised total number of wellbeing exemptions as at 31 January 2020.

Yours sincerely

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Communities
13 May 2020