



Australian Government
Department of Health

Ms Pothida Youhorn
Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Youhorn,

I am writing in relation to the Community Affairs Legislation Committee, Additional Estimates 2021-22 Health Portfolio hearing on 16 February 2022.

I wish to correct evidence provided to the Committee during its examination of the Department of Health (pages 97-98 of the Proof Hansard refer).

In answering a question from Senator Watt regarding the expenditure of funds provided through the 2021-22 Budget for the provision of Head to Health services, I said: '*None has flowed to the PHNs yet.*' It has been brought to my attention that this is incorrect.

Of the \$487.2 million committed through the 2021-22 Budget to Head to Health services, a total of \$6.08 million has been expended. This includes:

- \$0.95 million to Primary Health Networks to extend the operation of two Victorian Head to Health Pop-Up clinics to 30 June 2022; and
- \$5.13 million to establish a state/territory-wide intake and assessment phone service in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory as part of the Australian Government's COVID-19 support packages, expediting the implementation of the Head to Health intake and assessment phone service in these jurisdictions.

I apologise for this error and would be grateful if the Hansard could be updated to reflect this information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Roddam".

Mark Roddam
First Assistant Secretary
Mental Health Division

// March 2022