



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Education,  
Skills and Employment**

Our Ref: EC20-001035

Parliamentary, Planning and Performance  
Branch Manager  
Jocelyn Ashford

Dr Jane Thomson  
Committee Secretary  
Education and Employment — Legislation Committee  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Dr Thomson

**Corrections to Evidence — Additional Estimates 5 March 2020**

I am writing in relation to the Education and Employment Senate Estimates — Legislation Committee Hearing of 5 March 2020.

On behalf of the Department of Education, Skills and Employment I attach clarifications to the evidence provided to the committee at the recent hearing (Attachment A).

Yours sincerely

*[ signed ]*

**Jocelyn Ashford**  
2 April 2020

**Witness Name:** Dr Michele Bruniges

**Hansard Reference:** 5 March 2020 page 17

**Evidence Correction:**

On the topic concerning the impact of the bushfire crisis on TAFE facilities.

**The corrected statement is**

*Some of the directors-general of education are indeed the directors-general of skills.*

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**Witness Name:** Dr Michele Bruniges

**Hansard Reference:** 5 March 2020 page 25

**Evidence Correction:**

On the topic concerning the timing of the selection of the 10 locations of the industry training hubs

**The corrected statement is**

*I was the Secretary at the time, however it was a different department.*

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**Witness Name:** Dr Baxter

**Hansard Reference:** 5 March 2020 page 71

**Evidence Correction:**

On the topic concerning the number of liaison officers that have gone into schools and child care centres as a result of the \$8 million Beyond Blue mental health support

**The corrected statement is**

*There are 25 liaison officers who have gone or will go into schools and child care centres as a result of the \$8 million Beyond Blue mental health support.*

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**Witness Name:** Ms Emery

**Hansard Reference:** 5 March 2020 page 108

**Evidence Correction:**

On the topic concerning the clearance processes for grant guidelines

**The corrected statement is**

*The next steps are then to have the draft guidelines signed by central agencies before seeking approval from the Minister.*

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**Witness Name:** Professor Sue Thomas

**Hansard Reference:** 5 March 2020 page 111

**Evidence Correction: Dates and Linkage Project number corrected (see red text below)**

On the topic concerning date recommendations was made to the Minister and the batch number of the Linkage Project grants

**The corrected statement is**

***Prof. Thomas:** Sorry—just ahead of that question, I'm advised that it was part of Linkage Projects 2019 point 4. Sorry—your question was: the date of?*

***Senator PRATT:** That it was given to the minister, or after its recommendation?*

***Prof. Thomas:** It was recommended to the minister on 28 November 2019.*

***Senator PRATT:** So you'd given all the approval at your end, and it was given to the minister on 25 October?*

***Prof. Thomas:** Yes.*

***Senator PRATT:** Why was the announcement delayed until after the devastating bushfires? I note that, at the time, the government was scrambling around for bushfire related announcements.*

***Prof. Thomas:** I couldn't say. That would be a question for the minister. Announcements are at the minister's discretion.*

***Senator PRATT:** How long was that sat on for? That's three months.*

***Prof. Thomas:** The recommendation to the minister was on the 28th, and announced by the minister on 12 January.*

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**Witness Name:** Professor Sue Thomas

**Hansard Reference:** 5 March 2020 page 112

**Evidence Correction: Dates and Linkage Project number corrected (see red text below)**

On the topic concerning date recommendations was made to the Minister and the batch number of the Linkage Project grants

**The corrected statement is**

***Prof. Thomas:** Going back to your previous grant example about cladding that was announced on 24 January, it was part of LP19.3, and it was sent to the minister on 25 October.*

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