



**Australian Government**  
**Attorney-General's Department**

22 April 2021

Committee Secretary  
Senate Education and Employment Committee  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Secretary

**Clarification to Hansard**

I am writing to you concerning evidence provided by me to the Senate Education and Employment Committee during the Senate Estimates hearing on 24 March 2021.

I have identified the following clarification on page 10 of the transcript:

**Senator O'Sullivan:** In relation to women, can you confirm for me that right now we've actually got the lowest rate of females in casual employment as a proportion of all female employees at least back to 1988?

**Ms Durbin:** Yes, that's correct. At the moment the proportion of females is 24.9 per cent.

**Senator O'Sullivan:** Prior to COVID, is it correct to say that there was a lower rate of females in casual employment than under any previous government back to 1988.

**Ms Durbin:** The figure of 24.9 per cent currently is the lowest that we had since 1998.

I would like to clarify that while, according to the latest data available at the time of Senate Estimates which was as at November 2020, 'the rate of females in casual employment as a proportion of all female employees' was 24.9 per cent and that this rate was lower than any point before the onset of COVID-19, the lowest 'rate of females in casual employment as a proportion of all female employees' was 21.8 per cent, which occurred in May 2020.

Yours sincerely



Alison Durbin  
First Assistant Secretary  
Employment Standards Divisions  
Industrial Relations Group