



Australian Government
Department of Education

Your Ref
Our Ref EC22-005908

A/g Assistant Secretary and Chief Internal Auditor
Melissa King

Ms Jeanette Radcliffe
Committee Secretary
Education and Employment
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Radcliffe

I am writing in relation to the Education and Employment Senate Estimates - Legislation Committee Hearing of 9 and 10 November 2022.

On behalf of the Department of Education and portfolio entities, I attach clarifications to the evidence provided to the Committee at these hearings (Attachment A).

Yours sincerely

Melissa King
13 December 2022

**Corrections to Evidence from 2022–23 Budget Estimates hearing
Wednesday, 9 November 2022 and Thursday, 10 November 2022**

Witness Name: Mr Markovic

Hansard Reference: Wednesday, 9 November 2022, page 96

Evidence Correction:

On the topic concerning savings measures in the October 2022-23 Budget

The Hansard states:

The third measure is **\$2.4 million** over two years through the cessation of the budget measure titled Endeavour Language Teacher Fellowships.

The corrected statement is:

The third measure is **\$1.4 million** over two years through the cessation of the budget measure titled Endeavour Language Teacher Fellowships.

Witness Name: Dr Bruniges

Hansard Reference: Wednesday, 9 November 2022, page 97

Evidence Correction:

On the topic concerning early childhood education and care

The Hansard states:

I think it was the **Grattan report** that referred to childcare deserts.

The corrected statement is:

I think it was the **Mitchell Institute report** that referred to childcare deserts.

Witness Name: Mr Philp

Hansard Reference: Wednesday, 9 November 2022, page 105

Evidence Correction:

On the topic concerning Connected Beginning site selection

The Hansard states:

Those sites are selected through a combination of things. We do analysis of the data around **SEIFA and indigeneity in the Indigenous populations in those areas**, particularly for that zero to four.

The corrected statement is:

Those sites are selected through a combination of things. We do analysis of the data around **Indigenous populations in areas**, particularly for that zero to five.

Witness Name: Mrs Twyman

Hansard Reference: Wednesday, 9 November 2022, page 106

Evidence Correction:

On the topic concerning Connected Beginnings site selection

The Hansard states:

Site selection is through the department. We do the analysis and the verification. The minister would be informed of that data analysis and would be made aware of the activity that we were going to undertake in that location, which is to talk to the community and progress the site scoping work.

The corrected statement is:

The Minister approves a priority list of potential sites informed by data and initial consultation. Final site selection is through the department. We do the analysis and the verification. The minister would be informed of that data analysis and would be made aware of the activity that we were going to undertake in that location, which is to talk to the community and progress the site scoping work.

Witness Name: Mr Philp

Hansard Reference: Wednesday, 9 November 2022, page 106

Evidence Correction:

On the topic concerning Community Child Care Fund Program

The Hansard states:

The ones that you referred to were announced in the May budget

The corrected statement is:

The ones that you referred to were announced in the March 2023 budget

Witness Name: Dr Bruniges

Hansard Reference: Wednesday, 9 November 2022, page 110

Evidence Correction:

On the topic concerning of Community Child Care Fund and Connected Beginnings

The Hansard states:

I think there are two elements there. One relates to access, and the other one relates to places and capacity. In terms of access, we heard Senator Davey talk about some of the regional areas, where people might not have access, and what we can create through CCCF. So how can we increase access through CCCF? How can we increase access by placing Connected Beginnings? So, across the board, what is the total amount of strategies where we have to create more access where it's needed and that will also build capacity? If you put a new Connected Beginnings centre in, you automatically increase the number of places.

The corrected statement is:

I think there are two elements there. One relates to access, and the other one relates to places and capacity. In terms of access, we heard Senator Davey talk about some of the regional areas, where people might not have access, and what we can create through CCCF. So how can we increase access through CCCF? How can we increase access by placing Connected Beginnings? So, across the board, what is the total amount of strategies where we have to create more access where it's needed and that will also build capacity? If you put a new CCCF service in, you automatically increase the number of places.

Witness Name: Mr Philp

Hansard Reference: Wednesday, 9 November 2022, page 113

Evidence Correction:

On the topic concerning Care Child Subsidy changes

The Hansard states:

Two per cent of two to six million –

The corrected statement is:

Two per cent of 1.26 million families.

Witness Name: Dr Bruniges

Hansard Reference: Thursday, 10 November 2022, page 13

Evidence Correction:

On the topic concerning school attendance

The Hansard states:

That is actually attendance; that's not about enrolment. Indeed, in each jurisdiction's annual report, they'll have an attendance figure. I know that, in your case, if you look up the [New South Wales annual report](#), you'll see an attendance figure at a lower level, so you can actually see the districts or areas in which students are attending and what the proportion is.

The corrected statement is:

That is actually attendance; that's not about enrolment. Indeed, in each jurisdiction's annual report, they'll have an attendance figure. I know that, in your case, if you look up the [2021 government school attendance factsheet on the New South Wales Department of Education's website](#), you'll see an attendance figure at a lower level, so you can actually see the districts or areas in which students are attending and what the proportion is.

Witness Name: Mr Harding

Hansard Reference: Thursday, 10 November 2022, page 17

Evidence Correction:

On the topic concerning needs-based funding

The Hansard states:

Yes, on 5 March, I think, last year; there's a link on our website to all of the needs-based funding arrangements

The corrected statement is:

Yes, on 3 March, I think, last year; there's a link on our website to all of the needs-based funding arrangements

Witness Name: Dr Baxter

Hansard Reference: Thursday, 10 November 2022, page 21

Evidence Correction:

On the topic concerning the Student Wellbeing Boost

The Hansard states:

The additional funds will be paid to states and territories [to distribute in December 2022](#), and they will then distribute it for use in the 2023 school year.

The corrected statement is:

The additional funds will be paid to states and territories, and they will then distribute it for use in the 2023 school year.

Witness Name: Dr Bruniges

Hansard Reference: Thursday, 10 November 2022, page 32

Evidence Correction:

On the topic concerning Universities Australia Sexual Violence campaign

The Hansard states:

Senator FARUQI: That is part of that recommendation 12?

Dr Bruniges: **That's correct.**

The corrected statement is:

Senator FARUQI: That is part of that recommendation 12?

Dr Bruniges: **The \$1.5 million from DSS to Universities Australia to develop and roll out materials to prevent and respond to sexual harassment and gender-based violence will help universities to implement Recommendation 11 of Respect@Work. In response to Recommendation 12, the Department and TEQSA have worked with the Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) to develop new Respect@Work resources appropriate for the higher education sector, which the AHRC launched earlier in November.**

Witness Name: Prof. Coaldrake

Hansard Reference: Thursday, 10 November 2022, page 46

Evidence Correction:

On the topic concerning SASH Clarification

The Hansard states:

The number of complaints we've had, **at least in 2021—I don't have the latest figures—was 34.** TEQSA itself is not a complaints based agency. We've had 34 **overall.** There are 32 in the universities and two in other entities.

The corrected statement is:

The number of complaints we've had **overall is 34, I don't have the latest figures for 2021.** TEQSA itself is not a complaints based agency. We've had 34 **overall complaints since September 2017.** There are 32 in the universities and two in other entities.

Witness Name: Prof. Coaldrake

Hansard Reference: Thursday, 10 November 2022, page 48

Evidence Correction:

On the topic concerning Cost Recovery. Error of Fact and Clarification.

The Hansard states:

And the new arrangements **are being phased in over three years. It is 20, 50 and 90.**

The corrected statement is:

And the new arrangements, **specifically the Annual Registration Charge, is being phased in over three years, at 20, 50 and subsequently 100 per cent.**

Witness Name: Mr Maclean

Hansard Reference: Thursday, 10 November 2022, page 49

Evidence Correction:

On the topic concerning Cost Recovery. Error of Fact.

The Hansard states:

In **August** 2021.

The corrected statement is:

In **May and June** 2021.

Witness Name: Mr Maclean

Hansard Reference: Thursday, 10 November 2022, page 49

Evidence Correction:

On the topic concerning Cost Recovery. Error of Fact.

The Hansard states:

We presented the feedback to then minister, **if I recall, in October** last year. The decision was subsequently taken, in view of the ongoing impacts of the pandemic on the sector, to further defer the implementation of cost recovery. At that stage, it was due for implementation on 1 January this year. So the decision was taken under the previous government to defer until 1 January 2023.

The corrected statement is:

We presented the feedback to then minister **in September** last year. The decision was subsequently taken, in view of the ongoing impacts of the pandemic on the sector, to further defer the implementation of cost recovery. At that stage, it was due for implementation on 1 January this year. So the decision was taken under the previous government to defer until 1 January 2023.
