



## Australian Government

### Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING  
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT  
BARTON

Ms Ann Palmer  
Committee Secretary  
Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Palmer

I wish to advise of the following corrections and clarifications to the record in relation to evidence provided at the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearings on 26 October 2018, regarding the Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio.

#### Friday 26 October 2018

##### 1. Page 37

**Ms Lewis:** ....DHS will be investigating all failures prior to the application of any financial penalties. So if a CDP participant does get to that red zone, there will be no financial penalty applied until DHS has investigated the failures and **previously** made an assessment **through the capability assessment process** as to whether the participant should be on the program or require some medical assistanee **assessment** before any financial penalty applies, which is a key difference to the current system versus the TCF.

##### Clarification:

The original statement conflates two processes (assessment and consideration of financial penalty); we suggest it is clearer this way.

##### 2. Page 38

**Ms Lewis:** ....The other thing that we are aware of is that between the last two censuses, there has been a decline in the census count of people living in remote Australia across every age group under 50 and that there is an increase in the number of over 50s. **leaving remote Australia**

##### Clarification:

The census figures show an increase in the number aged over 50 in remote Australia, not leaving.

Should you require further information, please contact Jarrod McAlister on 6271 5639.

Yours sincerely

Brendan MacDowell  
Acting First Assistant Secretary  
Ministerial Support Division

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