



Australian Government
Attorney-General's Department
Integrity and Security Division

16 November 2018

Dr Sean Turner
Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs
PO Box 6100
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Dr Turner

Clarifications to Hansard

I write to you concerning evidence provided to the Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs during the Additional Budget Estimates hearing on 23 October 2018.

Upon reviewing Hansard, I have identified the following clarification:

Evidence of Mr Andrew Walter, First Assistant Secretary, Integrity and Security Division, Attorney-General's Department

On page 120 of the transcript, in exchanges with Senator Rice, I stated:

Mr Walter: Yes, we've been working on the development of the legislation in response to implementing the Prime Minister's announcement in that regard. Timing is, of course, always a matter for government but we'll be well placed whenever the government wants to move ahead, noting that it's always subject to its final approval and decision-making before introduction. In terms of your other questions, we have a human rights unit. The work is being managed within that human rights unit. There are a couple of officers working on that along with other matters. There is a director who is obviously fairly well focused on that—an EL2 officer—and then there are a couple of, I think, APS6 officers working on it as well. So it's not absolutely 100 per cent of their time, but a couple of people are looking at that. We obviously consult with the Office of Parliamentary Counsel, but also there have been some discussions with the Department of Education and Training as well.

I wish to clarify that while the department consulted with the Office of Parliamentary Counsel, we did not have discussions with the Department of Education and Training as I stated in the hearing.

The action officer for this matter is Su Yin Branston who can be contacted on (02) 6141 4180 should further information be required.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Walter
First Assistant Secretary
Integrity and Security Division