



Senator Glenn Sterle
Chair
Senate Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Sterle

On 30 May 2024 I appeared as a witness before the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee Estimates hearing.

During the hearing Senator Canavan said in relation to the evidence provided to the independent panel regarding sheep farmers exiting the industry:

"To be clear, you're saying there was no evidence to the panel about how many farmers would leave the sheep industry?"

In response I said

"Not in a neat cohort around farmers per se"

I wish to correct this answer. The Episode 3 report commissioned by the independent panel and referenced in the panel's report included sheep producer intention surveys. The remainder of my answer to the question, given at the hearing, is correct.

I apologise for the error in my answer and trust this further information will be of assistance to the Committee.

Yours sincerely

Andrew McDonald
First Assistant Secretary
Plant and Live Animal Exports, Welfare and Regulation Division

5 July 2024