



Australian Government  
Department of Home Affairs

Senator Raff Ciccone  
Chair  
Select Committee on Temporary Migration  
C/O Committee Secretary  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Chair

I appeared at the Senate Select Committee hearing on Temporary Migration on 10 September 2020. In my capacity as First Assistant Secretary, Immigration and Community Protection Policy, I gave evidence to the Senate. Upon review of the Hansard record, I have become aware of the need to correct a response I made to a question from you.

The particular reference for correction is on page 18 in response to your question:

*"Sure. Also, do any of these temporary visa holders have work rights?... [Dialogue clarifying the question]..."*

*If you are able to provide both then do, but my main focus is on the bridging visas, yes."*

My response to this question was in part:

*"The figure I'm working off is bridging visa holders in Australia as at 31 May 2020. There are 64,906 who have no work rights—that is, a condition that says 'no work' is imposed on the bridging visa—and 250,901 have permission to work, or there is not a 'no work' condition on the visa."*

This response contained a factual inaccuracy and I am providing the following correction of evidence in response to this question:

As at 31 May 2020, 255,901 bridging visa holders in Australia have permission to work, or there is not a 'no work' condition on their visa.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide clarification, which will ensure the correct information has been provided to the Senate Select Committee hearing on Temporary Migration.

Yours sincerely

**Michael Willard**

First Assistant Secretary

Immigration and Community Protection Policy Division

3 November 2020