



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Education,  
Skills and Employment**

Our Ref: EC20-006596

Parliamentary, Planning and Performance  
Branch Manager  
Jocelyn Ashford

The Secretary  
COVID-19 Committee  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Dr Thomson

**Corrections to Evidence — Senate Select Committee on COVID-19, 19 May 2020**

I am writing in relation to the Senate Select Committee on COVID-19 Hearing of 19 May 2020.

On behalf of the Department of Education, Skills and Employment I attach clarifications to the evidence provided to the committee at the recent hearing (Attachment A).

Yours sincerely

**Jocelyn Ashford**  
17 June 2020

**Witness Name:** Dr Ros Baxter

**Hansard Reference:** 19 May 2020 Page 5

**Evidence Correction:**

On the topic concerning Sector Survey

**The corrected statement is**

Just to round that off with the data that we know about from the survey, we know that, in fact, while it's not a full sample of the sector, it is 54 per cent, so it covered more than 7,000 services.

---

**Witness Name:** Nathan Smyth

**Hansard Reference:** 19 May 2020 Page 20

**Evidence Correction:**

On the topic concerning the Seasonal Worker Program

**The corrected statement is**

We have 6,996 still in the country. I can give you a breakdown by state and territory and by home country, but they have remained in Australia.

---

**Witness Name:** Dr Ros Baxter

**Hansard Reference:** 19 May 2020 Page 37

**Clarification of evidence:**

On the topic concerning Childcare

**The corrected statement is**

We are aware that there have been some media reports of children not being able to access care. The data points that we have suggest this does remain a small minority of children. We've had about 128 calls and emails about [child care services refusing to accept new enrolments or increase days and/or hours](#) in the department, which is about one one-hundredth of a per cent of the children that we have in care at the moment.

---