



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Ms Lyn Beverley
Committee Secretary
Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Beverley

I wish to advise of the following corrections and clarifications to the record in relation to evidence provided at the Budget Estimates hearings on 22, 23 and 26 May 2017, regarding the Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio.

Monday 22 May 2017

1. Page 58

Ms Bryant: I would have to check, but my understanding is that it is for four full-time staff and Dr Renwick's costs are on top of that. The budget for the financial year of 2016-17 was **\$841,000**.

Senator McALLISTER: **\$841,000?**

Ms Bryant: It was **\$841,000**. I will check this very quickly for you—I am hoping my team is checking it now for me—that that is the same for the 2017-18 financial year as well. But I will check, as well, the number of staff.

The 2016-17 Independent National Security Legislation Monitor office budget is \$840,000, not \$841,000.

Tuesday 23 May 2017

1. Page 54

Senator WONG: Could I have the dates of those?

Mr McKinnon: It was 9 December 2016 for the submission that we sent regarding terms of reference; 13 December 2016 regarding the scope and the intent of the white paper; and 2 May 2017 regarding the organising principles for the white paper.

Senator WONG: At which point was the formal decision of government? I understand it was an election commitment, but when was the formal decision? You were going to give me the date of that.

Mr McKinnon: There was a cabinet decision on 13 December.

Senator WONG: Thank you.

The coalition made a commitment during the election campaign to produce a foreign policy strategy in the form of a white paper. On 13 December 2016, the Government agreed to the Foreign Policy White Paper terms of reference.

2. Page 115

Ms Kelly: There was some additional information sought in relation to question on notice 125, about public officials attending. In relation to ministers attending, it was Minister Fifield, Minister O'Dwyer, Minister Sinodinos and Assistant Minister Taylor; and Minister O'Dwyer, Minister Sinodinos and Assistant Minister Taylor were accompanied by their spouses, which makes the total number of seven. There was also a request in relation to the state and local government mayors. I understand that the Mayor of Waverley attended and had a plus one. **The Mayor of Coogee** also attended with a plus one, and the New South Wales Attorney General attended with a plus one.

The attendee was the Member for Coogee.

Friday 26 May 2017

1. Page 9

Senator McCARTHY: So 150 jobs—that takes up the whole \$8.9 million?

Ms Lindsay: Yes. And that actually does not work out to be very much per job.

Senator McCARTHY: How much is it per job?

Mr Maher: It is **\$53,000** per job. ILC tops up what is needed to fulfil that role in the program.

Senator McCARTHY: How much does the ILC top up?

Mr Maher: It does vary year by year. I think we have topped up to over \$80,000, so—\$80,000 minus \$53,000—we can top up as much as \$30,000 in some jobs.

For 2017-18, Commonwealth Government funding for each position amounts to \$53,767.

2. Page 9

Ms Lindsay: Its income is about \$120 million or \$130 million.

These figures should be \$156 million in 2016-17 and \$163 million in 2017-18.

3. Page 13

Ms Lindsay: I will provide as much information as I can and then we will provide you with more information on notice. The Real Jobs Program is part of that 150 that we were talking about earlier, in the Northern Territory. We have a model where we enter into an agreement with a group, Voyages being the same, where we provide funding for some positions. In the case of Voyages I do not know the exact—

Mr Maher: It is 16.

...

Mr Maher: It is the average over what we have allowed for Voyages. The ILC tops up Voyages from the \$53,000 I spoke about earlier to an average of **\$78,000.**

There are 15 RJP positions with Voyages at Ayers Rock Resort.

The average cost of supporting these positions is \$78,533.33 per participant. This figure includes the costs incurred to support the positions — \$25,533, for supervision, training and operational costs. To continue to support these organisations, the ILC has utilised historical program underspent to top up the shortfall between the \$53,767 allocation and the total cost of employment for each provider. The ILC does not directly provide top up funding for these positions.

4. Page 13 and 14

Mr Maher: It is 16.

Ms Lindsay: The 150 Real Jobs is distributed throughout the Northern Territory. Voyages participate in that 150 Real Jobs program. They are funded from the ILC for 16.

Mr Maher, Ms Lindsay and the Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Senator the Hon Nigel Scullion, all quote the figure of 16 Real Jobs with the ILC, this should be 15 Real Jobs.

5. Page 14

Senator Scullion: Out of 379 current employments—that was at the end of April—which I think is really quite remarkable, given that it was virtually zero during its purchase in 2011.

Senator McCARTHY: So the 379 are all Indigenous positions?

Senator Scullion: That is correct. And they are 37 per cent of the workforce. What a great outcome.

The Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Senator the Hon Nigel Scullion, quotes Voyages employment figures — 379 (37% of total) Indigenous employees at Voyages. While technically correct, he was referring to Ayers Rock Resort, which has a total of 300 Indigenous employees (36% of total). These figures were supplied to Minister Scullion's office by Voyages.

6. Page 14

Ms Button: I can take it on notice to get you the full breakdown, but there has been over \$180,000 in rent abatement provided to congress. There is a \$65,000 relocation and rental assistance package provided.

The total value of assistance provided to Congress was over \$180,000, which includes rent abatement and the relocation package.

7. Page 50:

Ms Hefren-Webb: No. The funding was provided as a lump sum by the then Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations before the 2013 election, so we have been managing the relationship since then. Since the funding came to PM&C, we have had a really productive relationship with them. The evaluation pointed to a lot of really good outcomes.

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

Yours sincerely

Paula Ganly
First Assistant Secretary
Ministerial Support Division

23 June 2017