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**Australian Government**

**Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations**

Martin Hehir  
Deputy Secretary Schools and Youth

Mr Rob Oakeshott MP  
Chair  
Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit  
PO Box 6021  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Oakeshott

**Supplementary submission to correct statement of, evidence**

I would like to thank you once again for the opportunity for DEEWR to appear before the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit (JCPAA) on 12 September in relation to the Auditor-General's Report No 41 on the National Partnership Agreement on Literacy and Numeracy.

It has come to light that in giving evidence I inadvertently provided an incorrect statistic in regard to the change in the proportion of Indigenous Year 3 students performing below the National Minimum Standard (NMS) from 2008 to 2011. I referred to the proportion reducing from 53 per cent to 12.9 per cent over this time; however in fact the proportion for Year 3 reading has reduced from 53 per cent to 46.1 per cent.

The error occurred due to misreading the information provided in table 4.4 on page 99 of the ANAO report. I apologise for mistakenly providing this statistic and request that the correct statistic be published.

Yours sincerely

Martin Hehir

*17 September 2012*

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