



Australian Government
Department of Social Services

Senator Jonathon Duniam
Chair
Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator

Correction of evidence to 2017-18 Budget Estimates Hearing on 31 May 2017.

I am writing to correct evidence provided to the Committee during its examination of the Department of Social Services in relation to Outcome 1.1, Hansard page 116.

In answering a question from Senator Pratt regarding how many families will be impacted by a two-year pause on the indexation of Family Tax Benefit (FTB) payment rates and how many would lose entitlement to FTB Part A, I said:

That is 64,000. But for the total number of families impacted it is 1,494,600 FTB Part A families who are affected by the freeze and there are 1,174,000 FTB Part B families. There is some considerable overlap though in that population.

The correct answer to how many families will be impacted by pausing the indexation of FTB maximum rates for two years is, all FTB Part A recipients (around 1.5 million families including an estimate for lump sum claimants) and all FTB Part B recipients (around 1.3 million families including an estimate for lump sum claimants).

However, no families will lose FTB payments as a result of the rates pause unless their income increases above their payment cut-out.

Yours sincerely

Cath Halbert
Group Manager
Payments Policy Group

20 June 2017