DPS ref: 16/115/4

Senator Cory Bernardi Chair Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Bernardi

During the Additional Estimates hearing on 8 February 2016, I undertook to investigate concerns raised on two issues and report back to the Committee on any findings of that investigation. The two issues were the accuracy and consistency of evidence and answers provided to the Committee about the breach of security at APH in March 2015; and the process for commissioning the Georgiou Report and any conflict of interest associated with that procurement.

I am writing to advise the Committee that I have initiated an investigation into these matters. I will advise the Committee further on this matter when the investigation has concluded.

I also wish to advise the Committee that Ms Erin Noordeloos, Assistant Secretary, Security Branch in the Department has submitted her resignation and this has been accepted.

Yours sincerely

Rob Stefanic Secretary

18 February 2016