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By: *DEEWR*

Date:



I need to correct the record in relation to one response given to Senator Fisher in the afternoon session on Monday 2 June). Senator Fisher asked whether the department had had any redundancies since January and I replied that we had not.

The above response was provided in the context of the line of questioning at this time, which appeared to relate to the possibility of involuntary redundancies arising from Budget effects. The Department has in fact had one Voluntary Redundancy which took effect on 31 January 2008. This redundancy was in relation to an undertaking made to an employee prior to the Machinery of Government changes in December, and the circumstances giving rise to the redundancy were entirely unrelated to staffing impacts of the Machinery of Government changes and the Federal Budget announcements. This one particular pre-existing case aside, no redundancies have been made, for any reason, since January 2008.