



Australian Government
Department of Defence
People Strategies and Policy

Office of Head People Capability
R1-1-C005
Russell Offices
Canberra ACT 2600

Telephone: (02) 6265 6902
Facsimile: (02) 6265 6349

HPC/OUT/2009/R4551932

Dr Kathleen Dermody
Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Dr Dermody

I write to correct evidence that I gave at the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing held on 21 October 2009 concerning the housing assistance provided to dependants of Australian Defence Force members who die.

In answer to a question from Senator Kroger and in the ensuing discussion (refer to page 85 and 86 of *Proof Hansard* 21 October 2009), I stated that the initial period of time that dependants are able to remain in a Defence Housing Association house is three months, which may be extended depending on the circumstances of each case. This information was incorrect. Defence policy allows for dependants to remain in a Defence Housing Association house for an initial period of six months, which may be extended depending on the circumstances of the case.

I note that Mr Michael Del Gigante, Managing Director Defence Housing Australia quoted the same figure of three months (refer to page 84 of the *Proof Hansard* 21 October 2009) instead of the six months. I presume he will also be writing to you in order to correct his evidence.

I apologise for any misunderstanding that may have arisen.

Yours sincerely

C.W. ORME AM, CSC
Major General
Head People Capability
(J1 ADF)

30 October 2009