



Australian Government
Department of Human Services



Helen Williams AO
Secretary

Ms Christine McDonald
Committee Secretary
Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms McDonald

I am writing to you in relation to evidence provided by officers from the Human Services Portfolio at the 21 October 2008 Supplementary Budget Estimates hearings of the Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration (the Committee).

Following the hearings, officers from the Human Services Portfolio who appeared before the Committee have reviewed the proof copy of Hansard and checked departmental records. As a consequence, I would like to submit the following corrections from Centrelink.

Introduction for Centrelink

At Hansard page F&PA 125, the introduction to proceedings after the suspension is "Australian Valuation Office". The introduction should be amended to read "Centrelink".

Evidence of Mr Cowan, Centrelink

Correction of evidence

At Hansard page F&PA 126, Mr Cowan is quoted as stating "Yes, that is right. They can go to the regional decision maker on the determination of the outcome of their application or valuation of assets."

Centrelink has since advised that the "regional decision maker" should be amended to state "original decision maker".

Evidence of Ms Thomas, Centrelink

Correction of Evidence

At Hansard page F&PA 133, Ms Thomas states "Essentially, maternity immunisation allowance is paid in two instalments."

Centrelink would like to clarify that the maternity immunisation allowance is paid in two instalments from January 2009.

Should you require any further information in relation to this correction, please do not hesitate to contact Neil Skill, Assistant Secretary, Portfolio Coordination and Parliamentary, on 02 6223 4700.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Helen Williams', written in a cursive style.

Helen Williams

6 November 2008