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Reference:	RMS09/10700-4
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Mr Stephen Palethorpe
Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra   ACT   2600

Dear Mr Palethorpe

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing on 20 October 2009

I am writing in relation to the appearance of the Department of Finance and Deregulation (Finance) before the Committee on Tuesday, 20 October 2009. At the beginning of the consideration of Outcome 3 (Ministerial and Parliamentary Services), Senator the Hon Michael Ronaldson asked the Department (Hansard page F&PA 74) if they *could provide the usual estimates documentation in relation to changes in ministerial staff, establishments et cetera... .*

Two sets of documents were tabled by Finance, the first set is commonly known as the staffing establishment and included tables with staffing figures as at 1 October 2009 for the Government, Opposition, Whips, the Australian Greens, the Presiding Officers and others. The second document is known as the Establishments Variations for Government Personal Staff and covered the period 1 May 2009 to 1 October 2009.

Since the hearing on 20 October 2009, Finance has been advised of the allocation of an Assistant Adviser position to the Prime Minister's office with effect from 14 September 2009. The position has been allocated from the Government's reserve pool of unallocated positions. As a result of the allocation, the staffing information provided by Finance at the hearing on 20 October 2009 is incorrect and updated information in relation to Government Personal Positions as at 1 October 2009 and Establishment Variations for Government Personal Staff is therefore attached.

It would be appreciated if you could bring the attached information to the attention of Committee Members.

Yours sincerely

Jan Mason
General Manager
Corporate and Parliamentary Services
29 October 2009