



Australian Government



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Senator Helen Polley
Committee Chairperson
Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
PO Box 6100
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Dear Senator Polley

I would like to draw your attention to inaccurate information provided to the Senate Committee on Finance and Public Administration on 20 October 2009.

In response to questioning by Senator Scullion (Proof Committee Hansard, F&PA 135), I stated that Centrelink would be able to provide the number of people who have used the In-Touch program since 1998. Unfortunately this statement was incorrect. Centrelink does not have complete records of In-Touch program usage prior to 2007.

I would also like to clarify the response to Senator Scullion's question with regard to the date Centrelink became aware that Dennis Ferguson had contacted Alexandria Brookes via the In-Touch program. Mr Burgess stated that it was 22 September 2009. Centrelink became aware on the evening of 21 September 2009 that a letter had been given to Alexandria Brookes but Centrelink could not confirm this letter was from Dennis Ferguson until the following morning, when the actual In-Touch request form could be sighted.

I would like to apologise for the inaccuracies in Centrelink's original evidence.

Yours sincerely

Carolyn Hogg
Chief Executive Officer
Centrelink

3rd December 2009