



Australian Government
Department of Human Services



Mr Stephen Palethorpe
Committee Secretary
Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Palethorpe

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

Following the hearings, officers from the Human Services Portfolio who appeared before the Committee have reviewed the proof copy of Hansard. As a consequence, I would like to submit the following correction to evidence from the Department of Human Services.

At Hansard page F&PA 125, the following appears:

Senator SCULLION—So that would be the normal process: to attempt to actually recover the money. So in each case you would approach the person who has been overpaid.

Ms Cooke—Yes, the receiving parent in some circumstances may agree to forego the extra money that they have paid; but that is entirely up to the receiving parent.

In correcting Ms Cooke's statement above, her reference to the 'receiving' parent, should in fact be 'paying' parent.

I would be grateful if you could advise members of the committee of this correction to evidence.

Should you require any further information in relation to this correction, please do not hesitate to contact me on (02) 6223 4700.

Yours sincerely

Neil Skill
Assistant Secretary
Portfolio Coordination and Parliamentary
26 November 2009