



Australian Government

Attorney-General's Department

Priorities and Coordination Division

10/8662

20 July 2010

Ms Julie Dennett
Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on
Legal and Constitutional Affairs
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Dennett

Clarifications and corrections to Hansard

I write concerning evidence provided by officers from the Attorney-General's Portfolio to the Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs at the Budget Estimates hearing of 24 and 25 May 2010.

Following the hearing, officers from the Attorney-General's Portfolio who provided evidence to the Committee reviewed the proof copy of Hansard. Consequently, I wish to submit the following corrections and clarifications on behalf of the Attorney-General's Portfolio.

24 May 2010

Evidence of Mr McDonald AC

In an exchange with Senator Barnett regarding the audits of publications with serial classifications, Mr McDonald states on page 53 of the Hansard, "We have audited 22. I am sorry, that is not since February; that is in this fiscal year again." The Classification Board wishes to clarify that the number of publications audited from 1 February to 24 May 2010 is 24. The total number of audits conducted in the 2009-10 financial year to 24 May 2010 is 40.

Evidence of Mr Phelan

In an exchange with Senator Barnett regarding a heritage management plan, Mr Phelan states on page 71 on the Hansard that the High Court has been consulting with the public. The High Court wishes to clarify that the High Court has been consulting with stakeholders.

25 May 2010

Evidence of Mr Moss

In an exchange with Senator Barnett regarding the purpose of a \$70,000 consultancy with Deloitte, Mr Moss states on page 9 of the Hansard "Yes. That was a consultancy I engaged through Deloitte

to again give me external assurance that ACLEI's governance arrangements were in order." The Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity wishes to clarify that the Deloitte consultancy is for the provision of secretariat services to the ACLEI Audit Committee and four internal audits for the period September 2007 until July 2010. ACLEI's Audit Committee, comprising three members external to ACLEI and two ACLEI senior staff members, provides advice to the Integrity Commissioner on governance matters. The internal audits are focused on governance arrangements in relation to key financial controls and information security. The \$70,000 value of this consultancy is the anticipated cost over the full term of the contract.

Evidence of Ms Grant

In an exchange with Senator Parry on page 43 of the Hansard, Ms Grant stated "No" in response to Senator Parry's question on whether there were any plans to reduce personnel numbers in Hobart, Bell Bay or Burnie. The Australian Customs and Border Protection Service wishes to clarify that subsequent to the 25 May hearing, further refinement of internal budgets has resulted in a planned reduction of one Full Time Equivalent position in the Trade and Compliance function in Hobart during 2010-2011.

Evidence of Dr Popple

On page 51 of the Hansard, Dr Popple twice refers to Finance Circular 2006/05. The Attorney-General's Department wishes to clarify that the correct reference is Finance Circular 2009/09. The correct circular was tabled.

Evidence of Dr Tomison

An exchange with Senator Barnett regarding the Australian Institute of Criminology's budget allocation for this year and compared to last year on page 104 of the Hansard correctly reads **Senator BARNETT**—And your budget allocation for this year? I just have not found it.

Dr Tomison—For this year it is \$7.2 million.

Senator BARNETT—And compared to last year?

Dr Tomison—Same.

The Australian Institute of Criminology wishes to clarify that the response given for 'this year' refers to financial year 2009/10. The reference to 'last year' is to financial year 2008/09. The budget allocation, as set out in the 2010/11 Portfolio Budget Statements for 2010/11 is \$6.77 million.

Evidence of Ms Jones

On page 117 of the Hansard, Ms Jones refers to incarceration rates as one of the factors that are taken into account under the funding allocation model for Indigenous legal services. The Attorney-General's Department wishes to clarify that under the model, incarceration rates are not directly taken into account as there are other factors (such as income levels, educational attainment, employment status, single income family status and separation from natural family) that are considered to be more reliable predictors of whether a person is likely to need to access legal assistance services. The funding allocation model uses these factors (together with factors that affect the cost of delivering legal assistance services—such as geographical remoteness or the proportion of Indigenous-only language speakers) as well as the distribution of the Indigenous population to allocate available funding.

The action officer for this matter is Tara Cheyne who can be contacted on (02) 6141 2740.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rachael Jackson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rachael Jackson
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