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31 October 2023

Mr Patrick Hodder Committee Secretary Senate Finance & Public Administration Committee Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Hodder

Finance and Public Administration References Committee, Management and assurance of integrity by consulting services (Consulting services) [12 October 2023] - Proof Committee Hansard, Page 60-61

At the above noted References Committee Hearings on 12 October 2023, I provided the following evidence;

Dr Barrett: We have not seen those documents. If we were to undertake a new procurement today, we would do so in line with Commonwealth Procurement Rules, including assessing value for money. We can ask—and usually we do for a procurement—who is listed as the people who are going to deliver the service. We would ask for a list of people. We have not seen the documents you are referring to. We use panels that are established by the Department of Finance or other organisations when we do our procurements. We are also dependent on those panel processes that allow for people to be listed in the first place.

CHAIR: Do you conduct your own panels?

Dr Barrett: I don't think we do have any panels, but I will check.

Dr Barrett: I don't believe we have any contracts with Luke Sayers at the current time. In 2020—I will have to check—there was a small consultancy with Luke Sayers.

I am writing to provide an amended response to the Committee in relation to this matter.

I can confirm that the evidence I provided to the Committee is correct, and the Department of the Treasury does not manage any of our own panels.

I need to provide a slight correction in relation to the year that I provided in evidence to the Committee, for the contract with Sayers Advisory. Treasury's contract (AusTender CN3815007) with Sayers Advisory Pty Ltd was actually in 2021 not 2020.

Regards

Dr Angela Barrett
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The Department of the Treasury

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