



Ms Jeanette Radcliffe
Secretary
Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Radcliffe

**Clarification of information provided at the 2018-19 Additional Estimates
hearing on 21 February 2019**

I am writing to clarify information that was provided to the Committee during its examination of the Department of Human Services in the 2018-19 Additional Estimates hearing on 21 February 2019.

In answering questions from Senator Watt, the following evidence was given by Ms Leon and Mr Storen (page 121, Hansard Proof Copy):

Senator WATT: What I'm just trying to work out is: where we have got to compared to where we thought we would be at the start. At the start, 2015-16, it was expected that by 30 June this year it would have recovered \$4 billion. The most recent data you have is from 31 December 2018, and as at that point you'd recovered \$500 million, with a further \$500 million in agreements to repay and with a further \$500 million having been raised but negotiations are still underway?

Ms Leon: Yes. The part that I think we may need to correct on notice is what the original forecast was over what time, because the \$4 billion is what the current forecast is as at the 2018-19 budget. So we will have to take on notice what it was at different points.

Senator WATT: So it might have been a bit less?

Mr Storen: The \$4 billion runs up to the last forward-estimates year, which is 2022-23, and started at 1 July 2015.

Mr Storen wishes to clarify his evidence to advise:

The \$4 billion runs up to the last forward-estimates year, which is 2021-22, and started at 1 July 2015.

In answering another question from Senator Watt, the following evidence was given by Mr Storen (page 122, Hansard Proof Copy):

Senator WATT: If you can do that, that would be great. Given that the \$4 billion figure actually runs out to—did you say 2022-23?

Mr Storen: That's correct.

Mr Storen wishes to clarify his evidence to advise:

That's not correct. It is 2021-22.

It would be appreciated if these clarifications of evidence could be provided to Committee Members.

Yours sincerely

Shona Batge
Acting National Manager
Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch

2 April 2019