



Senator Wendy Askew
Chair
Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
Senate
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator

Correction of evidence in the 2020-21 Budget Estimates Official Committee Hansard

I am writing to correct evidence I provided during my appearance before the Community Affairs Legislation Committee at the 2020-21 Budget Estimates Hearing on Thursday 29 October 2020.

In answering a question from Senator Polley regarding the total downloads there have been of COVIDSafe, I said: *We don't record total downloads. What we capture is the number of people who have downloaded and registered the app.* (Hansard, page 60)

The number of downloads of the COVIDSafe app are available to the Digital Transformation Agency (DTA) from the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store. However, the DTA relies on the number of people who have downloaded and registered for the app to determine app take-up. This aligns with section 94D of the *Privacy Amendment (Public Health Contact Information) Act 2020*.

In answering a second question from Senator Polley regarding how many Australians currently have the most recent version of COVIDSafe installed, I said: *We don't have that information. We don't capture the versions of the app that people are using. Our intent is to encourage all users to update the app, as they should with any app, to the most current version.* (Hansard, page 60)

While the quality of statistics varies based on platform, the DTA is able to estimate the number of users with the most recent version of the app (as an aggregate figure). At the time of the Hearing, around 63% of iOS users and 74% of Android users were on Version 13 of COVIDSafe. This was the latest version available at the time of the Hearing.

In answering a further question from Senator Polley regarding the distancing parameters of the app, I said: *Victoria have recently reported on the 1,850-odd cases where a person who has tested positive had the app and subsequently uploaded their data to the national data store.* (Hansard, page 62)

The record should reflect that Victoria had recently reported that approximately 1,850 people who tested positive for COVID-19 said they had the COVIDSafe app. However, it should be noted this figure may not equate to the number of data uploads.

I would appreciate if you could please note this for the information of the Committee.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Randall Brugeaud', followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Randall Brugeaud
Chief Executive Officer
Digital Transformation Agency

12 November 2020