



5 June 2018

Senator Jane Hume Chair Economics Legislation Committee senator.hume@aph.gov.au

Dear Madam Chair

RE REQUEST FOR HANSARD CORRECTION

The Directors of OutScribe Pty Ltd read with concern the opening statement of Mr Chris Jordan, the Commissioner of Taxation, and his subsequent comments to the Committee.

OutScribe participated in the ABC/Fairfax 4 Corners report and therefore one of the cases that Mr Jordan was referring to. However, the comments are not a correct summary of our interaction with the ATO. We have been honest in all our communications with ATO officers, providing all requested documentation in a timely fashion, have not been dishonest in our company structure and met all our tax responsibilities.

We request that the Hansard for the Economics Legislation Committee on Wednesday, 30th May, 2018 be corrected to state that OutScribe is not included as a representative of the spectrum of behaviours that Mr Chris Jordan has outlined in the excerpt below:

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There is not much more to say, but the various cases you saw reported on Four Corners represent the spectrum of behaviour that we see: those who just don't understand what they're meant to do; those who get in a mess because they leave things too late or long; those who don't pay attention to their admin, put their head in the sand or are struggling without the right help; or, worse, those who are deliberately being evasive. Let me just explain some of the behaviours we saw in this group of mainly old cases.

Some people claimed significant expenses and did not provide proof of their expenditure, in one case saying the invoices were secret, even though they were given the opportunity a number of times to show the necessary paperwork over a period of time. It would be all too convenient if invoices were secret from the tax office. In the same case, they couldn't show us the assets that related to these expenses. The assets had apparently been destroyed.

They did not respond to repeated attempts by us to contact them or their agent. There was abuse of company and trust structures so that they did not pay tax on their income, and expenses were simply concocted and false invoices created.

We would also request that Mr Chris Jordan make a statement that OutScribe was not included in his sweeping comments referring to the cases involved in the 4 Corners report.

Thank you for your urgent consideration in this matter.

Kind Regards

Annette Pike Managing Director OutScribe Pty Ltd