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OCOM 152

Senator the Hon Sarah Henderson
Chair
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee
PO Box 6100
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Senator

The Department of Home Affairs appeared at the Additional Senate Estimates Hearing of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee on 22 March 2021.

In my capacity as Commissioner, Australian Border Force, I gave evidence to the Committee. I have reviewed the Hansard record and, in relation to my testimony, I have become aware of the need to correct a response I made to Senator Keneally.

The particular reference for correction is on Hansard at page 80 (22 March 2021), in response to the question from Senator Keneally:

How many non-citizens have arrived in Australia since 1 December 2020?

My response to this question was based on a table entitled "Inward travel exemptions decisions" and was in part:

"As of 28 February, 38,589 had been approved to come. This count starts from 1 August 2020, so from then there were 38,589 approved and 76,652 refused."

This table contained a factual inaccuracy on the applicable date range and I am providing the following correction of evidence in response to this question:

"This count starts from *20 March 2020*."

I appreciate the opportunity to provide this clarification, which will ensure that correct information has been provided to the Committee.

Yours sincerely

Michael Outram APM

Commissioner

19 April 2021

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