



Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs

Dr Sean Turner
Committee Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Dr Turner

The Home Affairs Portfolio appeared at the Senate Budget Estimates Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee hearing on Thursday 4 April 2019 and Monday 8 April 2019.

In my capacity as First Assistant Secretary, Property and Major Contracts Division, I gave evidence to the Senate and have reviewed the Hansard record. In relation to my testimony, I have become aware of the need to correct two responses I made to questions from Senator Griff.

The particular reference for the first correction is on page 32 from Thursday 4 April 2019 in responses to the questions from Senator Griff "Okay. And Serco staff?" to which I responded in part "Approximately 140. In order to maintain it in hot contingency, it only requires a very small number of people, and they would be either based on or coming from and going to Christmas Island."

This response is not an accurate reflection of the matter and I am providing the following correction of evidence in response to this question:

"Approximately 116. In order to maintain it in hot contingency, it only requires a very small number of people, and they would be either based on or coming from and going to Christmas Island."

The particular reference for the second correction is on page 32 from Thursday 4 April 2019 in responses to the questions from Senator Griff "So, excluding medical staff, there are generally, by the looks of it here, somewhere around 10 to 12 people there when it's in hot contingency, and then around 150 to 160 otherwise?" My response to the second question was in part, "Correct—although, in fact, in hot contingency it's actually less than 10. It wouldn't be 10 people. It would be less than that."

This response is not an accurate reflection of the matter and I am providing the following correction of evidence in response to this question:

"Correct—although, in fact, in hot contingency the service provider has nominated 10 positions that are required to maintain the sites. These 10 positions are covered with a staffing envelope, which can be up to 30 personnel on island at any given time, in support of those 10 position (noting that some are 24/7 posts with shift arrangements in place). This will fluctuate at times due to varying factors such as leave, additional works that may be required or Departmental directions."

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

Yours sincerely

David Nockels
First Assistant Secretary, Property and Major Contracts Division
Corporate and Enabling Group

16 May 2019