



**Australian Government**

**Attorney-General's Department**

**Deputy Secretary**

**Legal Services and  
Families Group**

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

Dear Dr Turner

**Clarifications to evidence given at Estimates**

I wish to clarify one piece of evidence I gave to the Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs during the Budget Estimates hearing on 4 April 2019 and two pieces of evidence I gave to the Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs during the Budget Estimates hearing on 9 April 2019.

At page 138 of the transcript for 4 April 2019, I stated:

**Mr Anderson:** From the 2015-16 budget onwards, the government put in \$147 ½ million of additional funding into the three courts: the Federal Court, the Family Court and the Federal Circuit Court.

I wish to clarify that the amount of additional funding for the three courts from the 2015-16 Budget onwards is \$151.5 million.

At page 19 of the transcript for 9 April 2019, I stated:

**Mr Anderson:** The client in this matter is actually the department of agriculture.

I wish to clarify that, while the matter being discussed involves a challenge to a decision by the then Minister for Agriculture, instructions in the matter are being given by Comcover in the Department of Finance, and by relevant agencies in relation to the discovery of documents. Comcover is the Australian Government's self-managed insurance fund and manages claims against the Australian Government.

At page 30 of the transcript for 9 April 2019 I stated:

**Mr Anderson:** We don't have that, but PricewaterhouseCoopers did a report and they calculated that if the judges currently in the appeal division were also to hear first-instance matters then – from memory – 1,800 additional matters could be dealt with in a year, I believe.

I wish to clarify that PricewaterhouseCoopers found that making changes to the management of appeals in the Family Court, including having Appeals Division judges hearing first instance matters, had the potential to see 1,495 additional matters finalised per year.

Yours sincerely

Iain Anderson  
30 April 2019