



9 November 2020

Ms Sophie Dunstone
Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

BY E-MAIL ONLY: legcon.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Ms Dunstone

On 22 October 2020, I gave evidence to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee during its budget estimates hearings. I gave my evidence by video from Adelaide. In the course of that evidence, the following exchange occurred between Senator Henderson and me:

Senator HENDERSON: Dr Popple, why were you not aware of these social media publications by one of your senior members of staff?

Dr Popple: I'm not on Twitter myself, so I haven't read those tweets—

[Proof Hansard at 14]

The Proof Hansard indicates that, immediately after I was dismissed as a witness and my video link was disconnected, the following exchange occurred between Senators Stoker and Henderson:

CHAIR: Senator Henderson, I've just done a quick flick through; it looks like Dr Popple is on Twitter!

Senator HENDERSON: Oh.

[Proof Hansard at 15]

Had I still been giving evidence at the time of that second exchange, I would have clarified my earlier remark at the hearing. Instead, I provide that clarification in this letter.

I set up a Twitter account in June 2011. I do not remember having logged into that account at any time since. I have never tweeted or re-tweeted anything. That is what I meant when I told the Committee that I am not on Twitter myself.

Yours sincerely

James Popple
Official Secretary

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