



24 November 2020

Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs

PO Box 6100

CANBERRA ACT 2600

**Dear Committee Secretary**

I write to you concerning evidence provided to the Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs during the Senate Estimates hearing on 22 October 2020.

The Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability has identified the following matters requiring clarification:

Evidence of Mr Paul Cronan AM, Official Secretary

On page 103 of the transcript, in exchanges with Senator Steele-John, Mr Cronan stated:

**Mr Cronan:** We have a research team of four or five staff, headed up by one of our senior research staff. They have developed that in consultation with not only their own team, we also have a senior researcher from the University of Adelaide who has a disability, and she was keenly involved in developing that process. We also have a number of staff with a disability on the research team who are involved in the development of that research agenda, and the structure that underpins it. We've also consulted with a range of academics and experts with disability who have commented on or provided input to that agenda as well.

The Royal Commission wishes to provide the following clarifications:

- The research team consists of eight staff
- The senior researcher with disability is from Flinders University, and
- The Royal Commission has consulted with a range of academics and experts with disability who have commented on or provided input to individual research projects within the research agenda rather than the research agenda more broadly.

Evidence of Ms Joanna Carey, Assistant Secretary

On page 102 of the transcript, in exchanges with Senator Steele-John, Ms Carey stated:

**Ms Carey:** At the moment we are conducting approximately 16 private sessions per week.

The Royal Commission wishes to provide the following clarification:

- The number of private sessions conducted per week varies considerably dependent on Commissioner availability, cancellations and requests to reschedule.

Please contact \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ should further information be required.

Yours sincerely

**Paul Cronan AM**  
Official Secretary