



Senator Barry O'Sullivan
Chair
Rural and Regional Affairs
and Transport Legislation Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator

As you would be aware, the Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities is scheduled to appear before the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee, for the 2017-18 Additional Estimates hearing, in the week commencing 26 February 2018.

As requested by the Committee, I am writing to inform you of senior officers who will be notably absent from the upcoming hearings, as well as structural changes in the portfolio.

Since the last hearing, the department has had significant structural changes, including the following:

- the department now has three Deputy Secretaries – Ms Judi Zielke (responsible for Regional and Territories), Ms Pip Spence (responsible for Transport) and Mr Luke Yeaman has been recently appointed as acting Deputy Secretary (responsible for Infrastructure);
- the Policy and Research Division is now the Portfolio Coordination and Research Division (PC&R). Ms Philippa Power will attend the hearing as Executive Director of PC&R;
- the Inland Rail Unit is now the Inland Rail and Rail Policy Division (IR&RP). Mr Philip Smith will attend the hearing as Executive Director of IR&RP;
- the former Local Government and Territories Division has been split into two new divisions – the Regional Development & Local Government Division (RD&LG) and the Territories Division. Ms Marie Taylor will attend the hearing as Executive Director of RD&LG and Ms Vicki Middleton will attend the hearing as Executive Director of Territories;
- Mr Brendan McRandle PSM has been appointed Executive Director of the Aviation & Airports Division. His successor, Mr Nathan Smyth, will attend the hearing as Executive Director of the Western Sydney Unit;
- Ms Sally Barnes has been appointed as the Chief Executive of the National Capital Authority; and
- Following recent Machinery of Government changes:
 - the Cities Division was moved to the department (from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet). Ms Mary Wiley-Smith will attend the hearing as Executive Director of Cities;
 - the Infrastructure and Project Financing Agency was moved to the Infrastructure portfolio. Ms Leilani Frew will attend the hearing as Chief Executive Officer; and
 - the Office of Transport Security was moved to the Department of Home Affairs.

I further wish to advise that Mr Paul Retter, Chief Executive and Commissioner of the National Transport Commission, will not be attending the hearing. The Secretary, Dr Steven Kennedy PSM, will assist the Committee in Mr Retter's absence.

Yours sincerely

Kim Forbes
A/g General Manager
Communications, Parliamentary and Governance Branch

19 February 2018