

Senate Select Committee on COVID19 – Public Hearing, 2nd March 2021

Dr Beverley Menner, Executive Director, COVID Vaccine Projects Lead

Mr Christopher Larkins, Senior Vice President, Manufacturing Operations, Seqirus

REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

The terms of CSL's contract with the Department of Health regarding the funding for manufacturing readiness activities and the manufacture of AZ1222 drug substance are confidential. In order to assist the Committee with its inquiry into Australia's COVID-19 vaccination program, CSL is willing to share the information requested on a confidential basis. We respectfully request that the Committee retains confidentiality in the information provided and refrains from publicly disclosing this information.

Response to Question Taken on Notice

CHAIR: In your submission under subsection (a) you talk of a contract between CSL and the Department of Health to do a range of things: 'retool and reconfigure' and 'hire additional staff to support formulation, filling, packing and testing of the vaccine'. Can you provide to us on notice what the value of that is, without breaking it down, without going into anything that you're not able to tell us, but just so we get an idea of what the value of that is? We'll ask the government the same thing, because they should be telling us as well. But it would be useful to understand from your point of view what taxpayer dollars have gone in to supporting you to do this very important work.

The contract between CSL and the Department of Health (DoH) has a total value of up to AUD297,793,000, payable in tranches upon the achievement of specified milestones.