

**From:**  
**To:** [Community Affairs Committee \(SEN\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Hansard corrections - Social Security (Administration) Amendment (Income Management to Cashless Debit Card Transition) Bill 2019 - 23 September Darwin  
**Date:** Wednesday, 2 October 2019 10:55:06 AM  
**Attachments:**

Please see reply

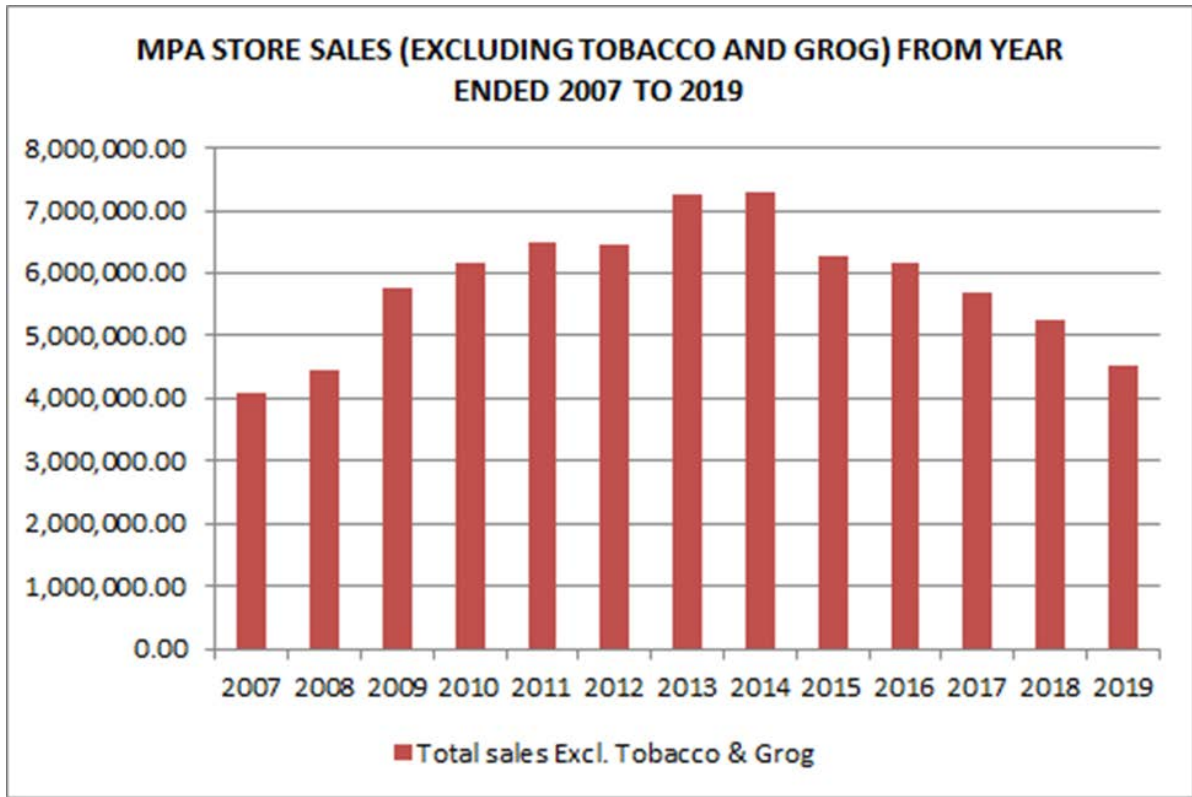


Dear Sir,

I wish to confirm that during the Senate hearing, I commented that 50% of our turnover is from the BasicsCard.

As per the table and graph below, it shows that our annual turnover has increased consistently with the introduction of Food Card and subsequently BasicsCard. However, with competitions from BAC Supermarket and new private business operators who trade daily from 8 am to 11 pm (including weekends and public holidays) as well in a small community of Maningrida, our turnover has been affected significantly. Among them, the most prominent is the Good Food Kitchen (GFK) food van business, whose van drives up to the doorstep of most people on BasicsCard income and offer them their services daily.

MPA STORE SALES (EXCLUDING TOBACCO & GROG) FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE FROM 2007 TO 2019				
Year Ended Date	Total sales Excl. Tobacco & Grog	Approximate 50% BasicsCard	Approximate 50% Cash Sales	Comment
2007	4,078,160.45	2,039,080.23	2,039,080.23	
2008	4,453,497.70	2,226,748.85	2,226,748.85	Introduction of Food card
2009	5,750,244.03	2,875,122.02	2,875,122.02	
2010	6,167,426.18	3,083,713.09	3,083,713.09	
2011	6,486,616.00	3,243,308.00	3,243,308.00	Introduction of BasicsCard
2012	6,470,257.00	3,235,128.50	3,235,128.50	
2013	7,245,717.11	3,622,858.56	3,622,858.56	1. Our increase in turnover for year ended 2013 was also due to BAC (which also runs a supermarket) placed under special administration in Nov 2012. 2. April 2013 - 1st Private Operator: One 68 General Store & Takeaway commenced trading daily from 8 am to 11 pm
2014	7,286,785.00	3,643,392.50	3,643,392.50	
2015	6,288,731.82	3,144,365.91	3,144,365.91	1. June 2014- BAC Special Administration ended. 2. One 68 General Store & Takeaway expanded their store and installed additional shipping containers for storage of store stock
2016	6,170,651.88	3,085,325.94	3,085,325.94	
2017	5,688,692.73	2,844,346.37	2,844,346.37	Oct 16 - 2nd Private operator: GFK Store & Takeaway commenced trading daily from 8 am to 11 pm which also includes a food van business catering to the door steps of the households in the community
2018	5,262,749.27	2,631,374.64	2,631,374.64	
2019	4,516,207.90	2,258,103.95	2,258,103.95	Our drop in turnover for year ended June 2019 was due to the management of BAC Supermarket by Outback Store and competitions from private business operators



I wish to emphasize that our drop in turnovers from the year ended of 2015 onwards was due to the introduction of additional private business competitors within Maningrida's small pre-existing market place.

In my opinion, the introduction of a Cashless Debit Card may reduce the harm associated with gambling, alcohol and other drugs that could affect the health and wellbeing of families and children. There are stories within the community of grog runner prices being highly inflated, such as that of a standard bottle of \$40 Jim Beam whiskey being sold in Maningrida for \$300. As such, without a Cashless Debit Card, it is likely that people will forgo the purchase of daily essentials in order to have more money for alcohol and other drugs. Additional, I anticipate a similar effect with spending on tobacco and cigarette products due to no restrictions in place on its purchase using Cashless Debit Cards.

Thank you.

Regards,

  
Robert Totton  
Maningrida Progress Assoc