



Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs

Senator Raff Ciccone
Chair
Select Committee on Temporary Migration
C/O Committee Secretary
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Chair

I appeared at the Senate Select Committee hearing on Temporary Migration on 10 September 2020. In my capacity as First Assistant Secretary, Immigration and Community Protection Policy, I gave evidence to the Senate. Upon review of the Hansard record, I have become aware of the need to correct a response I made to a question from you.

The particular reference for correction is on page 18 in response to your question:

"Sure. Also, do any of these temporary visa holders have work rights?... [Dialogue clarifying the question]..."

If you are able to provide both then do, but my main focus is on the bridging visas, yes."

My response to this question was in part:

"The figure I'm working off is bridging visa holders in Australia as at 31 May 2020. There are 64,906 who have no work rights—that is, a condition that says 'no work' is imposed on the bridging visa—and 250,901 have permission to work, or there is not a 'no work' condition on the visa."

This response contained a factual inaccuracy and I am providing the following correction of evidence in response to this question:

As at 31 May 2020, 255,901 bridging visa holders in Australia have permission to work, or there is not a 'no work' condition on their visa.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide clarification, which will ensure the correct information has been provided to the Senate Select Committee hearing on Temporary Migration.

Yours sincerely

Michael Willard

First Assistant Secretary

Immigration and Community Protection Policy Division

3 November 2020