



**Australian Government**

**Department of Health**

**Acting Secretary**

Senator Katy Gallagher  
Chair, Senate Select Committee on COVID-19  
Department of the Senate  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600  
[covid.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:covid.sen@aph.gov.au)

Dear Senator Gallagher,

I wish to make a clarification on my opening statement delivered at the 26 May 2020 hearing of the Senate Select Committee on COVID-19. This statement was also tabled and is currently available on the Australian Parliament House website.

In paragraph 11 of the statement, in reference to funding for mental health, I stated *'since 30 January 2020, the Australian Government has invested approximately \$500 million preventative mental health and suicide prevention'*. I wish to clarify there were some investments prior to 30 January, my statement should have been *'since January 2020, the Australian Government has invested approximately \$500 million preventative mental health and suicide prevention.'*

Yours sincerely

Caroline Edwards

17 June 2020