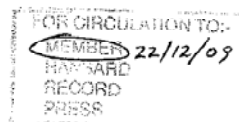


Appendix D – Documents in relation to  
Ms Jane Wolfe



MINISTER FOR DEFENCE

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES QUESTION

(QUESTION No 1065)

**Mr Oakeshott** asked the Minister for Defence Personnel, Materiel and Science, in writing, on 29 October 2009:

In respect of the dismissal of Ms Jane Wolfe from the Department of Defence in March 2009,

(1) Can the Minister outline the legislative responsibilities of the (then) Public Service Commissioner and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Defence Materiel Organisation (DMO) when reviewing the dismissal of Ms Jane Wolfe, and confirm that these legislative responsibilities and the requirements of fairness, natural justice and privacy were complied with in the review.

(2) In respect of the DMO's Wikipedia website, can the Minister confirm (a) that it is normal practice for a Government department to maintain such a site, (b) who monitors the publication of information on this website, (c) how the integrity of the Wikipedia page is maintained given the ability of registered users to freely edit content, (d) the guidelines for the publication of information in Wikipedia and whether the DMO adheres to these guidelines, (e) that it is appropriate to publish the sacking of any employee on such a website, and (f) why there is a reference under *Leadership* on the website to the dismissal of one leader of DMO, but no other information regarding any other leader of DMO.

**Mr Combet** –The answer to the honourable member's question is as follows

(1) The *Public Service Act 1999* does not provide for reviews of termination of employment decisions. Ms Wolfe made the decision to have the matter reviewed via a judicial review in the Federal Court.

(2) (a to e) As DMO and Defence neither control, contribute to, monitor, maintain or check the integrity of Wikipedia pages, it is not appropriate to respond.

**SENATOR THE HON JOE LUDWIG**

Cabinet Secretary  
Special Minister of State  
Manager of Government Business in the Senate  
Senator for Queensland

Reference no: RG10-064

The Hon Robert Oakeshott MP  
PO Box 6022  
House of Representatives  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Mr Oakeshott

Thank you for your letter to the Prime Minister dated 12 April 2010 which has been passed to me for a response.

Under the *Public Service Act 1999* issues relating to the conduct of individual public servants are a matter for the relevant agency head. In Dr Gumley's case this is the Secretary of the Department of Defence, Dr Ian Watt AO. This includes consideration of allegations that employees of the Department may have breached the Code of Conduct. I have therefore forwarded your correspondence and this response to Dr Watt.

With respect to Ms Briggs, I am advised that while her actions were as the Public Service Commissioner, as she is now the Chief Executive Officer of Medicare, the appropriate person to consider the matter is the current Public Service Commissioner Mr Stephen Sedgwick. Mr Sedgwick is also the relevant person to consider the conduct of any person within the Public Service Commission. Mr Sedgwick will contact you shortly about this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Ludwig', written over a horizontal line.

Senator Ludwig

25 June 2010

cc: Dr Ian Watt AO