



## Australian Government

### Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT  
BARTON

Ms Ann Palmer  
Committee Secretary  
Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Palmer

Further to the letter from the Department on 23 June 2017, I wish to advise of the following clarification to the record in relation to evidence provided at the Budget Estimates hearings on 23 May 2017, regarding the Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio.

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**Senator WONG:** As for the brief to the Prime Minister, was there anything actioned as a result of that in terms of how the government might manage these revelations and act to ensure public trust and confidence in the institution was not further eroded?

**Ms Bryant:** The brief was mainly to bring the Prime Minister up to speed on what had occurred. From memory, there was not any particular advice in terms of the AFP investigation and the ATO's code of conduct investigation at that point.

The brief as discussed by Ms Bryant did actually go to matters of anti-corruption oversight. The National Security Division within the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet also provided talking points to the Prime Minister's Office regarding the Australian Federal Police investigation. At the time of answering this question, Ms Bryant conflated these two pieces of work.

Should you require further information, please contact Nicole McGuire on 6271 5224.

Yours sincerely

Brendan MacDowell  
Assistant Secretary  
Ministerial and Parliamentary Support Branch

4 July 2017