



## Australian Government

### Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT  
BARTON

Ms Lyn Beverley  
Committee Secretary  
Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Beverley

I wish to advise of the following corrections to the record in relation to evidence provided at the Budget Estimates hearings on Monday 22 May 2017, regarding the Office for Women in the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) portfolio.

1. Page 70

**Ms Hatfield-Dodds:** While the Office for Women has not done the modelling on EMTRs, we know that the Department of the Treasury has done modelling on EMTRs. I expect that, as we work through development, we will be accessing at least the policy work that comes out of that modelling, while we have not actually accessed the modelling itself.

PM&C wishes to correct the record by advising that The Treasury can model EMTR, but has not done specific modelling on the EMTR issues raised or the issues identified in the NFAW report.

2. Page 77

**Ms Hatfield-Dodds:** It kind of is what it says on the can. What happens is, when different government entities provide names to the Office for Women, and then to the Minister for Women, if there is not at least a good gender balance in the names that come up and if it is for a board where the overwhelming dominance is male, the minister now sends it back and says to that agency, 'If not, why not? Please go out and proactively look to find women who are competent, capable and expert to be considered for this board.'

PM&C wishes to correct the record by advising that for the 'if not, why not' reporting, where relevant, ministers will provide an explanation for the progress made on achieving gender balance on boards in their portfolio.

3. Page 77

**Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE:** With the further information about who is appointing to government boards, will that be available on your website? How is that going to be distributed or made public?

**Ms McIntyre:** Formerly, once a year, we will include that in the board links report that we do annually, so it will be included in that data. At the moment, we do not do interim reporting throughout the year, primarily, because quarterly data changes and, depending on how many board appointments there are in a

quarter, the data can get a little bit skewed. So we do it on an annual basis so it is comparative, but it will be included in that.

PM&C wishes to correct the record by advising that the Office for Women produces a public report on the gender balance on Australian Government Boards and this is available on the PM&C website. The 2017 public report will include information on the gender breakdown of nominations for Commonwealth Government Boards made by external nominating bodies.

4. Page 81

**Senator McALLISTER:** Did you consider the impact of the half-a-per-cent increase in the Medicare levy on women? Did you provide advice on that?

**Ms McIntyre:** Yes, we did.

PM&C wishes to correct the record by advising that the Office for Women did not make specific comment on the Medicare levy measure before its inclusion in the Budget.

Should you require further information, please contact Jarrod McAlister on 6271 5639.

Yours sincerely

Paula Ganly   
First Assistant Secretary  
Ministerial Support Division

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