Senator Sue Boyce Chair Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator

Clarification of an answer to Additional Estimates Hearing 27 February 2014

I am writing to clarify an answer provided to the Committee during its examination of the Department of Social Services in relation to Cross Outcomes.

In answering a question from Senator McLucas regarding phone number changes for Aged Care staff, I said:

I do not believe there have been any phone number changes.

While 'hotline' and mobile phone numbers will remain the same, Aged Care staff will receive a different desk phone number; this is due to a Telstra operational requirement whereby the original phone numbers were provisioned to the former Department of Health and Ageing and therefore cannot be separated and assigned to a new customer.

It should be noted that desk phone numbers are not provided to the general public.

Yours sincerely

Felicity Hand Deputy Secretary

March 2014