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Department of Health and Ageing

Dr Ian Holland A/g Secretary Senate Community Affairs Committee Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2066

Dear Dr Holland

Request for Amendment to Evidence Provided at the Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee Hearing, 31 May 2011, Outcome 5, Primary Care

I am writing to correct a statement that I made at the Budget Estimates of the Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee on 31 May 2011.

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked the following question:

"It might be helpful at this point if you take on notice and tell me about these incentive payments without us going through it all because it is obviously a bit confusing to do. Give me the list of all those incentive payments and tell me when they are moving across to Medicare Locals and, if there are budget measures associated with it, which budget they are likely to be contained in?"

My response was as follows:

"The point I was trying to make is that with the PIP afterhours incentives there are several tiers and it is only two of those tiers that are moving."

It has been brought to my notice that all three tiers of the Practice Incentives Program (PIP) After Hours Incentive will cease from 1 July 2013, and the funding will be redirected to Medicare Locals to support after hours services.

Yours sincerely

Megan Morris

A/g Deputy Secretary