



Dr Ian Holland
Secretary
Senate Community Affairs Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600



Dear Dr Holland

**Request for Amendment to Evidence Provided at Budget Estimates Hearing,
29 May 2012: Department of Human Services**

I am writing to correct a statement that I made at the Budget Estimates Hearing of the Senate Community Affairs Committee on 29 May 2012.

At page 61 of the Proof Committee Hansard, Senator Fifield asked the following question:

“Thank you. I might move now to the consumer consultative group and what its role is. You will tell me that it is to consult with consumers.”

My response was as follows:

“Basically, it is a mixed group of people who are advising the department about service delivery. They come from a range of stakeholder organisations. They meet three to four times a year and their primary focus is to talk about the delivery of the services the department undertakes and to provide advice to us about the nature of the services and feedback, either directly from their organisations or from some of their members. Examples of the organisations involved include the Australian Council of Social Service, the Australian Federation of Disability Organisations and the Welfare Rights Network.”

It has been brought to my attention that several of the organisations I named as examples were incorrect. The final sentence of the above extract should read:

“Examples of the organisations involved include the Australian Federation of Disability Organisations, COTA and Carers Australia.”

Yours sincerely

Barry Sandison
Deputy Secretary
Participation, Families and Older Australians

8 July 2012