



Ms Jeanette Radcliffe  
Secretary  
Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Radcliffe

I refer to the answer provided by the Department of Human Services to Question on Notice HS 39 arising from the Supplementary Estimates hearing conducted by the Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee on 23 and 24 October 2014.

The Department seeks to correct the answer to HS 39.

With reference to question a) which sought 2013-14 data on how many appeals took longer than five weeks to complete, the original response provided the total number of internal appeals finalised by the department in 2013-14. The response should have reflected the number of internal appeals that took longer than five weeks to complete.

With reference to question e) which sought details of how many staff worked on reviews/appeals as at 24 October 2014, the original response undercounted the number of staff working on internal appeals on 24 October 2014. The response should have reflected the total full-time equivalents employed to undertake internal appeal activity.

Both of these answers have been amended. The corrections are contained in the attached version of the answer.

I would be grateful if you could instigate appropriate action to advise the Committee of this correction. Should you require any clarification or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Phil Ruff on 02 6223 4185.

Thank you in advance for your assistance with this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Barry Sandison'.

Barry Sandison  
Deputy Secretary  
Health, Compliance and Information

18 February 2015