



## **Australian Government**

**National Mental Health Commission**

Ms Jeanette Radcliffe  
Secretary  
Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2066

Dear Ms Radcliffe

### **Correction of evidence to 2015 – 16 Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing, 21 October 2015**

I am writing to correct evidence provided to the Committee during its examination of the Department of Health in the 2015 – 16 Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing on 21 October 2015.

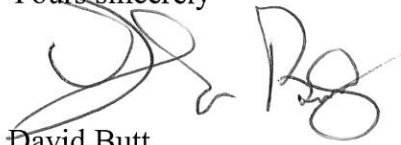
In answering a question from Senator Siewert I said:

“The various jurisdictions have been working fairly closely with us through a steering group that we had which then related back to the safety and quality standing committee of AHMAC. There was quite a cooperative approach, particularly in relation to seclusion. Seclusion rates States have quite a cooperative approach in relation to public reporting on regional variations and the variation between states, and the rates have come down quite markedly over the past few years. I think they have gone down from 13 events per thousand bed days in 2008 to eight events per thousand in 2012. So there is good cooperation there. I think public reporting has been quite useful in that area as well. Of course there is great regional variation within states in terms of that seclusion area.” (Hansard, Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee, Estimates, 21 October 2015, Proof Copy, page 60).

In light of subsequent review I would like to amend the statement to read:

“The various jurisdictions have been working fairly closely with us through a steering group that we had which then related back to the safety and quality standing committee of AHMAC. There was quite a cooperative approach, particularly in relation to seclusion. States have quite a cooperative approach in relation to public reporting on regional variations and the variation between states, and the rates have come down quite markedly over the past few years. I think they have gone down from 13 events per thousand bed days in 2009-10 to eight events per thousand in 2013-14. So there is good cooperation there. I think public reporting has been quite useful in that area as well. Of course there is great regional variation within states in terms of that seclusion area.”

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Butt', written over a horizontal line.

David Butt  
Chief Executive Officer  
Commissioner  
National Mental Health Commission

Date: 1/12/15