

Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Ms Lyn Beverley Senate Standing Committees on Finance and Public Administration PO Box 6100 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Ms Beverley

I refer to my evidence at the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing on Monday, 19 October 2015.

I refer in particular to my comments in the paragraph on page 108 of Hansard record beginning "It does involve resources" and ending, "We are hopeful, with the full-time person being appointed who has what looks to be the right sort of skill set, that the problem will be resolved."

I would like to inform the Committee that my comments in this context related to the current and prospective challenges we had faced in recruiting suitably qualified staff to support the Independent National Security Legislation Monitor. None of the comments I made were in any way intended as a negative reflection on the officer who performed the role of adviser between March and May 2015.

I would appreciate it if this letter were to be made available on the Committee's website.

Yours sincerely

Allan McKinnon Deputy Secretary National Security

26 October 2015

(By email)

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