



16/2319-04

8 March 2016

Ms Sophie Dunstone
Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Legal
and Constitutional Affairs
PO Box 6100
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Dunstone

Clarifications to Hansard

I write to you concerning further evidence provided by officers from the Attorney-General's Portfolio to the Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs during the Additional Estimates hearing on 9 February 2016.

Officers from the portfolio who provided evidence to the Committee have identified the following clarifications:

Evidence of Mr Matt Hall PSM, Acting First Assistant Secretary, Access to Justice Division

On pages 86 and 87 of the transcript, in an exchange between Mr Hall and Senator Simms, Mr Hall stated:

Senator SIMMS: A lot of time. Can I ask what kind of staff would be devoting time to this? Is it senior level staff or—

Mr Moraitis: I would say it is about four or five staff that have been on this for a while, Senator. Mr Hall can explain what levels they are at.

Mr Hall: Thank you, Senator. The levels range from Executive Level 2 down to APS 5-6 level.

Senator SIMMS: I am very new, so you might have to tell me salary ranges.

Mr Manning: If you like, Senator, if you have APS 5-6 and an EL1 they would be doing the sort of day-to-day work that would be under direction of an EL2 and, of course, people at the table—Ms Williams is responsible for the branch, administers the Marriage Act, Mr Hall is responsible for the division which that is in, and I am responsible for the groups it in. So, we dedicate time to it as required as well.

Senator SIMMS: Just so I am clear, four or five quite senior staff—

Mr Manning: Four or five in addition to us.

Senator SIMMS: What salary level or what increment? You do not have to tell me the actual figure. Could you take me through the classifications again?

Mr Hall: EL2 down to APS6. We can certainly take it on notice and give you a table that tells you what that equates to for salary purposes.

AGD wishes to clarify that only officers at Executive Level 2 and Executive Level 1 were working on the plebiscite proposal. No APS officers have been involved in this work.

Please note that this question has been taken on notice and refers to QoN No. AE16/030.

Yours sincerely

Tara Cheyne
Director
Governance Office
Strategy and Delivery Division