



17/3195-04

20 April 2017

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

Dear Ms Matulick

Clarifications to Hansard

I write to you concerning evidence provided by officers from the Attorney-General's Portfolio to the Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs during the Spill-over Additional Estimates hearing on 24 March 2017.

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

Evidence of Ms Erin Wells, Acting Assistant Secretary, International Law Enforcement Cooperation, Attorney-General's Department

On page 27 of the transcript, in responding to Senator Watt's question regarding advice to the Minister regarding membership of the Firearms Industry Reference Group, Ms Wells stated:

Ms Wells: I can confirm that we did not provide advice on that.

The Attorney-General's Department wishes to clarify that the department provided advice to the Minister's Office on membership of the Firearms Industry Reference Group.

On page 28 of the transcript, in responding to Senator Watt's question regarding membership of the Firearms Industry Reference Group, Ms Wells stated:

Ms Wells: Of course. Sorry, Senator. Field & Game Australia, Firearm Safety Foundation (Victoria), National Firearm Dealers Association, Shooting Australia, Shooting Industry Foundation of Australia and the Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia.

The Attorney-General's Department wishes to clarify that the Group also includes Mr Robert Schwartz, an independent firearms expert.

On page 29 of the transcript, in responding to Senator Watt's question regarding whether the Attorney-General's Department began preparing a media release, Ms Wells stated:

Ms Wells: No.

The Attorney-General's Department wishes to clarify that the department did prepare a draft media release for the update of the National Firearms Agreement.

On page 29 of the transcript, in responding to Senator Watt's question regarding whether there were any discussions with the Minister's Office about a press release, Ms Well stated:

Ms Wells: There was no discussion from the office with that.

The Attorney-General's Department wishes to clarify that the department advised the Minister's Office that a draft media release had been prepared for the release of the National Firearms Agreement if required.

The action officer for this matter is _____ who can be contacted on _____

Yours sincerely

Emma Appleton
Director
Governance Office
Strategy and Delivery Division