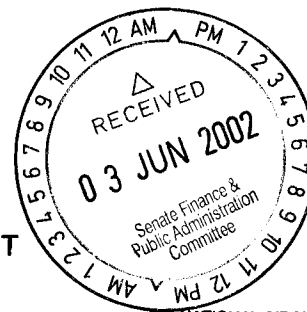


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THE DEPARTMENT OF  
THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINETTELEPHONE: (02) 6271 5111  
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Ms Sue Morton  
Secretary  
Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Morton

I am writing to clarify evidence which was given at the Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee hearings on 28 May 2002.

During the course of the hearings officers from this Department were asked who the Chairperson of the Council was at the time the Council received a financial injection from the Commonwealth in the 2000-2001 financial year (page 203 of Hansard). Responses from me and Ms Lynch suggested that it may have been Mr Kevan Gosper at some point during that year.

Mr Gosper's appointment as Chairperson of the Council expired on 31 May 2000.

Ms Lisa Curry Kenny was appointed as the new chairperson in November 2000. There was no Chairperson appointed between June 2000 and Ms Curry Kenny's appointment.

The Sydney Morning Herald published an article on 1 June 2002 by Alan Ramsey entitled (Gosper's ghost haunts the Australia Day Council) drawing on some of our evidence regarding the National Australia Day Council. A copy of my letter to the Editor is attached for your information.

Yours sincerely

Alan Henderson  
Executive Co-ordinator  
Government and Corporate

3 June 2002

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THE DEPARTMENT OF  
THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET

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CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600

The Editor  
Sydney Morning Herald

Dear Sir

Mr Alan Ramsey's article (Gosper's ghost haunts the Australia Day Council, June 1 2002) quotes the evidence of officials of this Department at the Senate Estimates Committee hearings on 28 May 2002 in relation to the Chairmanship of the National Australia Day Council.

At the hearings we could not give precise dates for Mr Gosper's term as chairman of the Council.

Mr Gosper's appointment as chairman expired on 31 May 2000. Mr Gosper was not the Chairman of the Council during the financial year 2000-2001, the year in which the Council received the financial injection referred to in Mr Ramsey's article.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alan Henderson".

Alan Henderson  
Executive Co-ordinator  
Government and Corporate

1 June 2002