

27 June 2005

Mr Alistair Sands
Committee Secretary
Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee
Department of the Senate
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600



Australian Government



Dear Mr Sands

On reviewing the Proof Committee Hansard for the Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee heard on 26 May 2005, Centrelink has found that corrections are required to two answers provided during the hearing.

Details of the questions asked and the correct answers are provide in Attachment A.

Can you please arrange for corrections to the Proof Committee Hansard as indicated in the attachment. If you have any questions about this matter or require more information, please contact Fran Sankey on 6212 0234 who would be happy to assist you.

Yours sincerely

Carolyn Hogg
Acting Chief Executive Officer

Corrections are indicated in italics.

At F&PA 57

Mr Whalan—No. Returning to a couple of the questions you asked, the Public Service average is 11.9 and the best practice benchmark is nine days for agencies with greater than 100 staff.

CHAIR—Is that for sick leave?

Mr Whalan—~~Yes.~~ *No, it is for unplanned leave.*

At F&PA 57

Mr Whalan — I would like to respond to some questions that have been asked. Holiday child care commenced in May 1999. Carers rooms started in 1997. Going back to a question on notice asked by Senator Wong earlier today, which is on a different topic, about data provided in respect of Welfare to Work, ~~we provide a flat file of data on a weekly basis to DEWR,~~ *we provide access to customer data flat files for DEWR staff who use the SAS product to extract and analyse information.* That is a huge chunk of an extraction of the data on the database, which enables them to analyse anything they wish. We were not approached and did not provide any specific data.