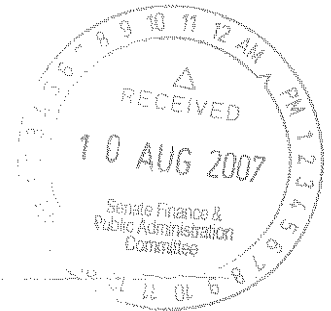




Australian Government
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Mr Stephen Palethorpe
Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on
Finance and Public Administration
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600



Dear Mr Palethorpe

I am writing regarding the Estimates Hearings of 21 and 22 May 2002. In two instances, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet provided incorrect information which should now be corrected.

In response to a question from Senator Faulkner, the department provided the figure of \$30,172 (F&PA79) as the amount spent on alcohol at the residences from 1 July 2006 to 30 April 2007. This figure was incorrect due to an administrative error. The correct figure for that period is \$26,282.

Later in the hearings, again in response to a question from Senator Faulkner, the department provided information on water usage of 6,414 kilolitres at Kirribilli House in 2005-06. This information, and the explanation that it was possibly caused by a leak, was provided based on discussions with and figures provided by Sydney Water in March 2007. Subsequent checking of accounts processed by the department show that the information provided previously by Sydney Water, and consequently the department, was incorrect. The correct figure for 2005-06 is 2,882 kilolitres.

This information has also been provided in response to Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee Questions on Notice PM 67 and PM 90.

Yours sincerely

PCorbell

Trish Corbell
A/g Assistant Secretary
People and Governance Branch

6 August 2007