



Australian Government
National Mental Health Commission

Ms Christine McDonald
Secretary
Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee
fpa.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Ms McDonald

I am writing to correct a statement that I made at the Budget Estimates Hearing of the Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee on 22 May 2012 and to provide the Committee with updated information.

Senator Wright asked the following question in relation to the Commission's Roundtable series:

"Can you provide the committee with a breakdown of the costs of the roundtables overall, including the cost of hiring the facilitators? Do you have that available here?"

My response included the following evidence:

"...We engaged an event management company to take care of the organising of the event. The charge for White Space Event Management includes catering, venue hire, coordinating all the invitations and basically putting on the event for us. The total cost of that contract was \$62,367..."

In attempting to assist the Committee I incorrectly added up some figures on the spot, when in fact the final cost of the contract with White Space Event Management amounted to \$42,904 including GST.

I also stated that:

"...We also expended some funds on getting people to the roundtables, with a focus, obviously, on consumers' and carers' travel and accommodation costs. That amounted to \$7,850."

This amount is still subject to reconciling of further invoices, however the current cost is \$7,140 including GST.

Yours sincerely

Georgie Harman
Deputy Chief Executive Officer
National Mental Health Commission
29 May 2012