



Andrew Barr MLA

Chief Minister

Treasurer

Minister for Social Inclusion and Equality

Minister for Tourism and Special Events

Minister for Trade, Industry and Investment

Member for Kurrajong

Ms Candice Burch MLA
Chair
Select Committee on Estimates 2019-20
ACT Legislative Assembly
GPO Box 1020
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Ms Burch

I am writing to you in my capacity as Acting Minister for the Arts and Cultural Events. In that capacity I should like to provide a clarification in relation to a piece of evidence provided at the hearings of the Committee on 19 June 2019 with regard to the arts portfolio.

During those hearings, in relation to questions from Ms Bec Cody MLA regarding employment arrangements in the arts portfolio, Ms Harriet Elvin, Chief Executive Officer of the Cultural Facilities Corporation, provided information about casual staff employed by the CFC, especially casual staff used at the Canberra Theatre Centre (the Centre). The following exchange took place (excerpt from proof transcript of evidence).

Ms Cody : And that is more casual staff than labour hire?

Ms Elvin : Yes, correct.

Ms Cody : Casual is a very different concept to labour hire.

Ms Elvin : Yes, for sure.

The responses given by Ms Elvin could have given the impression that the Centre does not use labour hire arrangements. I am advised that this was Ms Elvin's understanding at the time of the hearings.

Ms Elvin has since been advised that the Centre sometimes uses labour hire companies to engage staff in areas such as front of house and technical support, where the Centre's own pool of casual staff is insufficient. For example, a large show might have staffing requirements beyond the availability of the Centre's own casual staff, or competing events in Canberra might restrict the availability of staff to work at the Centre. I understand that these circumstances would result in labour hire staff being used for staffing for approximately 10% of shows at the Centre.

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I should be grateful if the above clarification could be brought to the attention of the Committee.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Barr MLA
Chief Minister

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