



ACT
Government
Community Services



The Secretary
Select Committee on Estimates 2012-2013
GPO Box 1020
Canberra ACT 2601

Dear Ms Bresnan

Clarification of statements

I am writing in relation to comments provided by Mr David Collett to the Select Committee on Estimates 2010-2011 in relation to the Flynn community hub. In light of issues raised by the John Flynn Community Group, it has recently come to my attention that three of Mr Collett's statements to the Committee may require further context.

On p1205-1206 of the Hansard transcript of this hearing on 26 May 2010, Mr Collett is quoted as saying that at the time of the Estimates hearing Housing and Community Services had already met with the architect of the Flynn school, Dr Enrico Taglietti "and we will be involving him in the work for the childcare centre..." I would like to clarify that while Housing and Community Services did meet Dr Taglietti, this was in relation to a project involving the Forrest childcare centre and not the Flynn community hub.

Further, on p1207 of the Hansard transcript of this hearing, while commenting on the involvement of the John Flynn Community Group Mr Collett is quoted as saying that the group "came forward with a number of options" for the redevelopment of the school. After subsequent examination I can confirm that the group came forward with one option for the redevelopment.

Lastly, on p1207 Mr Collett is quoted as saying that Housing and Community Services had discussed options for the redevelopment of the Flynn site "hand in hand" with the John Flynn Community Group. Again, following subsequent re-examination of records the statement "hand in hand" did not reflect an accurate description of the consultancy committee arrangements.

For your convenience, the Hansard transcript of this hearing can be found online at www.hansard.act.gov.au/hansard/2009/comms/estimates22.pdf.

I apologise to the Committee for these inaccuracies and any inconvenience they may have caused. I would like to reassure the Committee that they are genuine errors and we will make every effort to ensure they are not repeated.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Natalie Howson', with a checkmark at the end of the signature.

Natalie Howson
Director-General
Community Services Directorate

12 July 2012