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Dear Secretariat

I am writing to you to amend evidence I provided at the Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health Budget Estimates Hearing on Thursday 27 February 2025.

In my evidence to the Committee on page 50 of the uncorrected transcript, I referred to a ‘day crew’ at Goulburn, as follows:

*“The Hon. NATALIE WARD: Can I ask whether that arrangement has come at the expense of bolstering coverage during peak demand periods? The context for that is that I note Goulburn received five additional paramedics, but those were allocated to reduce their on-call shifts. They’ve been asking for them in the afternoon where there is a peak patient demand.”*

*DOMINIC MORGAN: What I can tell you specifically about Goulburn is that Goulburn is part of a hub. There’s quite a wide community that surrounds them. One I’m personally aware of is, obviously, Crookwell. There are a number of other stations within reasonably close proximity. The nature of Goulburn is unique because of the way that it supports other local stations. If you think the scenario through, if there’s an incident, say, in a town like Goulburn where its only one **day crew** is occupied, we need to be able to send another crew out if another emergency occurs in that community—likewise for any of the other small communities. If we were to have gone with the model that was preferred by the staff, to introduce an afternoon shift, and I fully understand why anyone would prefer an afternoon shift than a night shift, it would have left Goulburn with no ambulance—a major area. So we had to balance out the needs of the community against the well-understood desires of the staff.”*

For clarity and accuracy this should be amended to “only one **night crew** is occupied”.

Further, in my evidence to the Committee on page 50 of the uncorrected transcript, I referred to Hatzolah being part of a community volunteer program “during” the pandemic, as follows:

*“DOMINIC MORGAN: I am somewhat aware of the issue around Hatzolah. **During the pandemic they were part of a community volunteer program, which ceased to respond during the pandemic.** I do know that there has been local engagement with them, but there have been challenges around them coming back to meeting the necessary standards of NSW Ambulance to come back into the response grid. There’s no philosophical view about this, but there are standards, and we have to make sure that all the people who actually respond as volunteers, as an adjunct to NSW Ambulance, meet those standards.”*

For clarity and accuracy, this should be amended to “

*DOMINIC MORGAN: I am somewhat aware of the issue of Hatzolah. **Prior to the pandemic.....**”*

Finally, in my evidence to the Committee on page 51 of the uncorrected transcript, I responded to the Hon. Natalie Ward MLC regarding prioritisation of new ambulance stations, as follows:

*"The Hon. NATALIE WARD: The Minister doesn't decide if this station is prioritised over that one or if there's a new station or upgrade. That's on your list and it's your decision.*

*DOMINIC MORGAN: That's on the service planning list; that's correct. It is, quite frankly, mathematical, how they go about it.*

*The Hon. NATALIE WARD: But that's a decision within that framework that is not touched by Minister Park or the Government.*

*DOMINIC MORGAN: No."*

I wish to advise that in answering "No" I was in agreement with the Hon. Natalie Ward MLC that neither the Minister nor the Government decides on the prioritisation of new ambulance stations. This is a decision made by NSW Ambulance based on recommendations made by Service Planning.

For more information, please contact Ms Mariana Benjamin, Senior Manager, Executive and Ministerial Services, Office of the Chief Executive, NSW Ambulance at

Yours sincerely

14/3/25

Dr Dominic Morgan ASM  
**Chief Executive**