

20 October 2025

The Hon. Robert Borsak, MLC
Chair
Parliament of NSW
budget.estimatedes@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Sent by email: budget.estimatedes@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Re: Clarification of evidence/transcript for Budget Estimates hearing

Dear Chair,

I write to advise of clarifications to evidence given by myself at the Budget Estimates hearing for Legislative Council Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Families and Communities, Disability Inclusion.

Title of evidence clarification

Page 44, paragraph 5 of the transcript currently reads as:

MICHAEL TIDBALL: Over four years. From memory, taking the total from I think \$5.72 million – uplifted to \$7.72 million.

This should be amended to: Over four years. From memory, taking the total from I think \$5.72 million – uplifted to \$7.2 million.

Title of evidence clarification

Page 45, paragraph 8 of the transcript currently reads as:

MICHAEL TIDBALL: Yes, I can break it down. According to the Child Protection Package, which was obviously a highlight of the budget, along with out-of-home care, the investment includes \$199.5 million to recruit 200 and retain 2,126 caseworkers with higher pay and more specialised training, including 100 new leading caseworker roles; \$143.9 million to increase the foster care allowance for the first time in 20 years, as was spoken about by the Minister this morning; \$797.6 million to continue supporting children and young people in out-of-home care while reforms are designed and implemented, plus the investment for a reformed out-of-home care program; \$49.2 million for at least 44 government-owned, purpose-built or upgraded residential care homes that will deliver safe and stable housing for children

over 12 years of age with complex needs; and, finally, \$10 million to support the Office of the Children's Guardian to continue to oversee organisations and uphold children's right to be safe.

This should be amended to:

MICHAEL TIDBALL: Yes, I can break it down. According to the Child Protection Package, which was obviously a highlight of the budget, along with out-of-home care, the investment includes \$191.5 million to recruit 200 and retain 2,126 caseworkers with higher pay and more specialised training, including 100 new leading caseworker roles; \$143.9 million to increase the foster care allowance for the first time in 20 years, as was spoken about by the Minister this morning; \$797.6 million to continue supporting children and young people in out-of-home care while reforms are designed and implemented, plus the investment for a reformed out-of-home care program; \$49.2 million for at least 44 government-owned, purpose-built or upgraded residential care homes that will deliver safe and stable housing for children over 12 years of age with complex needs; and, finally, \$10 million to support the Office of the Children's Guardian to continue to oversee organisations and uphold children's right to be safe.

Please publish my clarifications above. If you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at

Sincerely,

Michael Tidball
Secretary