

Our Ref: 01342-2017

Mr P Russo MP
Chair
Finance and Administration Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Russo

I am writing in relation to the Finance and Administration Committee public briefing held on 22 March 2017 on the State Penalties Enforcement Amendment Bill 2017 (the Bill).

I thank you for the opportunity for officers from Queensland Treasury to appear as witnesses at the public briefing.

The department has reviewed the draft transcript of the proceedings from the public briefing which was provided by the Committee for review prior to finalisation. The department has identified a matter requiring clarification in relation to fee arrangements. The remarks in question are contained in paragraph 8 of page 5 of the draft transcript where Ms Natalie Barber, SPER Registrar, stated as follows:

"State agencies pay fees. Non-state agencies do not pay fees."

This was an inadvertent misstatement of the position.

The *State Penalties Enforcement Act 1999* requires agencies that are entitled to retain the proceeds of the penalties they impose, such as local councils, universities and Hospital and Health Services, to pay a SPER registration fee when they refer an unpaid penalty infringement debt to SPER for collection. In contrast, no fee is payable by government departments where the fine proceeds are paid to the Consolidated Fund.

Thank you for considering this clarification, which I trust will be of assistance to the Committee in its consideration of the Bill.

Yours sincerely

Jim Murphy
Under Treasurer

10/4/17