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Ms Ella Haddad MP  
Chair of the Standing Committee on Government Administration B  
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10 JUN 2025

Dear Ms Haddad *Ella*

In response to your letter of 30 May 2025 regarding my response to question on notice dated 7 May 2025.

My response provided to the Committee clearly outlines that I was briefed via a Minute from the Department of Natural Resources and Environment on 15 March 2021. I can also confirm to the Committee that I was not involved in any decisions made by the Acting Director to appoint an independent person to lead an inquiry.

I would again refer the Committee to the 15 March 2021 media statement from the Acting Director, Mr Tony Latham that clearly lays out the powers and timelines related to the decision around the investigation. I was informed in line with this timeline that is already available to the Committee. I trust clears up any confusion for the Committee.

Further to my response, I feel it is appropriate and necessary to inform the Committee that references in the original question of "Mr Shinn's inquiry effectively being quashed and Mr Murrehy being brought in" does not align with the statements made by the Acting Director, Mr Tony Latham or the well understood process of steward's investigations and inquiries, so I reject the premise of that part of the question.

Thank you again for your letter.

Yours sincerely



Hon Jane Howlett MP  
**Minister for Racing**