

## HONEST HISTORY

Mr Matt Anderson PSM  
Director  
Australian War Memorial

By email

Dear Director

Thank you for your letter of 15 July 2022. I found the third paragraph of your letter confusing and hope you can clarify it.

I look forward, on behalf of Heritage Guardians and Honest History, to receiving your further reply. I have copied this correspondence to the Minister, on whose behalf you wrote, and to the Department of Finance.

### Questions

1. Is it the case that the March 2022 Project funding increase of \$50m is included in the 'increase in equity injections to fund capital expenditure' mentioned in DVA, *Portfolio Budget Statements 2022-23*, para 3.1.2, 'Explanatory notes and analysis of budgeted financial statements'?
2. If it is *not* the case that the \$50m is included in the above increase in equity injections, where can the \$50m be found in the Budget Papers?
3. If the \$50m was *not* part of the Budget, through what means and when in March was the money provided?
4. Given that the additional \$50m had been received in March, whether through the Budget or not, why did not Acting Director Dawson or another Memorial officer mention this fact in Senate Estimates on 6 April?
5. Why was it not until July (Steve Evans' piece in the *Canberra Times* of 1 July) that the \$50m increase became public knowledge?

Yours faithfully

*David Stephens*

(Dr) David Stephens  
Editor, Honest History; for Heritage Guardians

4 August 2022