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Refer to: Peter Coyne, Manager, John Oxley Youth Centre
Date: 8 November 1989
To: Ian Peers, Executive Director, Youth Support

Copies to:

Subject: Allegations by Mrs M Pearce, Youth Worker, John Oxley Youth Centre

On Monday, 6 November 1989, Mrs M Pearce made an allegation that I had wandered around her home unit with Mr T Cox, Senior Youth Worker John Oxley Youth Centre. She then asked what good reasons I had for doing this. This allegation was made in the presence of Mrs A Dutney, Deputy Manager, John Oxley Youth Centre.

Mrs Pearce agreed to speak about this matter and I asked Mrs K Merslades, Teacher in Charge, to witness the discussion along with Mrs A Dutney. Mrs Pearce agreed to this course of action.

The allegations were re-stated. Mrs Pearce alleged during the course of discussions that I and Mr Cox had entered her home unit at Indooroopilly late last year without permission. We then were alleged to have wandered around looking for something. Mrs Pearce didn't know what this was but suggested this may have been stolen Government property or something that would prove she was home having a good time while on sick leave.

Mrs Pearce explained that she didn't contact the Police or anyone in authority about this matter. She explained that she had a witness who could identify myself and Mr Cox. She also said she had a signed statement regarding the alleged incident.

Mrs Pearce also explained that she had told other officers of the Queensland Public Service who work at John Oxley Youth Centre of her belief about this alleged incident.

I told Mrs Pearce I had not been in her home unit and her allegations about me were 'absolute rot'. I challenged her to immediately contact a more senior officer and make the allegations so the matter could be investigated. She refused, saying she was not a vindictive person. I asked her to write her allegations on paper. She refused.

I believe Mrs Pearce's allegations are serious and should be investigated. If Mrs Pearce's allegation proves to be unfounded, then Mrs Pearce should be held accountable.

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- 2 -

I am very concerned about Mrs Pearce's conduct, in that she has made serious allegations and told other officers of the Department of the allegations, which she believes to be true.

Given these allegations are about myself, I feel this matter needs to be addressed by someone outside of the Centre. I would be pleased to receive some advice on how to proceed.

A. Dethney
for
P COYNE

Manager
John Oxley Youth Centre.