REPORT ON MEETING WITH THE ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL, DEPT. OF FAMILY SERVICES RE: JOHN OXLEY YOUTH CENTRE HELD ON TUESDAY, 6TH FEBRUARY, 1990 AT 1.00 P.M.

PRESENT Ms. R. Matchett and Ms. S. Crook for the Department. Mrs. S. Ball and Mr. B. Mann for the Q.S.S.U.

Ms. Matchett indicated that she had called this meeting with us separately to the P.O.A., as we stood on different ground.

The Department outlined that as a result of legal advice, they had abandoned the Departmental Inquiry headed by Mr. Heiner and they were yet to be advised as to whether to destroy all of the evidence provided to the Inquiry, to protect staff from legal action by the Management staff at J.O.Y.C.

Ms. Matchett indicated that she still didn't want us to tell our members that the Inquiry was abandoned, but rather she wished to visit the Centre on the following Wednesday and tell all the staff herself and also provide the staff with her proposals to resolve the problems at J.O.Y.C.

The Union again re-stated its view that the Inquiry had been valid and that it was a tragic waste of time, money and resources to abandon it, especially as much of the information given by staff was given in good faith and in the high expectation that some results would finally eventuate.

We sought advice as to what the Acting Director-General was proposing to do to resolve the issues. However, the Department indicated that they could not enlighten us at this stage, but staff would be told at the Wednesday meeting.

The Union indicated that staff morale was at rock bottom and this news was going to bring more difficulties. It was agreed that the Union would have a meeting with members on the Friday following the Director-General's visit, to ascertain the direction staff wanted to take.

The Acting Director-General reiterated her view that our members should have used the Grievance Handling Procedures as provided by the Regulations to air their concerns in the first place and the Inquiry would have been unnecessary.

However, we explained that our members have the right to go to their Union for assistance if they do not have faith in the Grievance Handling Procedures - as many of our members at J.O.Y.C. do not.

QCPCI

S. BALL,

INDUSTRIAL OFFICER