

Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs

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Refer To:
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for file 2012

8th May, 1990

QCPCI 3 (e)

Date: 3.12.2012

Exhibit number: 194

Mr K.M. O'Shea,
Crown Solicitor,
Crown Solicitor's Office,
State Law Building,
50 Ann Street,
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr O'Shea,

I refer to your letter of 18th April, 1990, concerning to matters relating to the John Oxley Youth Centre.

It is correct that Cabinet was not asked to consider the documents forwarded by Ms Walker of the Queensland State Service Union on 10th October, 1989. This was because those documents were regarded as being in a different category to those which came into existence during the course of the inquiry.

I do not wish to approach Cabinet further on this matter and I note your advice that the documents in question may have become departmental papers. The names and summary of contents of these documents were provided to Mr Coyne by Mr Heiner, as per the attached document.

I would however like to draw attention for further consideration to the letter of 10th October, 1989, from the Queensland State Service Union and in particular to the second last paragraph which states the basis upon which the documents written by Union members were supplied to the then Director-General. I would prefer, being fair to all concerned and now that the inquiry has been discontinued, to return these documents to the Union officer who provided them, or at least invite that officer to receive the documents back. Staff could then be advised to pursue any continuing grievance they may have through the departmental grievance procedures established pursuant to Regulation 63 of the Public Service Management and Employment Regulations.



The material gathered by Mr Heiner and referred to in my letter of 19th March, 1990, was destroyed on 23rd March, 1990, by an officer of the State Archivist.

This has now become public knowledge and I am anxious therefore to conclude correspondence with Messrs Rose, Berry and Jensen (Solicitors for Mr Coyne and Ms Dutney), the Professional Officers' Association and the Queensland Teachers' Union as well as provide formal advice to the Queensland State Service Union.

I seek your assistance in the preparation of replies to these persons on the basis of the above instructions and I also enclose copies of relevant correspondence.

Yours faithfully,



R.L. Matchett (Ms)
Acting Director-General.