



COUNCIL OF ORTHODOX SYNAGOGUES OF VICTORIA LTD

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24 September 2014

Ms Louise Amundsen
Team Leader
Office of the Solicitor Assisting
Royal Commission
Level 17 Governor Macquarie Tower
1 Farrer Place
Sydney NSW 2000

Email: Louise.amundsen@childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au

Dear Ms Amundsen

Re: Royal Commission into Institutional Response to Child Sex Abuse

I refer to your email of 10th September 2014 and the attached draft Summons to Produce Documents, and to our telephone discussion on 15th September 2014. The COSV Board has considered your correspondence and on behalf of the Board I am able to advise you as follows:

1. The COSV, which is not and has never been located at 306 Hawthorn Road, South Caulfield, is a roof body for a number of Orthodox Synagogues (**Congregations**) in Melbourne. These Congregations are autonomous bodies, over which we have no operational control.
2. None of the organisations/entities referred to in paragraph 1 of Schedule 1, or Item 2 of the Definitions section, of your draft Summons have been, or are, constituent members of the COSV.
3. We have never received a complaint or allegation about any incident of child sexual abuse or inappropriate conduct against a child, etc. from any person or organisation at all, let alone the organisations/entities and/or individuals named in paragraph 1 of Schedule 1, or Item 2 of the Definitions, of your draft Summons and, accordingly, we would have no documents to produce if the draft Summons was formalised and served.
4. Notwithstanding, Mr David Cyprys was a Board member (on behalf of Elwood Hebrew Congregation) for a number of years prior to 2011. Mr Cyprys did not inform the Board that he was under police investigation for child sex abuse. Nor did the Board receive any complaint about him. When the Board became aware that Mr Cyprys was under police investigation, it sought legal advice, and asked him to resign

from his position. He stood down as a Board Member pending the outcome of the investigation and has not attended any Board meeting nor been involved in any COSV activities since then. A copy of a current ACNC Charity Register Summary search for COSV is attached.

5. Finally, we confirm that the COSV does not produce any documents referred to in Item 2 of the Schedule to your draft Summons and accordingly no such documents exist in our records. Accordingly, we would have no documents to produce if the draft Summons was formalised and served. We confirm that the COSV endorses, supports and publicises all policy statements/documents produced by the Rabbinical Council of Victoria in regard to child sexual abuse, an example of which is attached.

If, notwithstanding the foregoing, you still have any queries or there is any matter in which the COSV can be of assistance, please let us know accordingly.

Yours sincerely



Isaac Teller
President

Enc.