

7th October 1999

Mr. Les Tree
 Director General
 Ministry for Police
 PO Box 45
 Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Les,

RE: Child Sex Offender Information Working Party

In response to the request for feedback on the above issue please note our comments:

1. The New South Wales Institute of Sport currently conducts criminal record checks on all new employees prior to appointment. This process has been in place since the Institute was established in 1996 and covers all employees appointed since that period. Initially this process was undertaken by the Human Resources Unit of the Department of Sport and Recreation and then by Central Corporate Services Unit since 25th June 1999.
2. All criminal record checks are conducted on behalf of the Institute by the Central Corporate Services Unit. This service is provided as part of the payroll service agreement that is currently in place.
3. No information obtained as a result of a criminal record check is made available to any third parties.

One issue that is of concern for the Institute with regards criminal checks and child sex offender information is ease of access to information for third parties that administer programs funded by the Institute. Of the 26 sport programs that the Institutes manages and provides funding for, the majority are externally administered by State Sporting Organisations who employ coaches to run the program.

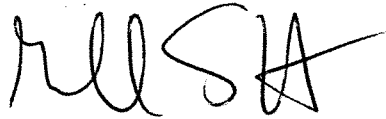
Where these third parties conduct programs on our behalf and employ personel for this purpose we do not have control over who they employ and are unable to access information on the individuals, and therefore unable to verify their suitability in managing programs involving our athletes.

PO Box 476
 Sydney Markets
 NSW 2129 Australia
 Phone +61 2 9763 0222
 Fax +61 2 9763 0250

Sydney International Athletic Centre
 Edwin Flack Avenue
 Olympic Park
 Homebush Bay
 NSW 2140 Australia

As the external program and the individual coach are NSWIS sanctioned our public reputation can be compromised, and potential liability may result from the involvement of an individual who later proves to be found unsuitable for this role. Therefore, any system established to offer easier and cheaper access to this type of information would provide a better safeguard against potential risk in this area.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Scott', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Michael Scott
Director