

Bridey Maguire

From: CDN [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 21 November 2013 17:55
To: Bridey Maguire
Cc: CDP
Subject: Re: Letter from Steve Kinmond regarding our meeting last Friday

Good afternoon Bridey,

CDP [REDACTED] has forwarded a response on both of our behalf, to the letter received by Steve Kinmond dated 6th November 2013. The response has been sent via both email and a signed hard sent via Australia post.

I would like to provide further information in regards to information provided by [REDACTED]. Please find below my notes from meeting dated 18th July 2013.

On the 18th July 2013 I was present at a meeting with [REDACTED], an ex-staff member of [CEG] who resigned soon after the first charge of indecent assault was laid against [CDM]. At this meeting [REDACTED] disclosed numerous details and observations from her time at [CEG] which would significantly inform any further investigation of the issues raised in our points above. In particular [REDACTED] confirmed that:

- She worked at the Centre from 2007.
- In 2008, renovations took place at the Centre that involved moving the large centrally placed sandpit to a location around the corner of the building and out of sight next to a shed. The sandpit was always very popular with the children. It seemed strange to move it and downsize it.
- She observed [CDM] engaged with the children, playing with them and often physically interacting with them. He would also pat the children to sleep at nap time.
- She observed that [CDM] was there every single day from around 7am to 6pm.
- Over time she observed that [CDM] gradually increased his interaction from being the food preparation assistant to basically being in the room and outside with the kids for the entire day.
- Staff were not given any directive at any time as to how supervision of the children should be carried out
- The Centre Director, [CHD] was generally in the staff room carrying out administrative type work during the day. She rarely spent time in the centre with the children, in the outside area or observing that staff were carrying out their duties properly.

Often the staff were more engaged with the children in the morning, but this level of engagement declined throughout the day. By the afternoon it was often common for a few staff members to stand together in a group away from the children and have a chat, instead of roving around the back yard supervising. Nothing was ever said about this.

She often noticed CDM having conversations with the children which she considered inappropriate

At the time She was employed at the Centre, there were two other male staff employed (childcare workers), however, she never saw them interact with the kids in the way CDM did.

She did not recall ever reviewing any policies or being given any written policies in relation to child protection or best practice in relation to child care generally. At the centre where she is working now, they do this yearly and sign the policies as confirmation that they have been read. REDACTED was never given any policies or directions about supervision of the children at CEG or anything about child protection.

We firmly believe that the Ombudsman's Office has a duty to exercise its powers to contact REDACTED REDACTED to pursue this matter fully and that the above information is relevant to any further investigations.

I will send a signed copy of the above to your office.

Warm regards

CDN

Sent from my iPhone

On 21/11/2013, at 12:20 PM, Bridey Maguire <REDACTED> wrote:

Hi CDN,

I've attempted to get in touch with REDACTED this week, but I've had no luck – her mobile phone number doesn't divert to a voicemail service, so I've been unable to leave a voicemail message. I've been able to leave my phone number which is apparently sent in a text message to her phone, but she hasn't returned my calls.

Does REDACTED have another number we can try and contact her on?

If not, please let her know that she can contact me on REDACTED or Steve on REDACTED.

Thanks CDN,

Regards

Bridey Maguire
 Project Officer (Human Services Executive) | Human Services Branch | NSW
 Ombudsman
 Level 24, 580 George Street, Sydney NSW 2000
 P [REDACTED] | F 02 [REDACTED] | E [REDACTED]
 W www.ombo.nsw.gov.au

- Please consider the environment before printing this correspondence.

From: [CDN] [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Wednesday, 6 November 2013 15:52
To: Bridey Maguire
Subject: Re: Letter from Steve Kinmond regarding our meeting last Friday

Hi Bridey

Thanks for that.

The employee that has since left [CEG] LDDC's name is [REDACTED]. She can be contacted on [REDACTED]

Regards

[CDN]

Sent from my iPhone

On 06/11/2013, at 12:32 PM, Bridey Maguire <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dear [CDN],

Please find attached a copy of our letter of 6 November 2013 confirming the actions we discussed on Friday.

Regards

Bridey Maguire
 Project Officer (Human Services Executive) | Human Services Branch |
 NSW Ombudsman
 Level 24, 580 George Street, Sydney NSW 2000
 P [REDACTED] | F 02 [REDACTED] | E [REDACTED]
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<Letter to ^{CDN} 6 November re C 2013 6776.PDF>

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