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10 July 2014

Margaret Bowen
Chief Executive Officer
The Disability Trust
PO Box 395
FAIRY MEADOW NSW 2519

Dear Ms Bowen,

CIE

date of birth REDACTED 1996

knowmore provides independent legal advice and support to people who are engaging with the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. CIE has sought advice from knowmore about a complaint made by her son CIE about Mr Royce Comber, an employee of The Disability Trust.

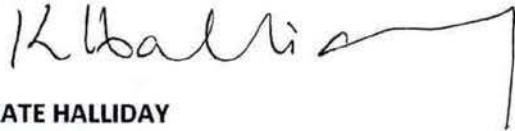
In April 2012 CIE made a complaint to the NSW Police about sexual abuse committed by Mr Royce Comber while he provided respite care to CIE. The investigation of the complaint by police and the Department of Community Services found that the abuse was 'substantiated' however Mr Comber was not prosecuted.

CIE tells me that she has discussed CIE's complaint with staff of the Disability Trust, including Mr Ryan Kiddle, at a meeting that was held on 29 June 2012. According to the minutes of the meeting CIE posed a series of questions about Mr Comber's employment, some of these questions were answered, but others were not because the police investigation had not been completed. The minutes do not give any detail about the questions that were answered. Mrs CIE CIE is concerned that The Disability Trust has not responded appropriately to the complaint.

I understand that The Disability Trust is a designated non-government organisation for the purposes of Part 3A of the *Ombudsman Act* 1974. Could you please advise whether Mr Royce's conduct has been reported to the Ombudsman, and whether there has been an employment related finding about his conduct.

I also request that you provide Mrs ^{CIF} with a formal response to ^{CIE} 's complaint of sexual abuse which includes responses to the questions that she raised at the meeting held on 29 June 2012, as well as information about the policies and procedures that The Disability Trust has adopted to minimise the risk of abuse of clients by employees.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Halliday', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right and a vertical line at the end.

KATE HALLIDAY
Senior Lawyer