

RURU SCHOOL ALLEGATIONS OF PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL ABUSE

INTERAGENCY MEETING CONDUCTED 31 MAY 2016 AT 1100hrs OFFICE OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, INVERCARGILL BRANCH.

**PRESENT**

Brian CAMERON – Police  
Christine MENZIES – MoE  
Jan OSTER – CYFS  
Phil STRAW – Education Council (By phone)

COPY  
ONLY

1. Initial call for any conflict of interest to be declared – none arising.
2. Christine provides summary of MoE report
3. Brian details reason for reinvestigation of detention and assault
4. Phil details complaint received by Education Council
5. Discussion of allegation Summary by Secret Witness XY
  - No contact yet made with either MoE or Police by XY
6. Discuss Ruru School roll and status as catering for children with additional needs.
7. Discussion of MoE development of 'Guidelines' around restraint and Seclusion which will provide for a written definition of seclusion –not previously stated
8. Discussion around role of Education Council and application of their Rules – relate to Registered Teachers only
9. Jan discussion as to her involvement as part of review into complaint of inaction as made by TURNBULLS and the subsequent review of process
10. Discuss obvious Training issue for each Agency around knowledge of the CPP as it relates to Mass Allegations and Educational Settings
  - Each to discuss Training need with Management of own organisation
11. Discuss information required for action by
  - Education Council – require specific allegation before any approach to teachers/adults
  - MoE - have completed their obligations refer Report (Catalyst for Change)

- CYF – no role as yet given no (new) individual child Victim has been identified – matter to remain open until outcome of police enquiry
  - Police – to determine 'Lawfulness' of the detention within the 'seclusion' or 'Safe' room and whether any evidence of a criminal offence can be identified
12. Brian to provide progress reports no later than 1<sup>st</sup> of the month

1235hrs Meeting adjourned

NZ Police  
O.I.A Section  
Private Bag 1924  
Dunedin 9054

02/07/2014  
02/07/2014

1110: - Interagency Meeting

Victoria + Callum TURNBULL.

H. Christine

Jan

Phil

(+)

Brian

Christine provides summary of M.O.F report.

Brian

teacher aide  
not covered  
by Phil's org.

Phil

- Shara

Jeffries

- Eric

Cairns

- Vicky

restraint & not  
advised parents  
deceptive use of room.

- go bus incident.

Current Allegations of XY.

- No contact as yet with Police or MOF

by XY

- April 2015 XY summary first made known to MOF.

- Kuru School Roll - additional needs.

- Guidelines - restraint

NZ Police  
O.T.A. Station  
Private Bag 1024  
Dunedin 9100

**From:** CAMERON, Brian  
**To:** Christine Menzies  
**Subject:** RE: Ruru School allegation of abuse  
**Date:** Friday, 27 May 2016 2:04:00 p.m.

Great thanks.

bc

**From:** Christine Menzies [redacted]  
**Sent:** Friday, 27 May 2016 2:04 p.m.  
**To:** CAMERON, Brian <Brian.Cameron@police.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** RE: Ruru School allegation of abuse

Yes on the Tuesday - sorry

Christine Menzies | District Manager  
[redacted]

**From:** CAMERON, Brian [mailto:Brian.Cameron@police.govt.nz]  
**Sent:** Friday, 27 May 2016 2:01 p.m.  
**To:** Christine Menzies  
**Subject:** RE: Ruru School allegation of abuse

Tuesday?

**From:** Christine Menzies [redacted]  
**Sent:** Friday, 27 May 2016 2:00 p.m.  
**To:** CAMERON, Brian <Brian.Cameron@police.govt.nz>; jan.oster [redacted] Phil Straw  
[redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: Ruru School allegation of abuse

That works for me  
Regards  
Christine

Christine Menzies | District Manager  
[redacted]

**From:** CAMERON, Brian [mailto:Brian.Cameron@police.govt.nz]  
**Sent:** Friday, 27 May 2016 1:46 p.m.  
**To:** jan.oster [redacted] Phil Straw; Christine Menzies  
**Subject:** Ruru School allegation of abuse

All,

Thank you for your contact in regard the allegation contained within the Summary I have sent out to each of you.

You have all indicated that you are to be the representative for your respective organisations

112 Police  
C/A Section  
PO Box 45 9304  
Queenstown, NZ

required by the Child protection Protocol.

To that end I would propose that we meet on Tuesday next week at Invercargill.

Phil has indicated that he is unable to attend in person but that he can join in by way of either Skype or tele-conference.

Jan has indicated that she is happy to attend at the MoE as am I given I am travelling down from Queenstown.

Christine are we therefore able to make a date and time to meet with you at your office if that is suitable?

I would propose Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> May at 1100am (to allow time for travel) if that is suitable or, failing that, a similar time on Weds 1<sup>st</sup> June (Jan is unable to attend on Thurs-fri).

**PURPOSE OF MEETING**

- 1. Given there has been a lengthy enquiry completed previously and provided everyone is agreeable I see value in Christine updating us as to what has resulted following from the MoE report in regard the "time out" room – having only recently become involved in this in the past two weeks I find myself somewhat behind the 8 ball so would appreciate (Jan has indicated that she too would appreciate the background) a precis of events and actions as well as decisions made around criminality vs policy breaches if this was a factor of the investigation.
- 2. Discussion on the 'new' allegations raised by XY as to what our combined response should be.

If you can reply to all with your availability for the proposed dates/times by end of today it would be appreciated.

I look forward to meeting/talking to you all.

Kind regards

brian

**Brian Cameron**  
**Acting Detective Senior Sergeant | Otago Lakes Central CIB | New Zealand Police**

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