

Hon Grace Portolesi MP

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BY:



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Ms Lauren Hindle
Vice-President
South Australian Association of State School Organisation (SASSO)
PO Box 6178
Halifax Street
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Ms Hindle

Thank you for your letter dated 26 November 2012 in which you suggest various initiatives for the dissemination of information to parents.

The incident of child abuse at an Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service in the western suburbs of Adelaide in 2010 is very serious matter and has understandably attracted significant community concern. As both Minister and a parent, I am deeply concerned about how the matter was managed.

As you are aware I have commissioned former Supreme Court Justice Bruce DeBelle AO QC, to undertake an independent review to examine the events and circumstances surrounding the non-disclosure to the school community. The review will consider the actions of all relevant agencies, and make recommendations relating to the actions of the parties involved, and the procedures and processes that should be in place in these circumstances.

The review is currently underway, with a view to it being completed by the start of 2013. As a community, we must ensure that we do everything we can to support parents and families in caring for and protecting their children. I expect the outcomes of this review will further that aim.

I am keen to work with SAASSO and the wider parent community in a positive manner.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "G. Portolesi".

Grace Portolesi

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

19 December 2012