



## HANSARD SEARCH RESULT

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itself in greater detail and perhaps meet with me, Mrs Coote and others to understand all the components of that amenity, which is enjoyed by members of the Southern Metropolitan Region and indeed all Victorians.

### **Mallee Family Care**

Ms PULFORD (Western Victoria) -- The matter I wish to raise this evening is for the attention of the Attorney-General in his capacity as the minister responsible for the Equal Opportunity Act 2010. It relates to correspondence sent from management to staff at Mallee Family Care following Mallee Family Care employees being asked to assist with the completion of a contract for Mildura Print Solutions. The correspondence describes the conscientious objectors in inflammatory and intimidating terms, such as 'morally bankrupt' and 'culprit'.

The correspondence says:

So my message at this stage is very simple.

If you are so unhappy in your relationship at Mallee Family Care and your politics are more important than our clients and you are prepared to denigrate the place that provides life opportunities for vulnerable members of our community and supports your development, please go and find a place where you believe your values are more attuned to your personal priorities.

You have not only insulted your organisation, you have effectively attacked your colleagues.

We simply do not need someone with your values connected to Mallee Family Care!

I ask that the Attorney-General consider this correspondence and its suggestion that staff at Mallee Family Care who may not share the political beliefs of management or who are conscientious objectors should leave the organisation, and that the Attorney-General consider whether this constitutes a breach of the Equal Opportunity Act, in particular the prohibition of discrimination based on political belief, and advise me accordingly.

### **Royal Exhibition Building**

Mr TEE (Eastern Metropolitan) -- My adjournment matter is for the Minister for Planning. I am pleased that he is in the chamber this evening; he might be able to respond directly. It relates to the Royal Exhibition Building, which received world heritage listing in July 2004. As we know, the exhibition building, completed in 1880, is an important part of our history. It was a celebration of Marvellous Melbourne, which at that time was probably one of the richest cities in the world. It was a celebration of its status and elegance as one of the world's great cities. It was also where in 1880 we celebrated the Melbourne International Exhibition. It is also, as we know, where our first Parliament met, so it is an important part of our history.

Under the Heritage Act 1995 heritage listing requires a management plan, and a process for the development of a management plan was completed in September 2011. Under section 62T of the Heritage Act the Minister for Planning is then responsible for approving that plan. Some two years later that plan is yet to be approved by the planning minister. The concern here is twofold. Firstly, there is concern about neglect of the building and the encroachment of development on the site. For example, the Cancer Council Victoria building on the corner of Rathdowne and Victoria streets has been sold, and the concern is that there might be development on that site which is inappropriate for the status and standing of the exhibition building. We are also wasting an opportunity, because with a proper management plan we could showcase this building to local and overseas visitors and school students.

As I said, it has been more than two years since a management plan was developed, and I urge the minister to exercise his powers under the act to ensure that there is a proper management plan in place. In doing so I urge him to have a look at what Sydney has done with the Opera House, which has a very detailed and effective management

plan. There is concern as to why nothing has been done two years after the completion of the management plan, and I urge the minister to progress this issue as soon as possible.

### **Shire of Mornington Peninsula kindergartens**

Ms MIKAKOS (Northern Metropolitan) -- My matter this evening is for the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development. I raise this matter after being contacted by a parent living in the Mornington Peninsula shire who has raised concerns with me about the changes the shire is putting in place in relation to its centralised registration system for kindergarten enrolment. I understand that the Shire of Mornington Peninsula conducted a review of its enrolment system after being requested to do so by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to comply with human rights obligations to put in place non-discriminatory practices.

The current system is age based, and the shire is moving towards a lottery-based system.

I do not have difficulty with that, because it is important to put in place a system that does not favour older children and discriminate against younger children in terms of

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