

UPDATE 16

Royal Commission Toowoomba Hearing



20 February 2014

The sixth public hearing of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse continued in Brisbane today.

The case continues to examine the circumstances surrounding the response by the school and the Catholic Education Office to sexual abuse of 13 primary school girls at a primary school in Toowoomba in 2007.

Counsel Assisting resumed cross examination of Chris Fry, former senior education officer for the Toowoomba Education Office who had the responsibility for the school, including student protection responsibilities.

Counsel sought to clarify whether Mr Fry thought the allegations raised by him with the school principal constituted child sexual assault.

He also sought to determine why the allegation was not reported to the police.

Evidence for the remainder of the day focused on process and procedures, and in particular whether procedures, as set out in the student protection kit, were followed.

Ian Hunter, the final witness for the day and another former senior education officer in the Toowoomba Catholic Education Office focussed on whether he should have ensured the allegations were reported to police.

The hearing will reconvene tomorrow at 11.00am and continue until all the evidence has been heard.

For more information on the Truth Justice and Healing Council go to: www.tjhcouncil.org.au

For information on the Royal Commission go to: <http://www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au/>

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