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CC: Duncan.Wilson@scottishhumanrights.com <Duncan.Wilson@scottishhumanrights.com>; Zachari Duncalf <zachari.duncalf@strath.ac.uk>; 'JIM GODDARD' <jim.goddard1@btopenworld.com>; Elizabeth Condie <m.e.condie@strath.ac.uk>

Subject: RE: David Whelan, FBGA

Date: Wed, 20 Jan 2010 17:04

David,

I reply in response to your email sent to me on Monday 18 January 2010.

The research for SHRC

You have raised a concern about a "conflict of interest" in the SHRC research. I wish to clarify that the CLA and SIRCC joined together in a partnership of interest in relation to this research. The roles of the organisations involved in this research have been identified to the ethics committee, to interviewees and in the final research report. CLA brings experience of care leaving and knowledge of 'abuse in care' research; SIRCC felt this experience would enrich the research.

You propose that a "prominent statistician" should be employed to reevaluate the research. It is not the intention of SIRCC to re-evaluate this process. This research has now been completed and the final report has been submitted to the SHRC. We did not attempt to gain a representative sample, as the demographics of the full population are not recorded. With regards to the methodology of the selection of the sample, we selected participants from a small group of survivors with whom we already have had research contact. This was due to the time limits we had been allocated for this research by the SHRC, and because we had confirmed through previous contact that these individuals had support networks in place which they could choose to access once the research was completed.

I understand that your copy of the interview on CD was sent on Monday by recorded delivery. I understand that this can be tracked on the following number: DT 8310 8069 4GB. Please be in contact with Zachari Duncalf if you have not received this by the end of the week, or if you have questions about tracking this package.

The CLA

With regards to the criticisms you raise about the CLA, I would direct you to Will McMahon, Chair of the CLA, as this is of no direct relevance to SIRCC.

The JCLA

With regards to the criticisms of the accuracy of the promotional material for the CLA-SIRCC event, I understand that the facts were correct at the time of printing. In addition, the associations next to each speaker's name on the flyer are provided as an indication of each speaker's primary association. I am currently not privy to the details of the JCLA and its organisational structure. All speakers will be representing their own experience except when referring to academic research or project.

I would refer you again to Will McMahon with regards to the issues you raise about any difficulties between the CLA and the JCLA, as this is of no direct relevance to SIRCC.

Access to the event

We wish to make the CLA- SIRCC event on 3 February 2010 as accessible as possible and have allocated 7 free places to care places to care leavers.

Communications

Finally, in relation to your email to Jim Goddard on 19 January 2010 into which you also copied me, there is no need for communications specifically between FBGA and CLA to include SIRCC, as these are matters which are unrelated to SIRCC.

I reiterate that the SHRC research is now completed and has been submitted to the SHRC in its final form. If you have any ongoing issues, please direct these to the SHRC as the research funders, and where ethics-related to the University Ethics Committee. I have copied into this email Dr. Elizabeth Condie, chair of this committee for information.

Kind regards,

Jennifer

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