

CHILD ABUSE — CLAIMS BY MALTESE MINISTER

8690. Ms A.S. Carles to the Minister for Police

I refer to information that was published in the Times of Malta of 21 March 2010 regarding claims by the former Maltese Immigration Minister, Dr Cachia Zammit, of abuse of children in care in Western Australia in the 1960s, and I ask:

- (a) were WA Police investigating the Christian Brothers in 1963, as alleged by Dr Zammit in March 2010, and if yes:
 - (i) was the investigation related to institutions holding child migrants as described in the *Immigration (Guardianship of Children) Act 1946* of the Commonwealth; and
 - (ii) was the delegated guardian of those children notified of the investigations; and
- (b) did WA Police at any time convey to the Commonwealth Department of Immigration, or to any other Commonwealth entity, details of the 1963 investigation into Christian Brothers institutions, and if yes, would the Minister please provide details of that advice?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY replied:

- (a) There is no information within the Western Australia Police to indicate WA Police conducted any investigations into Christian Brothers organisations or institutions in 1963.
 - (i)–(ii) Not Applicable.
- (b) Not applicable.