

24 **Lunch adjournment from 12.51 pm to 2.22 pm**

25 **Session opens with karakia**

26 **CHAIR:** Yes Ms Janes.

27 **MS JANES:** Commissioners, our witness for this afternoon is Ms Leonie McInroe and she's  
28 represented by Frances Joychild QC and Tracey Hu and counsel assisting Andrew Molloy.

29 **LEONIE MCINROE**

30 **CHAIR:** Before we start, may I call you Leonie or do you like to be called Lee?

31 A. Leonie is fine.

32 **Q.** I'm just going to ask if you to take the affirmation is that all right?

33 A. Yes.

34 **Q.** Leonie, do you solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm that the evidence that you

1 will give before this Commission will be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the  
2 truth?

3 A. I do.

4 Q. Thank you very much. Yes Ms Joychild.

5 **QUESTIONING BY MS JOYCHILD:**

6 Q. Kia ora Leonie.

7 A. Kia ora.

8 Q. Now your name is Leonie Frances McInroe?

9 A. Correct.

10 Q. And where do you live?

11 A. In Auckland.

12 Q. What's your occupation?

13 A. I'm an anaesthetic technician.

14 Q. And you're also a mother, aren't you?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. How many children do you have?

17 A. I have four beautiful children.

18 Q. And is one sitting in the hearing room today?

19 A. Yes, my son's here.

20 Q. David. Leonie, if you could start your evidence at paragraph 1.

21 **CHAIR:** Just before you do, remembering we've got signers and we have a stenographer, so just  
22 try not to go too fast. If you go a little bit too fast I might just put my hand up.

23 A. Yes, please do.

24 Q. Thank you.

25 A. "In this affidavit I set out my experiences in seeking justice and compensation against  
26 Dr Leeks and the Government who employed him. The process of seeking justice and  
27 compensation was to me an additional on-going and sustained abuse to what I had suffered  
28 in Lake Alice at the hands of Dr Leeks and hospital management. This time, though, the  
29 abuser was the Crown.

30 It took nine gruelling and fraught years to obtain compensation for my cruel and  
31 unlawful treatment by Dr Leeks. However, even then I never received closure because  
32 Dr Leeks and those who supported him were not held accountable through the criminal  
33 justice system. Neither did his profession take any steps that I am aware of to hold him to  
34 account for what he did to me and other vulnerable children and the young people

1           unfortunate enough to end up in Lake Alice. I believe he was fully protected by the Crown  
2           and his profession. My and other survivors' voices were ignored.

3                       When I decided to embark upon the litigation, I had several aims in mind.  
4           I wanted justice. For me that meant a fair and just hearing into what had happened to me  
5           and accountability of Dr Leeks and those in Government who allowed him to do what he  
6           did to me through the criminal justice system. I assumed he would be prosecuted once it  
7           became clear what he had done to me.

8                       I also wanted financial compensation for the terrible effect that my years in Lake  
9           Alice had had on my life and the impact on my children who had to suffer a mother who  
10          was not only debilitated, under-confident, often in trauma and held a core feeling of  
11          worthlessness, because of what had happened to her, but also who was then reliving the  
12          trauma for another nine years in the period I was raising them. It was a huge part of their  
13          childhood. They were 11, 9, 6 and 1 years old.

14                      Am I able to show a photo of my whānau?

15          **Q.**    Yes of course.

16          **A.**    Thank you, I would like you to see that.

17          **Q.**    These are your children?

18          **A.**    Yes. Thank you. They are so much a part of this story, yeah.

19                      "I also wanted the system to change so all vulnerable children from then on were  
20          protected from the sorts of things that had happened to me ever happening to them. That  
21          vulnerable children needing any care in any capacity in Aotearoa are consistently and  
22          without prejudice kept safe, protected from any harm and fully supported with no  
23          exceptions. That never again in our history can it be said that the Crown became the  
24          abuser, the perpetrator that re-traumatises the victim in any process of seeking justice. That  
25          is extremely important to me.

26                      I expected compassion from those hearing my story and to be believed and  
27          validated from what I had gone through. I was hoping for closure and that justice would be  
28          realised. I expected my story would be treated respectfully with integrity, sensitivity and  
29          care.

30                      When I filed my claim, instead of compassion, justice, validation and an apology,  
31          I received nine grueling years of emotional battering, abuse and bullying from the Crown.  
32          Without Philippa and Robert it would have been impossible for me to withstand".

33          **MS JOYCHILD:** Can I just pause you there and ask you who Philippa and Robert are?

34          **A.**    Philippa and Robert, Philippa Cunningham and Robert Chambers, the late Robert



1 Chambers were my counsel. They were my advocates in the truest sense, I feel quite  
2 emotional about this. Without them I would have given up. They treated me with kindness  
3 and respect and dignity and care the entire process. Who I am today, part of who I am  
4 today is a reflection of how they believed in me that I can be before you. My children and  
5 my children's children will always know their names.

6 **Q.** We're at paragraph 8?

7 **A.** "There were on-going prolonged intentional delays, obstruction tactics and obstruction  
8 strategies and it felt like the Crown were treating me with the callous indifference and  
9 cruelty that Dr Leeks had, only worse, it was worse, because I expected fairness and justice  
10 from the Crown. I expected an objective, considered view of the truth as presented by  
11 myself and my evidence. I expected fairness and justice. The irony that over the nine years  
12 my advocate for justice, the Crown, became the perpetrator.

13 Today, 26 years after I lodged my claim and let the powers that be know that Dr  
14 Leeks – know what Dr Leeks had done to me, I am still waiting for his accountability and  
15 the accountability of those who let him do what he was doing. He has never been brought  
16 to justice, nor have the many staff who happily carried out his instructions of abuse, and  
17 this is something that angers me and disgusts me deeply. I have no closure while Dr Leeks  
18 is not held to account. I want to see him brought before the criminal courts. To not do so,  
19 in my opinion, is the equivalent of deliberate and complete absence of criminal justice and  
20 it shows support of his unlawful, brutal treatment. I see it as staggering negligence in  
21 justice.

22 It is irrelevant that Dr Leeks may now be in his 90s. He has had a free life for  
23 over 50 years not being held to account. Those of us who were subjected to his unlawful,  
24 brutal treatment have suffered for the 50 years he has been living freely. We carry this as  
25 our life sentence. No matter what, I will always have the stigma, the shame, the trauma, the  
26 battle to overcome his abuse, the following abuse from the Crown and the on-going impact  
27 and lasting consequences being held unlawfully in a mental hospital. That is my reality.  
28 I cannot undo that. Our children carry this intergenerational trauma inflicted by Dr Leeks  
29 and his colleagues. He is lucky to have had all those years free to live his life as he's  
30 wished. Now it's time for the State to hold him to account. He must be brought back to  
31 New Zealand and face his accusers. Only that will bring closure to me.

32 In this affidavit I also give evidence about the experiences I had making—to make  
33 a claim to ACC and the long delays and battles I had to go through to recognise as having  
34 been the victim of a medical misadventure due to medical error resulting from Dr Leeks



1 treatments of me".

2 **Q.** Now if you move to paragraph 13 Leonie?

3 **A.** "I was adopted at seven days old by a couple who lived in Waihi. My adopted father died  
4 when I was 18 months old and my adopted mother died when I was a little less than 4  
5 years. I was then placed in the Methodist Mission orphanage in Auckland and after a year I  
6 was placed with a foster family in Whanganui. I only learned in adult life that they had  
7 never adopted me, they fostered me and were paid well to care for me out of the estate my  
8 parents had left.

9           During the years I lived with the foster family, the mother was physically and  
10 emotionally cruel to me. For example, I recall that she put my arm through a washing  
11 machine ringer. That happened frequently. And put darning needles in my feet when she  
12 thought I was asleep to see if I could feel pain. I was constantly petrified of her, her  
13 unpredictable and confusing behaviour. I had experienced it from a very young age. And  
14 I struggle to know how to react to her cruelty, so I screamed on the inside and showed little  
15 emotion on the outside. I had to do most of the housework daily. I was too small to reach  
16 the clothesline, so they built a box for me to stand on so I could do the washing.

17           My cough annoyed her greatly. I did not know until I was an adult that I had had  
18 asthma attacks. She would get annoyed with my coughing and make me sleep on the lino  
19 floor with the dog in the washhouse. I did all evening meal preparation. I was not allowed  
20 friends or birthday parties. I was often sent directly to my room if there was no housework  
21 to do or if it was takeaway dinner night straight after school and I was not fed. I was not  
22 allowed out of my room. I would, however, get up in the middle of the night to look for  
23 food as I was starving. This happened on frequent occasions.

24           I was never made to feel part of that family. I was made to sit alone in the kitchen  
25 to eat while the family sat in the lounge. The doors were closed so they could not see me. I  
26 was so afraid of the mother that I never dared complain about anything, even when I had  
27 pain inflicted upon me by her. Because I did not react to pain, she decided there was  
28 something wrong with me and I was constantly taken to her—taken by her to various  
29 doctors in the area. I also would run out of class at primary school if I was having a  
30 coughing fit and was frightened to tell the teacher why I kept going to the bathroom.

31           To this day I cannot sneeze normally because that irritated her. I clearly recall her  
32 asking teachers if they thought I was odd. She actively sought out anything that supported  
33 her belief that there was something wrong with me. I was completely baffled on how to  
34 please her, or to be accepted or wanted by her.

1           Among others that the foster mother took me to was a Dr Leeks, a psychiatrist at  
2 Palmerston North Hospital. I was 12 years old. Dr Leeks' assessment of my foster mother  
3 is recorded in a report Dr Leeks prepared which is in my Lake Alice notes. Dr Leeks  
4 placed me as an inpatient in the adolescent unit at Lake Alice Hospital from July 1975 until  
5 October 1976 and then from December 76 through to February 1977.

6           Under his instruction I was admitted as a voluntary patient to the Lake Alice  
7 Hospital adolescent unit. I remained in Lake Alice Hospital for two periods totalling 18  
8 months. As I understand, this was longer than any other Lake Alice survivor. In that time,  
9 I believed I was diagnosed as having borderline schizophrenia, I believed this was his  
10 standard diagnosis for all the children.

11           On 19 August 1995 I swore an affidavit for the strike-out hearing. I also made  
12 two statements for my lawyers. One was in 1992 and was made for my ACC claim. The  
13 other is updated and was a response to Dr Leeks' letter. It would have been prepared  
14 around 1993. My statements below are taken entirely from these documents.

15           My recollection of the time I spent in Lake Alice Hospital is that it was a terrible  
16 experience. I received so much medication I found it difficult to function. I have  
17 particularly unpleasant memory of receiving electroconvulsive therapy on three occasions".

18 **Q.** Can I pause you there. Do you want to add to that statement?

19 **A.** The first ECT treatment which I cover further on was for being smart, disrespectful,  
20 cheeky, giggling and unlike the standard procedures that we were threatened with  
21 frequently and constantly, that took place on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This was an  
22 afternoon and Dr Leeks gave me shock treatment himself in the evening and I remained  
23 conscious until I was unconscious. There was no anaesthetic. There was no muscle  
24 relaxant. And I recall that vividly.

25           "I was placed in seclusion for long periods of time which I hated. I resented the  
26 system of punishment handed out by staff, including ECT. I was afraid of the other  
27 patients, particularly some very disturbed adult patients. I recall feeling afraid and anxious  
28 and embarrassed because I thought I was a committed patient.

29           *The first ECT treatment*

30           I was required to attend compulsory group therapy sessions. I found them  
31 pointless. It was my behaviour at the group therapy session that led to my first 'treatment'  
32 of ECT. I recall the occasion. I giggled at something and no doubt made some remark.  
33 Dr Leeks was present. He said to me "If you don't cut it out you're going to get ECT".  
34 I apparently did something else that upset Dr Leeks. I cannot recall what. He then said,



1 'That's it, you're going to get shock treatment tonight' and I did.

2 ECT was not the only occasion when I was given some form of treatment for  
3 being naughty. My impression of my time at Lake Alice was that I was given painful  
4 injections for naughty behaviour on many occasions. The number of entries of having been  
5 given treatment for being naughty is not, in my view, as many times as I recall. For  
6 example, on 12 November 1975 'disobedient - ran over scoria bed'. 50 mgs of Largactil'."

7 **Q.** This is taken from your medical notes?

8 **A.** These are from my medical notes.

9 **Q.** If you go on to paragraph 25?

10 **A.** "Largactil is a tranquilliser. Both – and I speak of Paraldehyde – are classified as  
11 antipsychotic drugs. I recall being given Paraldehyde by mouth and by injection. I can  
12 only recall being given by mouth once. It tasted so foul that I vomited. It was a threat to  
13 give it to us by mouth. In addition to the number of times I was given Paraldehyde, I was  
14 threatened with it many times by the nursing staff and if they did not like my behaviour I  
15 was also threatened with ECT".

16 **Q.** Now go to paragraph 28?

17 **A.** Can I just clarify about the behaviour?

18 **Q.** Yes?

19 **A.** Is that okay?

20 **Q.** Yes?

21 **A.** The naughty behaviour that we were punished with drugs, seclusion and other forms of  
22 punishment were things like talking or moving or giggling while the staff were watching  
23 Days of Our Lives. We were meant to be not visible, not of any bother.

24 We're up to 28?

25 **Q.** Yes.

26 **A.** "There were a number of seclusion rooms in the girls' wing. These were used for patients  
27 who were uncontrollable or for punishment. You were locked in for various periods of  
28 time overnight, a day, a few days.

29 The seclusion room, like other forms of punishment, was used as a threat. I refer  
30 to an entry in the nursing notes, 15 March 1976, 'had the cheek to ask if she could watch  
31 TV, threatened with seclusion room'.

32 On one occasion I was put in this closed room for many days, I believe 21, for  
33 being with a group of girls escaping and trying to see the boys in their villa. We did not  
34 succeed. This was discovered days afterward. I was given an injection every day I was in



1 seclusion. I came out to go to the toilet and bath. There was a bucket to toilet in at other  
2 times".

3 **Q.** If you'd like to move to paragraph 31, how you came to make a claim to ACC and file  
4 proceedings against Dr Leeks and the Crown?

5 **A.** "It was a strange coincidence of events that caused me to take a claim to ACC and the  
6 courts against Dr Leeks. I was so damaged from my time at Lake Alice and earlier  
7 childhood with my foster mother that I entered my adult years with a chronic lack of  
8 confidence and huge fear of authority. I would never have had the courage or wherewithal  
9 to contact anyone and make a complaint about Dr Leeks, but for the fact that my marriage  
10 had broken down and I needed a lawyer to finalise my divorce".

11 **Q.** And continue at paragraph 34?

12 **A.** "When talking with Philippa about my evidence I commented to her that I had been in Lake  
13 Alice and I was upset about the ECT and drug treatment and I believed it had been wrong.  
14 With Philippa's advice and support and the support of legal aid, I then took a claim to ACC  
15 and later filed proceedings in the High Court against Dr Leeks and the Crown. I would  
16 never have had the courage to make any claim against Dr Leeks if it had not been for the  
17 wonderful support, persistence encouragement I got from Philippa. Later Philippa  
18 instructed Robert Chambers as senior counsel. He too was very supportive and caring of  
19 me throughout that process".

20 **Q.** At paragraph 35 you talk about taking a claim for medical misadventure and medical error  
21 and filing that claim in 30 September 1992. Can you now read from paragraph 36 – well,  
22 in 36 you're quoting from your GP who sent a letter in support. Could you read what your  
23 GP said about you in 1992?

24 **A.** "In August 92 Philippa wrote to my GP, Dr Philip Rushmer, who had been my GP for  
25 seven years at that time and asked if he was able to comment on the treatment I underwent  
26 whilst an inpatient at Lake Alice. He replied on 1 September 1992. He explained he could  
27 not as he had no knowledge of my condition at the time but he continued:

28 "The only comment I can make is my observations of her during the years that I  
29 have cared for her and can say during this time she struck me as being a straightforward,  
30 normal lady. There have been no manifestations of any psychiatric disorder and she  
31 progressed through her pregnancies normally with no evidence of any depression in the  
32 months following child birth. One of the main predisposing factors towards postnatal  
33 depression is a previous psychiatric history'.

34 The next year he reviewed my Lake Alice file notes at my request and on

1 16 February 1993 he recorded in a 'to whom it may concern' letter that having reviewed the  
 2 notes he was appalled at some of the things that went on involving my time at Lake Alice,  
 3 including the giving of strong antipsychotic medications and ECT with no good, sound  
 4 medical reason.

5 Dr Rushmer wrote another 'to whom it may concern' letter on 15 November 1994.  
 6 In that he said that he had cared for me throughout my pregnancy and there was no  
 7 evidence of any postnatal depressive disorder, that I had not sought medical help or specific  
 8 help for myself through my marriage problems and in particular, I had not needed  
 9 tranquillisers or antidepressant medication. He said that I had managed my pregnancy  
 10 excellently and continued:

11 'All in all, my comments are to state that Lee is a particularly normal level-headed  
 12 woman with no obvious evidence of psychiatric disorder who has cared for her family very  
 13 well, and in particular I can find no evidence of any depressive or psychotic illness'."

14 **Q.** At 39 you say that ACC asked Dr Leeks some questions?

15 **A.** Yes, they did.

16 **Q.** Yes, what were those questions?

17 **A.** They asked who was the second psychiatrist who agreed to provide ECT on December 12,  
 18 1975, 13 and 15 December 1976. They asked whether he received signed approval for my  
 19 ECT from parents or guardians. They asked whether there were any unexpected effects of  
 20 ECT therapy. They asked are there any other relevant facts related to the misadventure  
 21 claim – excuse me – for deleterious effects of ECT on the dates mentioned.

22 **Q.** Paragraph 41?

23 **A.** "Dr Leeks also said that the possibility of ECT was discussed and permission received from  
 24 my parents. He said it was also discussed with the social worker concerned and explained  
 25 to me who was under 16 years at the time of treatment. I was under 16.

26 Dr Leeks said I was treated with ECT.

27 He said the medication I initially received was insufficient to control my  
 28 behaviour, but the dosage was not excessive for a youngster of my age stating:

29 'Adolescents frequently require adult or even greater doses of medication because  
 30 of their increased basal metabolic rate'.

31 He also said he met me in subsequent years after me being in Lake Alice Hospital  
 32 following my marriage. Dr Leeks invoiced ACC \$730 for writing this letter calling it  
 33 'professional services'."

34 **Q.** Paragraph 48?



1 A. "Dr Leeks gives the impression that I only spent evenings in the admission ward and was  
2 with other adolescents for the rest of the day. This is untrue. There was a separate villa for  
3 adolescent boys. When I first went to Lake Alice Hospital there were only two other  
4 teenage girls and myself. We were housed in a ward with adult patients. Although we had  
5 a separate wing, the doors were not closed. The doors were not closed to the wings for the  
6 men and women patients. Among the men and women were some very disturbed people,  
7 including people who were convicted of crimes such as murder.

8 My impression was that all the adults were suffering from severe mental illness.  
9 I recall one woman who I witnessed eat a used sanitary pad. While that is one of the more  
10 memorable things that I saw in my time there, there were many others. When we were not  
11 at school or in group therapy sessions, we were housed with these people, those adults. On  
12 one occasion I was hit in an unprovoked assault. Refer my nursing notes 29 December  
13 1976. There was very little opportunity for recreation or outings and I have an  
14 overwhelming recollection I'd been bored for most of the time I was there".

15 Q. Do you want to go to paragraph 51?

16 A. "I was unable to tell the staff at Lake Alice the reason why a placement with a foster family  
17 in 1976 broke down. I was for a short time placed with a family in Palmerston North.  
18 They were a very nice family. I found adjusting to the outside life very, very difficult,  
19 I recall the daughter of the family showing me a Methodist newsletter which had asked for  
20 a family to take me in. It described me as having been a patient at Lake Alice Hospital.

21 I felt that this put a stigma on me and that everyone would know I came from a  
22 psychiatric institution. Palmerston North and Whanganui, and Lake Alice is in the middle,  
23 so all adolescents had an understanding of what Lake Alice Hospital was in the  
24 communities. I sat school certificate in three subjects which I struggled to do. I felt that  
25 my ability to concentrate on work was affected by the drugs I was taking. All in all, I was  
26 finding the situation very difficult to adjust to.

27 One day I went on an outing with a girl I had met at school and her father. Her  
28 father attempted to rape me. I was absolutely terrified, but I was unable to tell the foster  
29 family who were looking after me. I was very untrusting of any adults and my experience  
30 was that they would not believe me anyway.

31 When I was in the foster home as a young child, in fact I was only about 9 or 10  
32 years old, and I was playing in the sand dunes next to a house that we were visiting, and  
33 four teenage boys tried to grab me and assault me. And I was very young, and I didn't  
34 understand what they were doing, but I was frightened and they kept saying 'we're going to



1 rape you, we're going to rape you' and I was so afraid and I got away. And when I got back  
2 to the house I said to the foster mother, 'these boys have said that they were going to rape  
3 me'. I didn't understand what that word meant. And she told me off, she scolded me for  
4 lying to get attention.

5 So when in Lake Alice, in the foster home that I was put in my friend's father tried  
6 to rape me again, I could not tell the staff or anyone what had happened, because I would  
7 be lying to make—get attention. So what I did was I threw a wobbly so that I could get  
8 away from that house. It alarmed the family and I'd been taught well in the environment in  
9 Lake Alice of how to behave strangely.

10 I was taken back to Lake Alice. Everyone at Lake Alice was angry with me when  
11 I returned. I was told I was too old to go to school, so they put me to work on nursing aid  
12 duties with elderly patients. I was paid in cigarettes. This seems such a contrast to being  
13 given antipsychotic drugs, Paraldehyde, for being caught smoking a few months earlier.  
14 I recall the medication I was placed on was increased on my return. I was given shock  
15 treatment for punishment for ruining it with the foster family.

16 Dr Leeks commented on his letter that he got permission from my parents and the  
17 social worker before giving me ECT. I say that this is untrue. The only social worker I can  
18 recall is Jeanella James and I wrote to her and asked her to comment on this. She said that  
19 it was never discussed with her. I submitted that letter to the Court. Dr Leeks knew that  
20 the foster parents did not have legal right to give permission, in any event, when I told them  
21 I had received ECT they seemed surprised.

22 He most certainly did not discuss it with me, and I reiterate that it was given as  
23 punishment. Dr Leeks was the person who administered ECT to me on all occasions.  
24 Dr Leeks also said that he had met me after I left Lake Alice. This is untrue. I never saw  
25 Dr Leeks between February 1977 and when I left, and then at the secret mediation  
26 I attended in June or July 1998", up until that time I'd never owned a passport.

27 **Q.** I'll just pause you there, and we are now at a stage where ACC have received Dr Leeks'  
28 response and they have sought you and they have sought some specialist opinions. So, the  
29 first person that gave an opinion looking at the medical notes was a doctor, a consultant  
30 psychiatrist, Dr Peter McGeorge. Can you read what he says in italics at paragraph 57?

31 **A.** He says "There was no absolute clinical reason justifying my prolonged placement in the  
32 hospital. There was no evidence for my long term- treatment with oral and intra-muscular  
33 antipsychotic medication. There was absolutely no indication for my treatment with ECT".

34 **Q.** He made another comment when further information came in and he also discussed your

1 medication. So, would you like to quote what he said to the Commission at paragraph 61?

2 A. He said "Medication for young people should be based on a dose weight basis not their  
3 metabolic rate. The medication was appropriate for a diagnosis of schizophrenia but, as  
4 Dr Leeks himself stated, his diagnosis was of borderline schizophrenia. If he came to see  
5 me as having a behaviour disorder, the medication and ECT would have been grossly  
6 inappropriate".

7 Q. Thank you. Now we'll move to ACC's expert. They then appointed an expert to review  
8 what Dr McGeorge had said and that was a Professor Werry who was also a psychiatrist  
9 and a lecturer. At paragraph 66 he completed a report and what were his conclusions  
10 reading from paragraph 66?

11 A. He concluded at page 8 and 9 that there was a medical – there was medical misadventure  
12 due to medical error resulting from inaccurate diagnosis, inadequate diagnostic and  
13 progress procedures, grossly inadequate documentation by Dr Leeks of his reasons for  
14 treatments. The type of treatments and reasons given for treatments prescribed ECT,  
15 neuroleptics, antipsychotic doses and – in antipsychotic doses, including Paraldehyde,  
16 Fluphenazine and seclusion.

17 Q. Thank you, Leonie. After that, what did ACC reviewer eventually decide after looking at  
18 all the reports?

19 A. They decided that I had a claim for medical misadventure.

20 Q. Then the next step was to find out what damage had been done to you?

21 A. Correct.

22 Q. Could you—you were sent to three different specialists, and at paragraph 68 Dr Fernando  
23 reported. She was a psychiatrist, a neuropsychiatrist. Could you quote at paragraph 68 or  
24 read what she has said about you?

25 A. She said, "Lee has clearly suffered adverse psychological, physical, educational and  
26 occupational consequences as a result of her experience at Lake Alice Hospital where she  
27 was misdiagnosed and incorrectly treated with ECT and antipsychotic medication. These  
28 adverse consequences have had a dramatic and chronic effect on her life extending over a  
29 period of 20 years.

30 These effects have been, fear of having a mental illness, stigma of mental illness  
31 and fear of discovery, lack of social and parenting skills, assertiveness and compliance,  
32 feelings of anger and violation over the treatment received at Lake Alice, lack of education  
33 and reduced occupational choices, an inaccurate perception of her cognitive abilities".

34 Q. Thank you. Then you went to a Dr Louise Armstrong who was a psychologist. What did



1 she, at paragraph 69, could you read the first three paragraphs of what she says about you?

2 A. She says, "Leonie appeared to give me an honest and undramatised account of her life  
3 history and her memories of being in Lake Alice Hospital. If we accept that she was there  
4 for presumed behavioural reasons, possibly at the instigation of her somewhat neurotic  
5 caregiver and that she was under the treatment of a psychiatrist, later proved to be  
6 incompetent and his treatment of Leonie has been judged by Professor Wary to be  
7 inappropriate, then her account of two years in an institution being treated with  
8 antipsychotic drugs, seclusion and ECT is quite heart rending".

9 Q. Thank you. Now Dr Wallis also examined you, he was another psychiatrist. What did he  
10 conclude?

11 A. Dr Wallis said that I have nerve damage around my eye and it was probably caused by an  
12 incident at Lake Alice, it could have been from the ECT or head injury from a blow to the  
13 head.

14 Q. Can you describe the incident where you had a blow to your head?

15 A. I was asleep in a small lounge in Lake Alice and I woke to a young woman who was on  
16 remand at Lake Alice for murdering a baby smashing my head with a heavy metal-based  
17 ashtray.

18 Q. And you have had on-going problems since then?

19 A. They have recommended that, or advised that, I don't have the muscle that is affected in my  
20 eye operated on because they may make it worse, so my head is at a permanent tilt to the  
21 left to balance my vision.

22 Q. Thank you Leonie. If you could read from paragraph 72.

23 A. "My claim was finally settled after that. I recall Philippa had to doggedly fight for  
24 everything going back again and again, challenging their assessments. From memory  
25 I received two lump sums of \$10,000 and \$4,000 for my damaged eye. I did have regular  
26 counselling starting with my marriage break-up, but none of it was through ACC. It was  
27 through the normal hospital processes and well before I had even been compensated by  
28 ACC.

29 Q. Can you read paragraph 73?

30 A. "The process of my claims with ACC set the precedent for what was to simultaneously take  
31 place by the Crown. I had no choice but to endure long and frequent delays. I could not go  
32 forward with civil proceedings until my claims were complete with ACC, yet I was met  
33 with claim declined responses from ACC from the very beginning in favour of Dr Leeks'  
34 blatant and intentional lies.



1           This became an alarming pattern. I was repeatedly frustrated and overwhelmed at  
2 the way ACC treated me and my experience. There was no offer of support during this  
3 period from ACC. Today that angers me deeply. Even though my case was dealt with by  
4 the sensitive issues unit of ACC, I felt I had to fight to have my story believed.

5           I was sickened and repulsed at the continued letters, correspondence with the  
6 subject heading that you could see through the window of the envelope, 'Mental Nervous  
7 Shock Head'. It was so humiliating and embarrassing I recall asking Philippa to please tell  
8 them to stop writing that. They did not. I believe it was said to be justified by ACC as the  
9 way the sensitive unit categorised my claims.

10           I felt vulnerable and afraid of the many assessments ACC required of me. I felt  
11 powerless and helpless to decline anything they requested as I feared it would impact the  
12 outcome. I felt unsupported, intimidated, demeaned, vulnerable and often violated by the  
13 entire process.

14 **Q.** Would you like to start talking about your litigation against Dr Leeks and the Attorney-  
15 General?

16 **A.** "On 8 August 1994 my lawyer's firm wrote a letter to the Solicitor-General- and Dr Leeks,  
17 giving notice of my intention to bring civil proceedings against each of them for breach of  
18 fiduciary duty, false imprisonment, trespass to the person and negligence. She asked if they  
19 consented to the bringing of the proceeding in view of the Limitation Act which set a bar of  
20 six years for the filing of proceedings in tort. I recall that they did not consent and so my  
21 claim proceeded with an application for leave to bring proceedings out of time.

22           The claim was made for \$1.5 million in compensation.

23 **Q.** Can I just pause you there, Leonie. How did you get to the \$1.5 million?

24 **A.** Robert Chambers had carefully calculated this and he felt very strongly about the loss of  
25 potential, the assault, the imprisonment and I understand that that was an extremely high  
26 amount and he was shooting for the stars in that.

27 **Q.** And did he claim \$500,000 for each of those causes of action?

28 **A.** Yes, he did. Would you like me to continue that?

29 **Q.** I think you can start at paragraph 78.

30 **A.** "I issued proceedings in August 1994. Dr Leeks had appointed Mr Knowsley of Rainey  
31 Collins in Wellington as his solicitor.

32           Dr Leeks eventually filed a Statement of Defence having obtained additional time.  
33 Essentially, he denied each and every allegation I had made and added further defences,  
34 namely that my claims were statute barred by section 4 of the Limitation Act 1950 and

1 some claims were barred by section 14 of the Accident Rehabilitation and Compensation  
2 Insurance Act 1992.

3 By February 15 1995 Philippa wrote to Rob Chambers QC copied to me to advise  
4 that the proceedings were progressing very slowly".

5 **Q.** Paragraph 81?

6 **A.** "On 16 February 1995, counsel apologised for the delay in responding to correspondence  
7 and Statement of Claim and said they were in the process of obtaining the relevant files  
8 through the relevant Crown Health Enterprise who were seeking advice as to the release of  
9 the files to the Ministry and that had delayed matters".

10 **Q.** Would you like to take a break now?

11 **A.** Yes, thank you.

12 **MS JOYCHILD:** Could we take a short break?

13 **CHAIR:** Certainly, just let us know when you're ready to commence.

14 **Adjournment from 3.15 pm to 3.33 pm**

15 **CHAIR:** Yes Ms Joychild.

16 **QUESTIONING BY MS JOYCHILD CONTINUED:**

17 **Q.** Leonie, we're at paragraph 82 of your witness statement. Would you like to read that?

18 **A.** "Shortly thereafter the Crown and Dr Leeks applied to the Court to strike out my  
19 proceedings. I had been forewarned by my lawyers that this might happen, but it was still  
20 very upsetting. I had hoped that after they saw what unlawful things had happened to me  
21 while I was in the care of the State they might immediately approach me with an apology  
22 and a settlement. I would also add that I thought that they would immediately prosecute  
23 Dr Leeks.

24 **Q.** If we move now to paragraph 87 to the strike-out decision.

25 **A.** "Five months or so later, on 2 August 1996, the strike-out decision was issued. We had  
26 succeeded. The strike-out applications were declined. This was a great relief. It was now  
27 close to two years since filing and I was hopeful that things might now move very quickly.  
28 However, they did not. There were nearly two more years of interminable delays before a  
29 mediation was organised.

30 Around this time I recall my lawyers being approached by a lawyer called Grant  
31 Cameron who advised them he had a large number of Lake Alice survivors he was acting  
32 for. He asked if he could use our documents for his claim. We agreed and we gave them to  
33 him".

34 **Q.** Could we have document 20 on the screen please. Thank you. This is a letter, Leonie,



1 from your lawyer, Philippa Cunningham, to the Crown Law Office. Can you just read the  
2 first two paragraphs, the highlighted paragraphs?

3 A. "We are aware that Grant Cameron of Cameron & Associates in Christchurch is  
4 representing a number of formal patients of Lake Alice Hospital's adolescent unit from the  
5 1970s. We have seen Mr Cameron's proposal for an inquiry in a letter to the Ministry of  
6 Health dated 26 August 1997. We have an alternative process to suggest which we believe  
7 would be simpler and cheaper. Mr Cameron has discussed this matter with us and would  
8 be happy going along with it".

9 Q. Yes, then the next paragraph?

10 A. "We will agree to either a mediation or arbitration. The decider would need to be someone  
11 with a background and experience in the mental health area or there could even be a panel  
12 of two with legal and psychiatric expertise".

13 Q. Okay, so if we pause then. Do you remember if the Crown took you up on the offer of a  
14 mediation or arbitration with Grant Cameron's people?

15 A. No, they did not.

16 Q. Can you read on at paragraph 89.

17 A. "I recall at some time Robert Chambers telling me that whoever the Crown settled with first  
18 would determine the level of compensation that everyone got. Robert was trying to  
19 progress things as fast as possible so that we were dealt with first. That way we could set  
20 the standard high for me and everyone else would benefit. We thought we would be dealt  
21 with first because we had filed a claim well ahead of Grant Cameron".

22 Q. And paragraph 90?

23 A. "It was agreed that the parties try to resolve the proceedings by mediation. However, my  
24 lawyers told me that the Crown set two conditions. I was forbidden to tell anyone that Dr  
25 Leeks was coming into the country. I was forbidden to tell anyone he was going to a  
26 mediation with me. I was warned that if this came out, the mediation would be called off".

27 Q. Could we have document 29 please. And could we look at page 2. So this is a letter from  
28 the Crown Law Office. Can you put the title of the letter up. It's from the Crown Law  
29 Office to Philippa Cunningham. Could you read the second page of that letter?

30 A. "I draw to your attention the fact that in mid May- a person describing himself as  
31 representing the Citizens Commission for Human Rights apparently associated with the  
32 Church of Scientology contacted the office of the Ministry of Health. He said that the  
33 purpose of the call was to advise the Minister that Dr Leeks was coming to New Zealand  
34 and to enquire whether the Minister was intending to take any action against Dr Leeks on



1 his return to New Zealand.

2 Both Mr Knowsley and myself are of the view that it would not be productive for  
3 the proposed mediation to become the subject of publicity whether focused on Dr Leeks or  
4 otherwise. The mediation can only be held on the basis that the fact, time and place of the  
5 mediation will remain confidential to the parties and their legal and medical advisors and  
6 I seek confirmation from yourself, Dr Chambers and your respective clients that this is  
7 agreed".

8 **Q.** And did you agree that you would keep it confidential and secret?

9 **A.** I had no choice, yes, I did.

10 **Q.** Paragraph 91. Could you read the first two sentences there?

11 **A.** "Philippa was also acting for another adult who had been treated by Dr Leeks in Lake  
12 Alice. We both attended".

13 **Q.** And then paragraph 92?

14 **A.** "From memory the mediation happened either on the day we signed the agreement or  
15 shortly after. The mediation took place at the Northern Club. Robert Chambers had  
16 arranged the venue. I recall he had to lend the other person a jacket on the day as they were  
17 compulsory for men. He was so kind. The surroundings were neutral and reassuring.  
18 Linda Kaye was the mediator".

19 **Q.** Continue on at paragraph 93?

20 **A.** "The mediation itself was a nightmare for me. While I knew we were meeting to attempt to  
21 settle the case out of court, I didn't appreciate how taxing it would be on me personally. I  
22 had vomiting and diarrhoea for three days prior. I was experiencing prior, and for a period  
23 of time after the mediation, what I now know to be PTSD. I was alarmed at the  
24 overwhelming number of Crown representatives present. I felt just as intimidated and  
25 vulnerable as I had experienced in being in Lake Alice. I was absolutely petrified of being  
26 in the same room with Dr Leeks again.

27 I recall the mediator seated us first. When Dr Leeks and his lawyer came in, she  
28 put Dr Leeks directly opposite me. I felt incredibly traumatised by this. I wanted to vomit.  
29 My lawyers arranged for a change of seats.

30 It was an extremely stressful day for me. I felt emotionally exhausted and battered  
31 by the end of it and for days after, but I still had hope that there really was at last going to  
32 be justice for me and all other Lake Alice survivors.

33 I felt our stories were unbeatable and insurmountable. I believe the Crown and the  
34 representatives of the Crown present had heard my truth. I believed each one of them

1 would be so compelled by what they'd heard they fully believed it was the truth. There was  
2 no denying the intentional, debilitating, on-going abuse of children and young people at  
3 Lake Alice. I believed that the evidence and facts were so strongly in favour of all  
4 survivors that finally Dr Leeks and the people that put him in power would be exposed and  
5 criminal justice and fair compensation would be realised for us all. How could there not be  
6 justice with so much evidence? This is New Zealand. We have a fair and honest justice  
7 system.

8 I did not realise after the mediation that I was in for five more years of prolonged  
9 trauma caused by what I came to learn was the strategic, intentional delay and  
10 compensation protection tactics from the Crown who, the longer it went on, seemed to be  
11 fully defending Dr Leeks. I found the Crown's behaviour appalling and indefensible.  
12 I eventually came to believe the Crown behaved in a way described best as trickery".

13 **Q.** You say at 98 that no offers of settlement came after the mediation. Was there an offer of  
14 settlement at the mediation?

15 **A.** Yes, I believe there was one of \$15,000.

16 **Q.** \$15,000 was offered to you?

17 **A.** \$15,000.

18 **Q.** And you declined that?

19 **A.** I did.

20 **Q.** So if we continue at paragraph 98, the second sentence?

21 **A.** "Nothing happened. There was just silence. It felt like torture again. The Crown is a  
22 formidable opponent. As the years went on I constantly felt as though the plan was to wear  
23 me down using multiple tactics and strategies. Long periods of time doing nothing and  
24 creating long delays was one such tactic, eliminating my resources, I had legal aid debt that  
25 had to be re-applied for frequently, against the Crown's unlimited available funds".

26 **Q.** At paragraph 99 you say that Philippa filed an application to court in the end asking for  
27 time-tabling directions to have the matter set down for a hearing. Is that right?

28 **A.** That is correct.

29 **Q.** Okay, and now could you read at paragraph 100 where the Crown demanded your diaries?

30 **A.** "In August 1997 the Crown demanded that I hand over my personal journals. Their  
31 purpose was to ascertain whether my current state of mind by using my personal diaries  
32 showed any signs of mental illness that would justify the treatment that I'd received in Lake  
33 Alice. My journals were mostly my letters to God containing my deepest and most private  
34 thoughts. The Crown lawyers kept them August 1997 until settlement in 2003. To me the



1 treatment of me through taking and keeping my diaries was an act of total violation towards  
2 me by the Crown.

3 After a year I requested them back. I was continually distressed thinking of my  
4 most private thoughts being out of my control. I requested them back every year after that  
5 through Philippa. When they finally came back the pages were full of yellow Post-it Notes.  
6 To me these notes represent the visible, physical expression of the abuse and violation and  
7 trauma the Crown subjected me to relentlessly year after year".

8 **Q.** If I pause you there, could we put up document 71. Leonie, would you like to show the  
9 Commissioners your diary?

10 **A.** It has never been explained to me what they were used for.

11 **CHAIR:** We won't open your diaries, but we just note the yellow Post-it Notes are the ones that  
12 came back from the Crown.

13 **A.** Correct, correct. And I have no idea. They photocopied the pages. What did they use  
14 them for? Where were they kept? Who read them?

15 **QUESTIONING BY MS JOYCHILD CONTINUED:**

16 **Q.** And when you saw Dr Brinded's report you noted that they hadn't been given to Dr Brinded  
17 had they?

18 **A.** No, they had not. I would like to know what they were used for.

19 **Q.** If you read from paragraph 101?

20 **CHAIR:** We'll give them straight back to you, we don't want to hold them for longer than we need  
21 to.

22 **A.** Thank you. "It makes me nauseous to this day thinking about the men and woman, the  
23 complete strangers over the years with no connection or care about me who could read my  
24 very private, heartfelt words that were never written to be viewed by anyone, uninvited by  
25 me, to judge and mock my thoughts and feelings, searching for any scrap of evidence to  
26 hold against me.

27 I do not know the number of people who read my diaries. I do not know where  
28 they were kept, but I know they were poured over by the Post-it Notes they left on them.  
29 I cannot look at the contents of my diaries now. I have so much embarrassment and  
30 humiliation about them, I have never been able to have a diary or journal since August  
31 1997. I have never written any words since August 1997 without the belief that any or all  
32 words may be one day used against me.

33 **Q.** Paragraph 103?

34 **A.** "After the mediation and the on-going delays, I began to feel angry, abused and betrayed by

1 the Crown with its delays. They had the evidence that showed that Dr Leeks had been  
2 giving me drugs and ECT without justification. I was bewildered and afraid at how people  
3 who had been through so much could be treated so badly by the Government that was  
4 meant to protect them.

5 I repeatedly felt devalued, belittled, ignored, disregarded, humiliated, worthless  
6 and disrespected. I believe they would not have treated someone from a good background  
7 like that".

8 **Q.** You got to December 2000 and you still hadn't heard nothing, but could we put document  
9 43 up. Your lawyer had cause to write to Crown Law in December 2000. That letter's on  
10 the screen now. Could you read the two paragraphs of that what says? This is from  
11 Philippa to Crown Law?

12 **A.** "I read an article in the Sunday Star Times last Sunday 17 December 2000 concerning 110  
13 former Lake Alice patients and the Crown Law Office. The article indicates that the  
14 Government intends to mediate or arbitrate with these persons with a view to settling their  
15 claims. The article quoted statements made by the office of the Attorney-General. In view  
16 of the Crown's position these 110 claimants could you please advise whether the Attorney-  
17 -General wishes to pursue a settlement with Ms McInroe".

18 **Q.** Thank you. Now the next thing that happened to you was in March 2001 and that's at  
19 paragraph 105?

20 **A.** "Just when I think it couldn't get any worse, on 20 March 2001 Philippa advised me that the  
21 Crown were going to apply for—apply to court for me to be examined by a forensic  
22 psychiatrist under s 100 of the Judicial (sic) Act. She attached a copy of the Crown  
23 application. Under it I was to submit to a medical examination to assess my mental  
24 condition on Wednesday 18 April or Tuesday or Wednesday 2 May at the Mason Clinic in  
25 Pt Chev. The psychiatrist was to be Dr Phil Brinded".

26 **Q.** Can I pause you there, Leonie. I have got you a little bit out of order. Could we have  
27 document 45 on the screen, which is the Crown's reply to Philippa Cunningham's letter  
28 asking if they were going to—seeing they were settling with Mr Cameron's clients, were  
29 they considering settling with you. The Crown counsel wrote back and it's on the screen  
30 now in the second paragraph. Would you like me to read it or—

31 **A.** You can read it.

32 **Q.** Okay. So the Crown counsel said to Philippa:

33 "You ask whether the Attorney-General wishes to pursue a settlement with Ms  
34 McInroe and each have explored the possibility of a settlement through alternative dispute



1 resolution processes namely mediation. Regrettably the mediations did not lead to  
2 settlement of your clients' cases. Mr Cameron's clients have yet to have their claims subject  
3 to an ADR process".

4 Was that the settlement where you were offered \$15,000?

5 A. Yes, it was.

6 Q. Thank you. Can we now have—you talked about the notice, could we have document 52  
7 on the screen please. This is a notice of defendant's Interlocutory Application for an order  
8 — and then could we have page 2 up please. So was this the order that required you to  
9 submit yourself to a medical examination for the purpose of assessing your mental  
10 condition on Tuesday 24 April with Dr Phil Brinded at the Mason Clinic, Pt Chevalier,  
11 Auckland?

12 A. Yes, it was.

13 Q. Can you describe what you know of the Mason Clinic?

14 A. I know that the Mason Clinic housed serious criminals that could not be in prison.

15 Q. So if you read now from paragraph 105 page 33 paragraph 106?

16 A. "The reasons the Crown gave me for making the order were that it was necessary to  
17 determine the accuracy of my allegations of past and present psychological and emotional  
18 conditions, whether my stay in Lake Alice had caused"—we're not sure about that part.

19 Q. Damage?

20 A. Damage, or whether I was under a disability and could not bring proceedings earlier and  
21 when I might have reasonably discovered all of the causes of action I was filing in the  
22 proceedings.

23 "I was beyond furious and I was also overwhelmingly powerless. Why did they  
24 not do this when I first filed my claim in court in 1994 or even as late as the strike-out  
25 decision in 1996? Even why not after the mediation in 1998, even though at that mediation  
26 there was a group representing the Crown, they had met and seen me personally give my  
27 account of my time in Lake Alice. I had already been examined by so many medical  
28 people through ACC, including multiple psychiatrists.

29 The Crown had access to all of it. There had been unbelievable delays since then  
30 and now they decided they wanted to have me examined again in 2001". Would you like  
31 me to continue on?

32 Q. Yes, could you continue at paragraph 108?

33 A. "I was particularly horrified that I was being ordered to go to the Mason Clinic. I felt them  
34 making me meet and be clinically assessed by a forensic psychiatrist at the Mason Clinic

1 was another abusive tactic and strategy to reveal some form of mental illness to justify my  
2 treatment in Lake Alice. I knew this was a psychiatric hospital for the criminally insane.  
3 I felt traumatised just thinking about going near a psychiatric hospital.

4 I asked Philippa to please change the venue. I recall she and Robert proposed a  
5 number of alternative places, including the Northern Club. The Crown rejected them all, it  
6 had to be at the Mason Clinic. I believe this was intentional. I felt punished for  
7 challenging the Crown. It would have been easy to give up at this stage and I very nearly  
8 felt I could take no more from the Crown. I felt completely powerless. I had no choice, I  
9 had no choice. I had no choice. I had no voice yet again. Their refusal to change venues  
10 was like another personal violation.

11 Going to the Mason Clinic was extremely traumatic. When I turned up on the day  
12 I was taken through three sets of doors, each of which were locked after me. Memories of  
13 being back in Lake Alice, the trauma, the anxiety, the fear, the smell, the sounds, the keys  
14 and locks and the powerlessness was overbearing and overwhelming.

15 I brought a woman doctor with me as a support person. She was one who had  
16 already assessed me. I can't recall her name, it may have been Louise Armstrong. I recall  
17 that upon finally entering the room where I was to be assessed I was so overwhelmed by  
18 the experience of just getting into that room that I said to Dr Brinded if you can only  
19 imagine that what I have claimed happened to me in Lake Alice is true for just one minute  
20 you will be able to understand my need to walk right out of here right now, catch my  
21 thoughts and composure before I have to return for hours more of a grueling interview.

22 Dr Brinded agreed. He apologised for the location under the circumstances". I  
23 can't read.

24 **Q.** Shall I continue? I'll continue reading this paragraph. "I left to return for the interview 15  
25 minutes later. At the end Dr Brinded told me something along the lines that he had been  
26 sent to interview me by the Crown to find out if they would win against me. Dr Brinded  
27 said he believed me completely and was sorry it had happened to me. I felt so validated  
28 having someone say they believed me and apologise to me again for the location set by the  
29 Crown and for the wrong that had happened to me in Lake Alice. I felt his apology was  
30 very genuine".

31 **A.** I would like to respectfully ask the Commissioners to please read his report. Aside from  
32 missing one of my children's names it's the most accurate account.

33 **CHAIR:** Thank you. Perhaps we could have the number so we make sure that we do read that.  
34 You can just provide it to us later.



1 **MS JOYCHILD:** Certainly.

2 **CHAIR:** Yes, we certainly will do that.

3 A. Thank you.

4 **QUESTIONING BY MS JOYCHILD CONTINUED:**

5 **Q.** Now we're at paragraph 113 where you learn that the Crown has actually settled with Grant  
6 Cameron's group.

7 A. Yes. "There were more long delays after I saw Dr Brinded when nothing happened. At  
8 some time I learned that the Crown already settled with all of Grant Cameron's claimants.  
9 I understood those survivors had got between \$10,000 and a few up to \$40,000 each. I was  
10 appalled. It was a pittance for what they had gone through. It was a total sham. I realised  
11 that making me be assessed again and the inexplicable delays were intentional delaying  
12 tactics to give them more time to settle with Grant Cameron's clients first so that the  
13 settlement bar would be set as low as possible. I was beyond disgusted. I felt truly violated  
14 by the Crown".

15 **Q.** If we pause there, could we have document 55 on the screen please. This is a letter from  
16 Philippa Cunningham to the Crown Law Office after they discovered that there had already  
17 been a settlement and that the second paragraph, I'll read this for you, Philippa says, "The  
18 determinator model was set up at the instigation of the plaintiffs—that's you and the other  
19 person—to allocate the payment by the Crown amongst 95 plaintiffs".

20 Then in the next paragraph she says, "The manner in which the Crown has acted in  
21 the litigation with Grant Cameron's clients is in sharp contrast with how it has acted in the  
22 cases of Ms McInroe and the other person". She points out that your proceedings were  
23 commenced in 1994.

24 Could we have the next page please. And then at the last paragraph she reads, she  
25 says, "You mentioned that the mediations did not lead to a settlement of my client's cases.  
26 The offers to settle at the mediation were in the vicinity of \$15,000 each plaintiff. You  
27 know very well that that settlement of the cases with Mr Cameron's clients is more than  
28 four times that amount. In my view, the fair thing would have been to settle the cases with  
29 Ms McInroe and the other person first before addressing the case of the 95 plaintiffs  
30 represented by Grant Cameron.

31 It is clear that the Crown has recognised there is merit in the claims of all these  
32 plaintiffs and to have treated Ms McInroe and the other person differently when they have  
33 suffered the most in terms of litigation stress is grossly unfair and, frankly, beyond my  
34 comprehension. I am extremely concerned about the huge difference in the treatment by

1 the Crown of Mr Cameron's clients when compared with Ms McInroe and the other  
2 person".

3 Then she goes on to ask him to urgently, ask the Solicitor-General to meet with  
4 Ms Duffy. Ms Duffy had taken over the case from Robert Chambers. Do you know why  
5 that was?

6 A. He became a High Court Judge.

7 Q. He was made a judge. And she says, "I can indicate that if a meeting is not forthcoming  
8 and which leads to prompt adoption of the parallel procedure of the Cameron model, there  
9 will be a direct approach to the Attorney-General to convey to her the indignation of the  
10 different treatment meted out to Ms- McInroe. I can advise you that both my clients are  
11 outraged at the way they have been treated particularly by the Crown. Up until now I have  
12 dissuaded either of them from talking to the press. But that advice will change unless this  
13 matter is fairly sorted out now".

14 You recall her sending that letter?

15 A. Yes, I do.

16 Q. Thank you. Now you're at paragraph 114.

17 A. "It is my absolute belief that making me be assessed at the Mason Clinic was a stalling  
18 tactic used by the Crown while finalising a low threshold of compensation with the Grant  
19 Cameron group. It bought the Crown more time. I would like to see the documentation  
20 between the Crown and Grant Cameron at this time. In any event, the end result was that  
21 settlement that that settlement effectively reduced the amount of compensation to be paid to  
22 all Lake Alice survivors".

23 Q. I'll pause you there and ask for document 61 to be put on the screen. This is an internal  
24 e-mail between Crown counsel and someone else in the Crown Law Office. It's recording a  
25 phone call that you made. Can you tell Commissioners about that phone call?

26 A. I remember being so overwhelmingly angry and frustrated and resentful and powerless  
27 towards the Crown. And there is no one to tell about that. Who do you tell? Who do you  
28 complain to? And so- I rang the Crown Law Office and stupidly and innocently and  
29 naively complained to them about them.

30 Q. I'll just read your—this file note of what you're said to have said, where you said—

31 **CHAIR:** Do you mind if it's enlarged so that we can read it?

32 **MS JOYCHILD:** Yes please. So this was a person called Elaine reporting to the Crown lawyer.  
33 She phoned to advise that she contacted Phil Goff's office today because she's sick of the  
34 way her case has been handled by the Crown. She thinks the behaviour of the Crown is



1 completely unacceptable. She stated that this case has been going on for 10 years in which  
2 she has seen three administrations, three Attorney-Generals and she's sick of being bullied  
3 by the Crown.

4 And then later on, the highlighted bit says that she observed that the purpose of the  
5 call was to advise this office of her intentions to contact the media and the wider public  
6 audience they could reach because she is—

7 **CHAIR:** Ms Joychild, could you slow down a little bit. Remember our signers.

8 **QUESTIONING BY MS JOYCHILD CONTINUED:**

9 **Q.** Apologies. She observed that the purpose of the call was to advise this office of her  
10 intentions to contact the media and the wider public audience they would reach because she  
11 was very angry. And the person called Elaine writes "Happy to discuss if you wish.  
12 (While clearly very angry and hurt she was very controlled in her speech, not abusive, was  
13 articulate and would probably interview extremely well)".

14 That's about you that she's talking about, isn't it.

15 **A.** (Nods).

16 **Q.** Thank you. We're at paragraph 115?

17 **A.** "A settlement offer finally came through around May 2002. By then Robert Chambers had  
18 been made a High Court Judge and Philippa had to get another barrister to advise me on the  
19 settlement. This was Alisa Duffy QC. Unfortunately, she did not have the long  
20 background in the litigation. I still wanted \$1.5 million or close to it. That was my original  
21 claim. That was the amount carefully—

22 **Q.** Worked out by Robert Chambers?

23 **A.** Yes. Would you be able to finish that for me while I find my—

24 **Q.** You're at paragraph 116.

25 **A.** Oh, yes. There it is thank you, sorry. "I remember the shock and outrage of what I was  
26 offered. By then I had been put through a living hell by the Crown with no regard to the  
27 on-going effects on me and my family. Over the nine long years with the callous nature of  
28 the Crown's treatment of my claim I had come to realise that the only meaningful  
29 compensation for all I and others had endured would be money. They were not capable of  
30 anything else.

31 But even after all these years it was not to be. I had to accept that I was not as  
32 worthy in their eyes as Rob Chambers believed. We, as vulnerable mental hospital child  
33 patients, treated in the most abhorrent and unlawful cruel manner, did not deserve full  
34 justice according to the Crown. I did not believe that any of those lawyers acting on behalf

1 of the Crown would accept for their own child this pathetic residue of compensation. No  
2 psychiatrist would accept this for their child. We were not as worthy as others from  
3 privileged backgrounds.

4 I recall being told I was offered more than most and that Grant Cameron's clients  
5 got less. I recall thinking it was this or nothing. I had no chance of seeing Dr Leeks in  
6 court. I did not have the unlimited funds of the Crown to fight this any further. I recall  
7 believing that I would not get legal aid to fight on and decline the settlement. I recall  
8 believing legal aid would be denied because Grant Cameron's clients had settled for such  
9 low amounts. I believe the Crown would easily be able to drag my case out for another  
10 nine years and legal aid would not support that length of time. I understood I wouldn't get a  
11 higher settlement offer. I felt completely defeated, hopeless and powerless. The Crown  
12 had won. I had fought as long and as hard as I was able. I was honest, I had been abused  
13 but they had won. All their delaying tactics were actually only ever down to how much  
14 money they could avoid paying.

15 We settled on or about June 2002. My hope was that Dr Leeks would be forced by  
16 the Crown to contribute to compensation. I do not know if this happened".

17 One condition that I set was that I received an apology for the delays. This was to  
18 be met outside the terms of the settlement. I was quite specific, because I felt that I had no  
19 choice but to accept the settlement. I wanted an apology from Crown Law Office to me for  
20 the way they'd treated me.

21 **Q.** Can we just pause there and put document 30, document 70 up please. And could we  
22 enlarge it. Is this the apology you received?

23 **A.** It is.

24 **Q.** Do you want to read that out?

25 **A.** "It was agreed, outside this is from Grant Liddell, it was agreed outside the terms of Ms  
26 McInroe's settlement agreement with the Crown that I would also write to you to convey to  
27 Ms McInroe our sincere apologies and regrets for avoidable delays in progressing her case.  
28 Please accept this letter as an expression of such regret. The time taken for some steps was  
29 longer than might in other circumstances have been needed. In particular, there was delay  
30 in providing discovery. This should not have occurred. Please accept our apologies. We  
31 take this opportunity to wish Ms McInroe well now and for the future".

32 **Q.** What was your feeling about that apology at paragraph 120?

33 **A.** I've kept that apology. I don't understand regrets for avoidable delays. I don't believe that  
34 Grant Liddell ever thought this would come to the light of day. I cannot even imagine that



1 he ever thought in front of a Royal Commission Inquiry that apology would be shown. I  
2 don't know, am I misunderstanding that?

3 It is arrogant in the sense that it's a throw-away token, 'I had to write this'. I don't  
4 believe he ever thought someone else other than myself would ever see that. It's appalling.

5 **Q.** Did you feel that you had been cared for and your hurt acknowledged?

6 **A.** Not at all. I felt like someone had said to him 'you've got to write that' and he did.

7 **Q.** This was in March 2003, so this was six months after you'd signed the—nine months after  
8 you'd signed the settlement agreement?

9 **A.** Yes.

10 **Q.** So you waited nine months for this apology?

11 **A.** Yes.

12 **Q.** Could you read at paragraph 121.

13 **A.** "Some time later I also received a letter from the Prime Minister, Helen Clark. It was very  
14 short and impersonal and again it did not feel like a heartfelt apology. From memory it said  
15 she was really sorry this had happened to me. I no longer have a copy of it. Neither letter  
16 was a document I could point to in any way to show that I had been wrongly detained and  
17 wrongly treated".

18 **Q.** Thank you. Now you were talking about Dr Leeks avoiding criminal prosecution and the  
19 lack of closure for you. Do you want to read paragraph 123?

20 **A.** 123, 124 is it?

21 **Q.** You can read them both?

22 **A.** "After the settlement I still had little hope that Dr Leeks and others at Lake Alice who had  
23 witnessed what he was doing to us and went along with it would be charged for criminal  
24 behaviour. It was beyond me why he had not been prosecuted already. Ever since it  
25 became clear from my evidence that he had acted without medical justification. I knew  
26 there were police investigations underway, but nothing happened. The months and years  
27 went by and he was never brought to justice. I am beyond disgusted about this too. Are we  
28 not worthy of that justice? Why did the police inquiry stop and never resume?

29 I gained an impression from early on in the proceedings that the Crown were  
30 protecting Dr Leeks and I continued with this impression throughout the whole period of  
31 my litigation, including the mediation. I continue to believe this today, given the fact he  
32 was not ever held accountable in law for what he had done to vulnerable children and there  
33 was plenty of evidence that what he was doing was not acceptable practice at that time".

34 **Q.** Now at paragraph 128?

1 A. "I regret ever taking the settlement. I wish I had taken the case to a hearing and made  
2 Dr Leeks stand in the witness box and answer for himself in public. The public would have  
3 known about what happened that way. And the powers that be would have to have  
4 answered for how Dr Leeks was allowed to get away with what he was doing. And I would  
5 have liked to have made those who administered the drugs and did what they were told to  
6 be accountable too. Questions needed to be asked from them. However, I was dependent  
7 on legal aid to fund the case and I still doubt they would have funded me to reject the  
8 settlement and continue on with proceedings. As I said, at the time I felt I had no option  
9 but to settle".

10 Q. Thank you, Leonie. Now we're looking at the on-going impact of you from being in Lake  
11 Alice and litigating for justice. If we start at paragraph 130.

12 A. "My Lake Alice experiences never go away. For example, earlier job applications would  
13 ask if there had been any mental health issues. It was commonly asked for insurance,  
14 medical and life purposes as well. I was incarcerated for more than 18 months in a mental  
15 institution. Not two weeks, not two months. I agonised over whether I lie and is it even a  
16 lie if I say no. Or do I admit and try and explain my story.

17 In the early days of my training as an anaesthetic technician I was advised that part  
18 of our role was to assist the anaesthetist with the twice weekly ECT lists. We assist with  
19 providing safe airways and set up for cases and ensure everything is available to provide a  
20 safe anaesthetic during shock treatment for patients. I approached my immediate  
21 supervisor and explained why I didn't think I could cope with it and asked to be not placed  
22 in those theatres. Apparently, he did not have the authority to make that an on-going  
23 decision.

24 He then went to his boss who went further up and soon I had the humiliation of  
25 realising the whole management layer at my work knew of my past, but not fully, just that  
26 I had received shock treatment. Because Dr Leeks had not been held to account, there was  
27 nothing I could point to to say that what happened to me shouldn't have, and it was wrong.  
28 Instead, I had to wear the stigma, the shame, the humiliation and trying to catch the story as  
29 others perceived it to be".

30 Q. Paragraph 134?

31 A. So consequently, "whenever it comes up I have a desperate and compelling need, that has  
32 never lessened, to tell my story from the beginning, from being adopted at seven days old,  
33 so I can justify or hope to clarify or explain why it was so wrong for me to have been there.  
34 I was not mentally ill. Today, after 14 years at the hospital where I work, I believe over



1 80% of my colleagues know that I received shock treatment and was placed in Lake Alice  
2 Hospital as a teenager.

3 I also have trouble in my job with cardioversion. This is where a heart is shocked  
4 back into sinus rhythm. The whole body jolts and lifts. I have coped with it by avoiding  
5 looking at the body as it jolts up.

6 I find my Lake Alice history also interferes with the counselling I need to access  
7 from time to time through my work. My role at times involves trauma and witnessing some  
8 very harsh events. EAP counselling is provided for staff and there have been three  
9 occasions that I have used the service. They've involved death in theatre, a child trauma  
10 and personal grief. During these counselling sessions I have learned now to actively avoid  
11 revealing any information about my time in Lake Alice Hospital. I have found that the  
12 counsellors tend to get fixated on the Lake Alice part of my story as if they're intrigued by  
13 having a live one in front of them.

14 It is not that I do not try and put my experiences in the past. I recall a friend made  
15 me laugh at the ACC letters with the headings "Mental Nervous Shock Head". It helped.  
16 But no matter how hard I work at working on improving that I am normal, the impact of  
17 years of trauma is never far away. As well as I manage the most wonderfully ordinary life  
18 that I now have, no matter that my darling children are smart and brave and incredibly  
19 loving, proud and supportive of their mum and as far as I have come in healing from my  
20 history there are still things that cause me distress".

21 **Q.** Would you like to read this or would you like to go to your special part that you had  
22 written, an additional one that you have written?

23 **A.** I'll read this.

24 **Q.** All right, we'll start at 138.

25 **A.** Thank you. And I apologise in advance for any repetitiveness. We had such time  
26 limitations to prepare and apologies in advance.

27 **CHAIR:** You are don't have to apologise, please, just feel free to read whatever you need to.

28 **A.** Thank you. "The impact upon my children. The years of trying to seek justice stole much  
29 from my innocent children. They witnessed and lived through their mother being  
30 unbelieved, violated, humiliated, belittled, ignored, manipulated and bullied by the Crown.

31 Often they had a broken spirited mother who used all her strength and hope to  
32 fight her fears and to be as present and strong as loving as she could every day of those  
33 years. They witnessed their mother in tears, they witnessed their mother overcome with  
34 fear and anxiety the on-going investigations, evaluations, unfathomable demands and

1 violations of the Crown. They lived with a mother full of guilt and shame for bringing this  
2 toxic story into their lives.

3 Earlier they had lived with a mother with a constant underlying fear that she was  
4 mentally ill because of being incarcerated in a mental hospital. No-one came afterwards  
5 and said you were not mentally unwell. No-one said that. They lived with a mother who  
6 feared she was not capable of succeeding in any career or higher education and only  
7 capable of menial employment prospects.

8 I am upset more than anything that they had to endure this in their lives. I am  
9 angry at what this trauma has stolen from my life personally and therefore theirs, the  
10 intergenerational trauma this has had on my precious family.

11 In preparing this statement for this Inquiry, the trauma is yet again a big presence  
12 in our lives. This document has been one of the hardest things I have had to do. There  
13 have been many, many tears. There has been so much sadness and sorrow, anger and  
14 disbelief revisiting the darkest days of my life.

15 I am, however, grateful for the opportunity to say these things. I am grateful for  
16 the existence of the Royal Commission. But I am deeply pained at the agony and difficulty  
17 in revisiting my experience to the depths necessary to let the Inquiry see the true picture. It  
18 has not been easy.

19 There is no undoing the on-going harm I have suffered at the actions and  
20 negligence of the Crown. Not protecting me and my childhood adolescence and then not  
21 treating my grievance with even an atom of dignity and respect.

22 The final part. I would like to say the Crown has had every opportunity to make  
23 right the unlawful and cruel treatment, torture suffered by the children of Lake Alice. It is  
24 beyond all doubt that these events took place. It is my opinion that the overall response by  
25 the Crown has been an abject failure.

26 The doctors and staff were employed by the Crown and while in their care in a  
27 Crown owned- hospital run by the Crown, the children were subject to continuous unlawful  
28 and cruel treatment. The Crown should be the custodian that protects and defends all  
29 children of Aotearoa. They should be entitled to dignity, compassion and justice, both past  
30 and present equally. The Crown Law Office should represent everything that is just, right  
31 and fair. It should be the highest example of justice in law in New Zealand.

32 However, for me in my nine year journey to seek justice I was instead faced with  
33 relentless calculated intentional abuse of power. For me, it has been wholly inadequate,  
34 degrading, dehumanising- and completely deficient of justice. Unfortunately, and most



1 importantly, completely devoid of mana.

2 On reflection, seeing my litigation process condensed today, I'm overwhelmed.  
3 I'm overwhelmed by the obvious and blatant abuse of power. I am overwhelmed at the  
4 strategies, tactics and extreme lengths the Crown went to oppress me. I wonder about the  
5 enormous monetary value the Crown invested in not settling with me so many years earlier.  
6 I wonder what the Crown paid in the nine years of 'Grant Liddell avoidable delays'. The  
7 tactical stalling, the huge financial debt for Crown Law counsel, mediation costs, the forced  
8 examination I had to undergo on top of all the examinations I had to undergo through ACC,  
9 that the Crown paying someone, or many, to read through my personal diaries. My legal  
10 aid debt was \$49,000.

11 I believe the Crown consciously and deliberately deprived me of justice using its  
12 unlimited financial resources to do so, knowing full well- my very limited resources in  
13 comparison. I stress this point only because it seems the entire focus of the Crown was to  
14 financially defend and protect Dr Leeks and themselves against my litigation.

15 There was not one point in the entire process the Crown acted with any genuine  
16 care or respect to the actual harm I had suffered in Lake Alice, not one, not ever.

17 I understand that this Royal Commission of Inquiry is about abuse in State and  
18 faith based care. And while in no way minimising- or belittling any other experience, with  
19 respect I would like to highlight the added stigma and shame the children of Lake Alice  
20 endured.

21 Today I refer to them as the children of Lake Alice. Instead of victims or  
22 survivors. This is to remind us all that before we became survivors, we were children first.  
23 Children that were defenseless and left unprotected in the most horrible ways and then left  
24 to navigate our lives as best we could.

25 I would like to acknowledge all the children from Lake Alice who have  
26 courageously lived through the trauma and the consequences of our time spent there. It is  
27 my hope that the outcome of this Inquiry is more than just another list of reports and  
28 recommendations that are shelved, left gathering dust and over-shadowed by still more  
29 reports that the voices who have so bravely spoken to you in whatever form are honoured  
30 and respected and valued enough to make change.

31 It is my absolute expectation that these Inquiry findings become living documents  
32 used in every day practice of those who are in direct contact with historic, present or future  
33 dealings with vulnerable children.

34 Finally, Commissioners, thank you for listening to our voices. I would like to

1 acknowledge the Inquiry's commitment to the on-going care, concern for and well-being of  
2 survivors. Everyone has been so kind and so supportive and I'd like to acknowledge that.

3 Over the past few weeks it has been said to me by several different people that my  
4 giving evidence is leaving a legacy. I struggle with that concept. I would want to leave a  
5 legacy that has some elements at least of goodness or change for the better or hope. My  
6 story doesn't feel like any of that to me.

7 My choice to not have name suppression and to come forward publicly is  
8 excruciatingly difficult for me. If only to protect my children and grandchildren from what  
9 happened to me as a child or any distortion of the facts and truth that I speak of in giving  
10 my evidence.

11 Commissioners, this is what I would say to my darling children. I am so sorry, I  
12 am sorry that this is all a part of your story too. I am deeply sorry that you have also had to  
13 endure and suffer the vast consequences of not only the things that happened to your mum  
14 as a child but the on-going impact on your lives over the years that I sought justice. I am  
15 sorry for the emotional price you each have paid and you have in so many ways, right up to  
16 this very day. I'm so sorry I could not protect you from that. This will forever break my  
17 heart.

18 I am aware that my evidence presented today does not fully capture my time in  
19 Lake Alice, the abhorrent treatment by the Crown or other trauma I suffered as a child.  
20 I realise now that since the day I was born the documentation, scripting, conversations,  
21 opinions, categorising and innovation of my personal self started and has never left me.  
22 I simply cannot comprehend the sheer volume of strangers that have viewed, commented,  
23 judged and invaded my life. It is truly staggering.

24 And here I am again today. Yet again subject to still more exposure and more  
25 trauma because to not do so, to not speak the truth is also not an option for me. It has not  
26 been easy. And if there is a legacy to be left, Commissioners, I would address it to my  
27 beautiful grandchildren, to them I would say, precious ones, be fearless to speak the truth,  
28 go well beyond any fears of humiliation or your own vulnerabilities, be fearless to stand up  
29 to what is right and just. Be fearless to stand up and speak out for any injustice to any  
30 vulnerable soul, no matter perceptions of others, no matter the challenges or the very size of  
31 the obstacles you face in speaking the truth. Just speak it anyway.

32 What justice looks like to me. That Dr Selwyn Leeks is properly and without  
33 further delay returned to New Zealand to face criminal charges. The evidence for  
34 prosecution is enormous and should include staff of Lake Alice who carried out the



1 on-going daily abuse and torture they collectively must be held to account. I cannot  
2 understand why this has not yet happened.

3 A meaningful public apology for the suffering endured by the children of Lake  
4 Alice that fully acknowledges that most of them should never ever have been placed in a  
5 psychiatric hospital and treated as psychiatric patients. A public and heartfelt apology for  
6 the injustice, harm, torture and assault suffered by the children using, amongst other things,  
7 antipsychotic drugs and ECT as punishment against them, acknowledging that this was so  
8 very, very wrong.

9 Acknowledgment that Dr Leeks made widespread and incorrect diagnosis of  
10 schizophrenia, borderline schizophrenia and other terms of schizophrenia he chose and  
11 wrongfully named most of the children there with these labels.

12 That a reparative process is made available without time limitations to any of the  
13 children of Lake Alice for their emotional well-being and healing of any trauma, stigma or  
14 related issues from abuse suffered as a direct result of their placement in Lake Alice at no  
15 cost to them. That the voices bravely spoken are echoed to find and make positive change  
16 in the form of a living document.

17 That a review of the settlement payments to date that amount to nothing more than  
18 pathetic tokens of disregard and silencing by the Crown. These pitiful payments have no  
19 redress for the enormity of the impact on our whole lives and the on-going intergenerational  
20 effect.

21 That reviewed compensation covers the severe treatment endured in our formative  
22 years depriving us of basic human rights at the time. Every right in the Code of Health and  
23 Disabilities Act was failed to us in every possible way. This treatment of abuse was not  
24 just over a period of days or weeks in a psychiatric hospital, but sustained for many for long  
25 periods of time.

26 The reviewed compensation should reflect the harm caused, also taking into  
27 account the physical and emotional assault that left us vulnerable and limited our potential  
28 of bright futures as children of Aotearoa.

29 It should recognise that after leaving Lake Alice we were then left to navigate our  
30 wounded lives as best we possibly could, with no assistance, no compassion or help,  
31 leaving a huge deficit in terms of education, careers, financial stability, emotional stability,  
32 and cause limitations to fully participate as valued and contributing citizens of Aotearoa.

33 The review of compensation must surely come forward to view the children of  
34 Lake Alice as finally worthy of fair and just compensation that can make a significant

1 difference in each of our lives, that the same measure of redress is used for us as any other  
2 valued child.

3 That it reflects the acknowledgment of wrongdoings and further impacting our  
4 lives, that it reflects tremendous on-going battle—the tremendous on-going battle to be  
5 heard and validated. That it reflects the deficit caused by silencing the abuse of power from  
6 the Crown and the tremendous loss suffered". That is all.

7 **MS JOYCHILD:** Thank you, ma'am, that's the evidence that we present today.

8 **CHAIR:** Thank you very much. Thank you Leonie. In your evidence you said you referred to the  
9 pain and difficulty in revisiting your experiences. You've made that evident, and we  
10 appreciate to the extent that we understand the cost that it has been to bring that to us today.  
11 And not just to us but to the representatives of Crown Law Office who are sitting here  
12 today and to the public of New Zealand who can be present and watch this as well. So  
13 I want you to know that the pain and the difficulty that you have endured is not gone  
14 without notice.

15 I also want to tell you, if you don't know already, that although this hearing focuses  
16 on redress and these experiences of survivors in seeking redress for abuse in various  
17 settings, next year, and it has already commenced, there's a full investigation into Lake  
18 Alice and we will be holding a public hearing on that as well. So this is not the end of the  
19 story.

20 So finally, you spoke of the legacy and I just want you to know that you have made  
21 a valuable contribution to the work of the Royal Commission and that your story, your  
22 account will be part of the legacy of this Royal Commission. We thank you for that.

23 A. Thank you.

24 **Q.** Unless there's anything else to be said. Yes Mr Molloy.

25 **MR MOLLOY:** Ma'am, I just wonder if we might take a short break, allow Leonie a chance to  
26 reflect. I imagine there probably won't be anything else she wants to say but let's take a  
27 short break and just see if that's the case and give her a chance to reflect on that.

28 **CHAIR:** Thank you Mr Molloy. We'll do that.

29 **Adjournment from 4.48 pm to 5.06 pm**

30 **MS JOYCHILD:** Ms McInroe has nothing more to say.

31 **MR MOLLOY:** Nor any questions from me ma'am.

32 **CHAIR:** So the proceedings for today are closed?

33 **MS JANES:** That concludes today and we'll resume again tomorrow at 10 am.

34 **CHAIR:** Thank you very much Ms Janes.



1                   **Hearing closes with waiata and karakia mutunga by Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei**

2   **REGISTRAR:** This sitting is now adjourned.

3                   **Hearing adjourned at 5.08 pm to Friday, 25 September 2020 at 10 am**