



Mr J P Newman MP
Suite 1
1st Floor
122 Cambridge Street
CANLEY HEIGHTS NSW 2166

16 OCT 1990

Dear Mr Newman

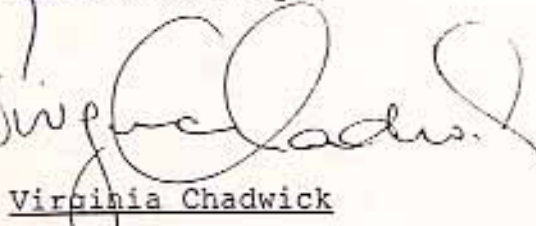
I refer to your personal representations on behalf of the Italian Association of Assistance (Co.As.It), (Convenor: Mr G Fin, 4th Floor, 2 Holden Street, Ashfield 2131) concerning the Commonwealth funded Co.As.It. program for teaching Italian in Primary Schools, and the current financial difficulties being experienced by that organisation. I am aware of the valuable contribution which Co.As.It. has made, and is continuing to make to Languages Education. Mr Fin has also written to me direct on this matter.

As you realise, the present State Government has made a substantial commitment to the teaching of Languages both in primary and secondary schools - a commitment mirrored in the strategies of the recently released White Paper - Excellence and Equity. Such initiatives represent an extensive on-going financial commitment, which will preclude the Government's funding any additional programs at this stage.

The Co.As.It. program is largely federally funded. On 18 September 1990, I wrote to the Commonwealth Minister for Employment, Education and Training, The Hon J S Dawkins, to express my concerns on behalf of this State and to seek an extension of Commonwealth support for such programs.

You will also know that schools are increasingly moving to the management of resources, in the context of global budgeting. In these terms they are able to expend funds to reflect their own particular priorities.

Yours sincerely



Virginia Chadwick