

ANSWERS TO NEW MATILDA QUESTIONS

- 1. Why was the apology delayed almost half a year, after Greens NSW members decided it should be delivered?*

The SDC gave the Committee of Management the task of formalising the words for the apology. There were a range of divergent views on the wording and this led to delays. There's nothing we can say to excuse the delays. It should have been handled better and issued much more promptly than it was. We are genuinely sorry for the delays.

- 2. Did the Greens receive legal advice advising against delivering an apology to Ms Buckland? If so can you detail this advice.*

CoM members were concerned that the apology be a genuine expression of regret rather than an exercise in limiting the possibility of litigation

- 3. Why was the letter of apology written by a former media adviser to the Greens NSW, as opposed to the Greens NSW executive?*

The apology was not drafted in 10 minutes by a 'Greens public relations specialist'. The letter was written by the nine members of the Greens NSW Committee of Management (CoM). After it was signed off, the letter was then copied onto a letterhead template which had been created by a former employee who had no part in writing the apology.

- 4. How does Greens NSW respond to the criticism that it sees this issue purely as a legal/media issue, and has not learned from the experience?*

We do not see this as purely a legal or a media issue. We take these issues very seriously. In the last 12 months, we've introduced consent training for members and MPs. We are working to commission Rape and Domestic Violence Services Australia (RDVSA) to review our Preventing and Responding to Sexual Harassment Policy and to provide us with an overview of best practice models available.