

2nd December 2016

Mr. Rizzo

Further to your resignation letter dated 1st December 2016 addressed to the Permanent Secretary, may I point out:

All your insinuations of a cover-up by me, contained in the said letter are being strongly refuted in their entirety. If you have any evidence to back up these allegations, you are being strongly encouraged to forward them to the authorities.

You were given full independence as to how you were to carry out the necessary reforms at FTS, including the transfer of personnel. In fact, two persons were transferred from FTS Head Office in Pembroke on your direction and I did not intervene in any way to stop such transfers.

There is no basis in your remark that there was any pressure whatsoever to stop you from making formal reports. On the contrary, in the correspondence which I will be publishing, I have clearly given you the direction to take such steps. This email is dated 1 September 2016. Again, if there is any evidence to the contrary, you are invited to forward this to complement the investigations.

This is notwithstanding the fact that good governance, and the independent structure of the Foundation, means that you had no need to get any direct or indirect approval to make any report whatsoever, as it is your duty at law to bring any wrongdoing to the competent authorities.

Contrary to what you stated in your letter I never made any reference to your mental state, or mental health since this is, in my view, a private matter.



Evarist Bartolo

Minister for Education and Employment