## The Hon Chris Minns MP Premier of New South Wales



Ref: 00059542

Mr Chiang Lim CEO, Australian Childcare Alliance NSW 19 Fennell Street PARRAMATTA NSW 2150

Dear Mr Lim,

Thank you for your correspondence and thank you for your assistance to OAC Maroubra.

The past 17 months have been deeply traumatic for the Jewish community. October 7 2023 was a day of unspeakable barbarity. This was an abhorrent and indiscriminate attack that saw civilians targeted and murdered.

Since then, there has been a steep increase in antisemitic attacks in NSW, mirroring an appalling global trend. Synagogues, people's homes, vehicles, and even childcare centres (as you are acutely aware) have been the targets of disgraceful attacks by criminal individuals. Jewish people have been subject to outrageous threats and intimidation.

This is intolerable and unacceptable and we will do everything in our power to make the Jewish community of NSW feel safe and secure once again.

My government will continue to strengthen the laws protecting people's right to worship safely as well as ensuring NSW Police have the resources they need to bring the people who commit these appalling acts to justice and keep our community safe.

On 6 February 2025, the NSW Government announced a series of tough new measures in response to the recent escalation of antisemitic hate crime in the community. These measures include:

- A new offence targeting the display of Nazi symbols on or near a synagogue, Jewish school, or the Sydney Jewish Museum.
- An act to create an aggravated offence for graffiti on a place of worship.
- Laws designed to stop people from harassing or intimidating people accessing or leaving places of worship.
- Legislation to criminalise the intentional incitement of racial hatred.

All these changes send a clear message that such acts have no place in our community.

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A broad range of additional initiatives are being rolled out to protect the community including:

- Extending grants of \$678,000 from the Premier's Discretionary Fund to the NSW Jewish Board of Deputies to contribute towards enhanced temporary security measures for the NSW Jewish Community.
- Spending \$15 million to improve the safety and security of places of worship and other places where faith communities gather.
- Allocating \$12 million to help community resilience to the impact of overseas conflicts.
- Amending state planning regulations to allow places of worship, including synagogues, to rapidly upgrade security measures without the need to submit a development application.

As a government, we will do everything we can to ensure the safety and security of our Jewish community. We will continue to change our legislation where it's needed. And we will prosecute hate crimes to the full extent of the law.

Thank you again for writing.

Yours sincerely.

**Chris Minns MP** 

Premier of New South Wales