

24 AUG 2004

REDACTED

15th August 2004

Mr. W. Haas
 Registrar
 Diocese of Tasmania
 GPO Box 478
 HOBART TAS 7001

Dear Mr Haas

Thank you for your letter of the 20th July.

In regard to the process with the Independent Assessor Mr. Christopher Wright, I note that his intent is to assess the damage to one's life inflicted by the abuse in order to determine compensation. If the Assessor is not assessing the fact of the abuse, I can only presume that this is because he has been briefed as to the veracity of my claim by the Diocese. Given that the Diocese is well and truly aware of the factuality of my claim why do you write of abuse which "**may have occurred**"?

I am disappointed that the use of such negative language has such potential to further harm clergy abuse survivors.

In regard to the denials by "**priests whom you have accused of abusing you**", I would like to know which priests have denied abusing me:

1. BYS [redacted] ?
2. BYT [redacted] ?
3. The former Very Reverend Louis Victor Daniels?

I am assuming that the late Reverend Father Alexander James Ralston has not posthumously denied multiple abuse against me.

In regard to the aforementioned clerics, have their addresses been provided to Tasmania Police, in order to facilitate them potentially interviewing these men?

In regard to the Church's tribunal in regard to my allegations against these clerics you have stated that "**it is not expected that the Assessors will need to meet with you**", again I ask is this because the Diocese accepts the veracity of my claims against these priests? I am formally requesting to be interviewed by the Assessors because I do not want to be represented by the Diocese to them - I have a right to speak for myself. I am surprised that the Assessors may not need to speak to me, given the seriousness of the allegations that I have made.

Have the Bishops of the diocese that these priests are working in been informed of my allegations against them?

When did the Diocese track these men down? I have previously been informed by the Diocese that these men were interstate or abroad, whereabouts unknown.

In relation to Daniels, I have assisted Tasmania Police in seeking to have Daniels charged for his crimes against me and others. Whether the Director of Public Prosecutions chooses to use my evidence and charge Daniels for his crimes committed against me is a matter for Tasmania Police and the DPP and I fail to see the connection between my application under the Pastoral Support and Assistance Scheme and Daniel's trial.

I would appreciate further explanation regarding this.

I am certainly prepared to meet Dr. Sale, with my own psychologist in attendance. Given that I have psychological treatment from Desiree Taylor, as you know, I fail to see what insight Dr. Ian Sale can possibly gain or contribute to Mr. Wright in comparison with that of my treating psychologist. Against very considerable treatment, his assessment of me can only be relatively cursory.

In reference to presentation of further evidence to Mr. Wright, I will be presenting evidence in relation to the effect of the abuse on my life, and this will involve:

- ◆ my treating psychologist presenting a written and verbal report to Mr. Wright.
- ◆ the personal evidence of my wife, **REDACTED**
- ◆ the personal evidence of my lawyer and fellow clergy abuse survivor Michael Longbottom.

The presence of my lawyer is primarily because he is well aware of the consequences of the abuse that I suffered.

In relation to the \$60K cap on payments under the Scheme, I appreciate the financial constraints that are on the Diocese. This does fail to acknowledge the escalation of suffering, pain, damage and life-long harm that comes with multiple abuse by multiple perpetrators and I am formally asking that the Diocese review this in the light of truly showing to survivors that the Diocese is genuinely committed to the provision of healing and justice.

The loss of money in compensating clergy abuse victims is no small loss to the Church and to the faithful who contribute to the Church's funds. That loss is nothing in comparison to the loss of childhood, the loss of innocence and the imposition of suffering wrought on victims of paedophile priests.

I await your response.

Kind regards



David B Gould