

REDACTED

**Friday, 18 March 2005**

Mr Russell Morton  
Registrar  
Diocese of Tasmania  
125 Macquarie Street  
Hobart. 7000

Dear Russell,

I have read Mr Christopher Wright's finding relating to Mr Steven Fisher as requested and I have, today, verbally advised Mr Les Whittle of the comments below.

In Para. 5 on page 2 Mr Wright states,

*Hawkins had been moved by the Church from Devonport to Triabunna in December 1981, apparently as the result of complaints about his unhealthy relationship with some of the boys in the Devonport area.*

There is no evidence to suggest that the Bishop of the time, who was responsible for appointments, had any knowledge of Garth Hawkins' improper relations with young boys. These comments have been made by Mr Fisher at other times, but there is no evidence to support this.

The first time any such accusations were made against Garth Hawkins, of which the diocese has any record, was when Steven Fisher spoke of his abuse to Canon Eric Cave who subsequently brought him to meet with Bishop Harrower.

Mr Wright's judgement is not detailed in offences occurred, but in conversation with Les Whittle I was assured that no new allegations were brought forward.

Yours sincerely,



(William Haas)