

24 August 2010

Mr J Cleary
Diocesan Business Manager
Diocese of Newcastle

Dear John

I would be grateful if the following questions on notice can be addressed at the next DC meeting.

Questions to the Diocesan Business Manager

1. In light of escalating costs incurred in the past 12mths and more relative to Professional Standards matters, can the DBM advise:
How does PSC & PSB gain approval for expenditures of Diocesan funds, and for decisions which have financial implications to the Diocese?
2. Given that four licenses were suspended last year at great personal and financial cost because of a police inquiry, and in light of that inquiry's conclusion, can the DBM ascertain and advise the DC why these licenses have not now been restored?
3. Given that there was no recommendation to this effect from the President of the Board which met on 30 July, is the DBM able to ascertain and convey to the DC:
 - i. why and on whose authority a parish meeting was called at Cooks Hill to shame one of our clergy;
 - ii. who was invited to this event and by whom, and on what basis selection was made?

Question for the Chancellor

Given the quasi legal nature of the PSC & PSB processes and risks to the Diocese and participants if these processes are defective, what assurances can the Chancellor provide that these processes have integrity from a legal point of view?

With thanks,

Stephen Williams