

**Notes of the meeting of the Sexual Abuse Task Group of Diocesan Council  
held in the Board Room of Church Office  
on 15 August 2002**

1. Present were John Collas (Convenor/Chair), Margaret Chittleborough, Jan Horsnell, Mark Pickhaver and Peter Stuart.
2. Jan Horsnell was welcomed to the Task Group.
3. Apologies were received from Peter Casson and Paul Kassafidis
4. Margaret tabled information from a survivor website about what should be included in church protocols.
5. John Collas reviewed the progress of the task group for the benefit of Jan Horsnell and the group.
6. A letter from the Reverend Andrew King was tabled advising that his brother, Mark King, advised the Archdeacon of Adelaide (Brian Smith) in the early 1990s, that he had been abused as a teenager by Bob Brandenburg. A. King advised John that he had encouraged Mark to use the right processes but when they did not work, it was perceived that there was no benefit pursuing the matter further at the time. The Task Group noted that
  - a. Allegations of abuse by Brandenburg now span the period from the late 1960s through to 1999.
  - b. Brandenburg was an employee of the Synod through Anglican Community Services for some of that period.
  - c. Brian Smith was a senior member of CEBS.
7. Issues raised
  - a. Was the Archbishop aware of the report to Brian Smith?
  - b. The DRG advised that they were unaware of Bob Brandenburg. A. King advises that Contact person was involved.
  - c. Did the Archbishop request Anglicare to provide a computer to a victim of sexual abuse? Was the alleged perpetrator Bob Brandenburg?
  - d. Has the Archbishop used any of his discretionary trusts to provide support of victims of sexual abuse? Was Bob Brandenburg the alleged perpetrator in any circumstance?
  - e. There is the potential of a large number of victims given the period of abuse. It was noted that the psychological profile of Brandenburg might indicate that he was abused as a child.
8. The Task Group resolved to interview
  - a. Brian Smith
  - b. Andrew King
  - c. Tania Black
9. The Task Group canvassed options for further action
  - a. The Diocese could contract the role of contact person to an expert body. (For example Yarra Place)

- b. There is a need for publicity in the wider community. It is likely that a number of victims will have consciously chosen not to affiliate with the church in any way. Internal communication would be insufficient.
10. The Task Group discussed Don Owers. The literature would identify Don as a secondary victim. To what extent is he showing signs of stress? What would be the best strategy of providing him assistance?