



From: Phillip Aspinall <REDACTED>  
To: donowers<REDACTED> <donowers@REDACTED>  
Date: Tuesday, 7 December 1999 9:48  
Subject: Re:

---

Don, Phillip has asked me to send you a memo he wrote yesterday. I can't seem to attach the document so I have pasted and cut as follows:

F:\pja\Diocesan Response Group\Memo to Don Owers - Pastoral Responses - November 1999.doc  
MEMORANDUM  
To: Don Owers

From: Phillip Aspinall

cc: Archbishop

Date: 6 December 1999

Subject: Pastoral Response to Bob Brandenburg Case

I refer to your email of 22 November requesting an update of the Diocesan position regarding pastoral work related to the Bob Brandenburg case.

On 15 November the Archbishop met with myself, Andrew Luckhurst-Smith and Joan Chataway to consider the suggested pastoral responses you prepared on 29 October. Neither John Roffey nor you were available for that meeting.

A subsequent meeting was held with the Diocesan Insurance Broker and PR consultant.

In the light of those meetings I am able to respond to your proposals as follows:

1 A and B

Joan informed the meeting of some of the research associated with sexual misconduct and underlined the therapeutic value in such circumstances of open acknowledgment of wrongful behaviour and harm caused.

The possibility was considered of the Archbishop attending some form of meeting in the parish to make a statement acknowledging the facts of the particular case in view and expressing the pastoral support of the Church to all who have been affected. The Archbishop is open to this possibility and you should be in touch with him directly to make arrangements.

1 C

In relation to providing counselling to those who indicate they have suffered harm, the Diocese has processes in place through the Contact Person and Diocesan Response Group to enable that to happen. These processes have been under review to ensure their effectiveness and a revised document is expected to come to the Diocesan Council in the near future.

2 A

The Diocesan Contact Person and the Diocesan Response Group have the flexibility to respond to the needs of individuals and families as they arise.

2 B

Seminars and workshops appropriate to particular places may be beneficial. As a result of such events people may seek further assistance through the other processes open to them. As you are aware, care needs to be taken in such events not to promote claims which may have the unintended effect of invalidating any Diocesan insurance cover. // !!

2 C

In adopting the report in 1994 establishing the Diocesan Response Group, the Synod decided in principle to set aside funds to provide for these responses.

3 A and B

Our advice is that clergy are not required by statute to undertake Mandatory Reporting Training unless they are engaged in a school, child care facility or some other similar environment. However, you may be unaware of the work which has been undertaken and mentioned in relation to 3C below. When this group reports in the near future there will probably be some recommendations along the lines of the proposal you make.

You are probably also aware that Kate McGarry is involved in providing such training for youth workers in the Diocese. Further consideration would be required of any proposal to be developed to provide financial incentives to Parishes to encourage compliance.

3 C

A group has been working for some time to adapt a Code of Practice for the Protection of Children in Churches. This originated in a document developed by the Churches of Christ in Victoria which has been adapted for Anglican use in other places. The Baptist document you refer to may provide additional wisdom in this regard and I will attempt to obtain a copy and refer it to the existing group for their consideration.

4.

If other information comes to light about further allegations of abuse in other parishes or places within the Diocese we will attempt to provide appropriate pastoral care. If any indications emerge suggesting that enquiry is warranted on a wider front then the appropriate way to proceed

of the Adelaide.

I apologise for the delay in gathering this information together but I hope this is of some assistance.

Diocese of Adelaide  
26 King William Road  
NORTH ADELAIDE 5006  
South Australia

Phone REDACTED

Fax REDACTED

e-mail: REDACTED

