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Brian Farran

From: REDACTED
Sent: Friday, 13 May 2011 10:01 AM
To: Bishop Brian
Subject: Re: The Newcastle Herald

Dear Brian,

As I said to you on the phone, you come through the Newcastle Herald article quite well especially in the headline "Anglican bishop welcomes transparency incomplaints enquiry" As I told you, no-one in the General Synod Office knows the contents of the large envelope delivered yesterday which is to be passed on to retired Judge David Lloyd QC who, at present is acting CEO of the Episcopal Standards Commission .

The article is slanted in favour of your opponents, but, as the General Synod Office does not know the contents of the envelope, any details must have come from your opponents. However, I do not know whether or not the Herald has quoted James Flavin correctly or from your opponents' hearsay.

As I said to you on the phone, your ad clerum must not engender the reaction from clergy outside the Newcastle subsurban area that there is some great scandal here of which they were previously ignorant. Nor should it say too much which the opponents can later use as cross-examination material.

I set out below my draft. Please feel free to alter it as you wish.

"In view of the article in the Newcastle Herald on May 13, I believe that I should let the clergy have some background information. Unfortunately, because of the court case which commences on Monday week, I am not at liberty to provide that much information about the subject matter of that case. However, as most know, the Professional Standards Board of the Diocese , after enquiry , has made a recommendation to me that I should deprive two clergy of their orders and those two clergy have sought to have the Supreme Court stop me from implementing the recommendation. I have agreed to hold my hand until the court case is concluded. There are other kindred matters before the Professional Standards Board which are in abeyance for the same period.

I do not know the contents of the complaints about me that are the subject of the Herald article. As far as I am aware, the Episcopal Standards Commission's Chief Officer, Hon David Lloyd QC, a retired Judge. has not yet received the alleged complaints, nor did any member of the General Synod Office staff open the envlope said to contain the complaints handed in to that office yesterday. Thus, my knowledge of them stems from the Herald article the information used presumably came from the complainants, whoever they are.

No-one involved with generating the complaints has had the courtesy to tell me what the complaints are or to give me a copy of what is to go to Mr Lloyd. However, the complaints seems to be related to the way in which the Professional Standards Board handled their enquiry and the unhappiness felt by some members of the Cathedral congregation. There does not appear to be any suggestion of personal misconduct on my part.

Last November, when there was a National Bishops' meeting in Newcastle, I know that some associated with the Cathedral congregation spoke to the Primate about their concerns abouthte affairs of the Cathedral Parish.. I believe that I am generally aware of those concerns. I believe also that those concerns are not shared by all members of the Cathedral congregation. I am endeavouring to do the best I can and would ask for prayerful support for me and the Diocese as we commence the court case and now may have to deal with complaints. I say "may" because, as I understand the system, I may not be told about the complaints by Mr Lloyd who may decide that they are not sufficiently weighty to process them further.

I do wonder why, if the complaints are the same as discussed with the Primate last November it has taken six months to present them formally and then choose to make the Press aware of them only 10 days before the commencement of the court case".

Best Wishes,

PETER YOUNG

Bishop Brian
<BishopBrian@newcastleanglican.org.au>

13/05/2011 07:56 AM

To REDACTED

cc

Subject The Newcastle Herald

Dear Peter,

I was commissioning a new priest for the parish of Wyoming when you phoned last night. I will be at home today. REDACTED

John Cleary will email you a scanned copy of the report in today's Newcastle Herald, page 7 about the Episcopal standards Commission complaints.

I am annoyed that the General Synod Office has not advised me about receiving these complaints although Flavin talked to the Herald journalist! I think his action should be the subject of an official complaint.

I would appreciate you drafting for me an advice about this Episcopal Standards Commission matter that I can circulate to the clergy. I do not want them becoming overly-anxious and gossiping about it and speculating. This would be distracting and play into the intentions of the Lawrence camp.

Thank you for offering such a ready ear.

Brian.

Dr Brian Farran Diocesan Bishop **Anglican Diocese of Newcastle**

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