



# STATEMENT BY THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF ADELAIDE CONCERNING THE ROYAL COMMISSION FINDINGS IN CASE STUDY 36

February 16, 2017

The Anglican Diocese of Adelaide values and respects the work of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. We have carefully studied the recently released *Report of Case Study No. 36: The response of the Church of England Boys' Society and the Anglican Dioceses of Tasmania, Adelaide, Brisbane and Sydney to allegations of child sexual abuse*.

The report makes for shocking reading. The failures of the past have been clearly identified. We recognise that it has taken great courage for survivors of abuse to give evidence, and express our sincere hope that the report in some measure helps those survivors abused by Robert Brandenburg and other CEBS leaders on their journey of healing. We reaffirm our sincere apology to all who suffered as a result of such failures of trust, and the manifestly inadequate responses by church authorities at the time that worsened the sense of abuse and distress. There is much to be learned, and we are resolved that such failings must never happen again.

The Anglican Church in Adelaide has genuinely sought to reform our policies and practices on

multiple fronts since earlier reports, and is committed to continually improving our processes concerning child protection and redress to survivors. This report helps us in our important work in this area.

### **Bishop Tim Harris**

Administrator (*Sede Vacante*)

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Please note: If you are a survivor of abuse that happened in a church setting, whether it happened yesterday or many years ago, in the Diocese of Adelaide or elsewhere, and you would like to talk to someone about what happened to you, please get in touch with us.

A range of contact details are provided on our webpage: <http://adelaideanglicans.com/report-abuse/>

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