

**ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF GRAFTON
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD**

The following pages contain direct quotes from the materials supplied by Nicol Robinson Halletts, the Brisbane Solicitors acting for 42 potential claimants against the North Coast children's Home.

Whilst Nicol Robinson Halletts press for early settlement of the claims made it remains the view of the Solicitors and Counsel acting and representing the Diocese and Corporate Trustees that fundamental issues such as the Limitations Act, identity of alleged abusers, vicarious liability issues, the identity of the true defendant within the church's administrative structure, whether the home was a "church" facility and evidential matters suggesting alternative views of the matters and individual perpetrators will be difficult for the claimants to overcome.

There has been much agitation by the claimant's solicitors for settlement, including offers of settlement which might amount to \$4.5m. None of this is covered by insurance and consequently such a settlement would be difficult for the church.

Senior Counsel has recently been briefed to provide more advice on a number of the duty and breach of duty issues.

A number of the matters (those attached below) are concerned with sexual abuse allegations against former clergy of the Diocese. The other matters include a number of sexual allegations but are generally concerned with psychological abuse or what might be termed excess discipline.

The Reverend Brown is (I believe) The Rev Campbell Brown, recently retired from this Diocese and now living in the diocese of Newcastle.

The Rev Morgan is (I believe) The Rev Winston Morgan, now retired in the Murwillumbah region. Rev Morgan does not appear to have licence or be a regular church goer.

The Committee may need to consider what action it will take in these "clerical" matters.