



ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF GRAFTON

Reverend The Honourable Pat Comben AM
General Manager/Registrar

Bishops Registry
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5th May 2009

PJ Roland Esq
Solicitor
Foott, Law & Co
Victoria Street
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Dear Mr Roland

Re Mr Campion

I enclose a further letter from Mr Campion concerning the North Coast Children's Home.

This again refers to the matter of the Home being a community organisation rather than an Anglican undertaking.

Will you kindly reply to Mr Campion enclosing the response that was prepared for Mr Campion's then solicitors in September 2006. This commentary contains much of the material that the Bishop relies on in coming to his view that the Home was run by a community organisation.

I have also enclosed a copy of the letter that Mr Campion forwarded from Mr Madden. With great respect to Mr Campion's assertions the church is not of the view that Mr Madden's comments are in fact an accurate interpretation of the situation of the time.

The Bishop wishes that Mr Campion be again told that the question of control of the organisation is one that is open to various interpretations. He asks that you might confirm to Mr Campion the legal advice that has previously been provided to the Bishop to the effect that the Home was run by a community organisation.

Could this advice also be supplemented by a statement from the Bishop that he accepts that as these sorts of issues, with many different documents, are open to many interpretations he fully understands where Mr Campion comes from and the information which he relies on. But with great respect to Mr Campion the Bishop is formally advised that a different conclusion can be reached from the material and its interpretation.

Consequently the Bishop is of the view that as there appears to be little hope of consensus there appears to be little point in a meeting. The Bishop has sought to address the issue raised by Mr Campion by accepting the Church's responsibility in his letter of apology and secondly the situation appears to be one in which two non-lawyers would be attempting to discuss and

reach a consensus about interpretation of documents about which there may be validly differing legal interpretations.

The Bishop is also away overseas shortly which would make a meeting difficult.

Yours faithfully

Pat Comben
Registrar

