



Anglican Diocese of Grafton

Professional Standards Office
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CONFIDENTIAL

20th May 2013

Re: Professional Standards

Dear Professional Standards Committee Members,

1. Resignation of Bishop Keith

The events of Friday the 17th May 2013 and circumstances surrounding the resignation of Bishop Keith SLATER will have no doubt been distressing to you all. I felt I needed to take this opportunity to write to you all to offer support as well as to explore ways forward for the Committee and the Diocese.

It would be inappropriate for me to comment further on these matters in detail considering they have now been referred to the NSW Police and the Royal Commission into Institutional Response to Child Sexual Abuse and may require further investigation from those authorities. I would invite any person who has further knowledge of or involvement in these matters to make contact with me immediately to discuss as a matter of urgency.

2. The Professional Standards Committee

It is clear that I have not been able to function effectively as Director of Professional Standards of the Grafton Diocese and as convener of the Professional Standards Committee. Recent efforts regarding a more appropriate service agreement have now been put in place, and with the resignation of Bishop Keith things clearly need to be done differently. In consultation with the Chair of the Committee Anne SKAMP, I have come up with the following guidelines to assist you with an indication of the expectations of the Committee and the direction ahead.

- a) ALL Professional Standards Matters MUST be referred to the Director of Professional Standards Director in the first instance.
- b) The Diocesan Solicitor will no longer take part in Professional Standards Committee Meetings. This representative does not sit on the Committee and his inclusion at meetings is not appropriate.

I look forward to a continued and improved working relationship with you all and thank you for your important contribution to the Diocese and National Church regarding these important issues. If you wish to discuss these issues further with me please don't hesitate to contact me on the listed number.

Yours Sincerely

Michael Elliott
 Director of Professional Standards
 Anglican Diocese of Newcastle / Armidale / Grafton