

Diocese of Adelaide

The Most Reverend Jeffrey Driver

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Ref: JWD:lk

Mr Mark King

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Dear Mr King

I was very grateful for our time together on 9 November. You began our time together asking me whether I was prepared to engage with your issues. I give you my undertaking that I will try to do so.

I was concerned that you felt excluded from the current negotiations. The diocese is currently liaising with Duncan Basheer Hannon to negotiate a settlement package for a group of claimants who were abused by Robert Brandenburg. The members of the group of claimants have been confirmed during our discussions with Duncan Basheer Hannon and, as we understand it, you have not been excluded from this group.

The impression that you were not in this group may have arisen when you were not included in the first group of six claimants, agreed between Duncan Basheer Hannon and the diocese, as suitable for the first round of mediations. The members of this group were selected on the basis that they provided a cross representation of the range of claims.

You, along with the other claimants, should be receiving advice from Duncan Basheer Hannon about the scope and structure of the proposed settlement package. Unfortunately, Mr Peter Humphries has recently advised us that he will be participating in an inquest on the Eyre Peninsula for the next four weeks and this will delay him making contact with his clients.

I will respect whatever choice you wish to make in relation to the claims process. I am very willing to consider alternative arrangements if you wish to proceed in a different way from the current approach that has been agreed between the diocese and your solicitors. I would be willing to participate in a mediated process where your claim could be considered individually. This would be arranged at a time convenient to you with the arrangements agreed between your legal counsel and the diocese.

I am very willing to have further conversations with you about these matters if you feel that this would be appropriate.

Yours sincerely

The Most Reverend Jeffrey Driver
Archbishop of Adelaide