

20 June 2003

Mr Richard McCreadie APM
Commissioner of Police
GPO Box 308C
HOBART TAS 7001

Dear Commissioner

CONFIDENTIAL

Yesterday afternoon, 19 June 2003, I received a telephone call from Mr BYF of REDACTED Tasmania.

I understand Mr BYF is assisting Tasmania Police with enquiries into alleged sexual offences by former Anglican priests Garth Hawkins and Louis Daniels.

REDACTED

Since becoming Archbishop of Brisbane in February 2002 a considerable part of my time has been taken up in dealing with complaints of sexual abuse. From the outset I have been committed to dealing thoroughly and properly with all such complaints and to reporting all relevant matters to the police and other authorities. Some 40 matters have been referred to police since February 2002.

In that period I have personally received a number of reports, some first-hand and some indirect, of misconduct by Daniels and Hawkins. Where those matters have not been reported to the police directly I have encouraged the individuals concerned and directed my staff to report them to the police. In addition I have reported all such matters to the Bishop of Tasmania. For the sake of completeness I enclose copies of correspondence from me or from my office in respect of those matters.

I remain committed to cooperating with the police in dealing with these matters and am anxious to extend that cooperation in relation to any current enquiries.

Yours sincerely

JPB

The Most Rev'd Dr Phillip Aspinall
Archbishop of Brisbane