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Date: 8 September 1998

Total Pages: 2 (including this page)

To:	Attention:	Telephone:	Facsimile:
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EMMA FOSTER

I received a telephone call yesterday from Anthony Foster. He wanted to discuss the prospect of the Archdiocese making additional contributions, outside Carelink and the Compensation Panel. I explained that the purpose of the release was to avoid such payments, but that it was recognised that Emma lacked legal capacity to sign a release until she turned 18, and that in the interim, the Archdiocese would be prepared to consider any specific requests that he wished to make.

After some discussion, he made the comment that the compensation payment was intended for Emma. I said that this was correct. He asked about other members of the family. I said that generally speaking, compensation was only available for so called "primary victims". I explained that the law recognised that in some circumstances, a person could have a claim arising out of physical injury, although they had not been physically injured themselves. I gave the example of a mother who witnessed her child being run over, and suffered nervous shock. I said that consideration had already been given to the question of whether he and his wife were victims, and that as I understood it, Peter O'Callaghan's view was that they were not. I said that obviously I could not speak for Peter, and that if he wished to pursue this issue, the appropriate thing was for him to make a formal application, directed through Peter.

He then asked me about Emma's education. I asked him to expand on what he meant. He said that in previous discussions with Carelink, it had been suggested that there might be some prospect of the Archdiocese making a contribution towards her education. I asked him what he meant by this. He said that at present, Emma was attending a "low grade" government school, and that there was some

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suggestion that she might be better served by going to school elsewhere. I said that ordinarily, the Archdiocese would consider such issues to be within the compensation payment, but that having regard to the importance of education to a child's future, this might be something that the Archdiocese might be prepared to consider.

Mr Foster said that he would consider discussing the issue with Carelink. I said that this was a good idea. I said that Carelink could not make a decision as to whether the Archdiocese would make a contribution to education, but that if Carelink made a recommendation, that could carry great weight within the Archdiocese. I said that so far as I could see, what the Archdiocese would want to understand is that a specific proposal, such as sending her to a different school, would be in her interests, and very importantly, that it could fairly be said that there was a link between the abuse that Emma suffered and the benefits that would flow from the new school.

In the course of my conversation, I also said that if there were any specific expenses that needed to be met now, consideration could be given to releasing some of the trust moneys, perhaps as a loan. Mr Foster did not seem interested in this suggestion.

Our conversation, which was amicable, ended on the basis that Mr Foster would consider raising the issue of education with Carelink.

Please do not hesitate to telephone if you have any queries.

With kind regards

Richard Leder