

*See Sue & Eileen room 10/9/03*

**Minutes**

**St. Ann's Working Party**

**Held at Cathedral Office 8/09/03**

**Present;** Sue Cain, Tony Fuller, Angela Ryan, Eileen Young, Joan Atkinson, Anne Carolin

**Minutes of Taskforce Meeting**

**Amendments :**

*Page 2, paragraph 2 Chris noted that the figures suggested by CCI did not reflect the Archbishop's attitude and would constitute very poor PR.*

*Page three, Point 5. .... ' Allan confirmed that it was only necessary to do research on families who could not be reached last time.'*

**Business Arising:**

Sue has raised the recommendation of an exclusively pastoral response for families in Category 3 with Archbishop Wilson. The Archbishop is giving this matter careful consideration

Quantum Issues: The Archbishop is considering amounts in the vicinity of \$100,000 for people in Category 1.

The issue of Category Determination and validation of current information is the pivotal information required before the timeline can be confirmed. Anne and Eileen have met with police and will report back.

The issue of whether Category 2 needed to be divided into two sub-categories to more accurately reflect their involvement with BP would need to be decided based on the most recent information.

**Issues for consideration at this meeting include:**

- 1. Clarification of Categories.**
- 2. Draft Letter to families**
- 3. Setting up the Helpline.**

**Categories.**

Eileen and Anne reported that their meeting with Wally Conti and Bernie Farrington had provided information, on the basis of which they recategorized a number of students.

**See attached list with alternations highlighted.**

In addition LN [ ]'s TH Statement raised concerns about accuracy of dates contained in the statement or the possibility of more recent pedophilia involving the Recreation Group. The police will be following this up and have a copy of the TH Statement.

**Rewording of the Categories:** Tony said that the rewording of these categories still provided too much information that could create difficulties with families.

Eileen said that in light of the information provided by the police both the earlier criteria and recent renaming of categories were inaccurate.

Sue made the point that the criteria for category determination were internal definitions, primarily working paradigms for the team and not intended as a framework for discussion with the public.

Sue suggested that in the case of a **lineball decision** about whether a former student fitted within a category and this made a significant difference to the offer of payment, it might be more effective to send a letter to the family stating that based on the information available, we were unable to determine where their child's case rested

This dilemma particularly pertained to the [REDACTED] family who requested that the matter rest and has stated that they did not wish for a police interview or any further follow up.

Other options for responding to the [REDACTED] Family included a personal call from Eileen Young to enquire whether they wished to be part of the process now that they have had time to reconsider their position.

Tony stated that in his opinion any sort of pastoral approach could create an adverse reaction. It could be said that the church had created further heartache and angst for this family by not respecting their expressed wish for no further contact.

The consensus was that there would be no further contact with the [REDACTED] Family unless they chose to initiate it.

This raised the question of what contact would be made with families in Category 3. It was decided to table at the next meeting.

**Quantum amounts.** Joan questioned whether families in Category 1 who were not named in the court case, would take a payment of \$100,000 as confirmation that their child was abused. This could create difficulties if presupposed that we have information that they do not have.

**Sue said that based on the information provided by the police and the [REDACTED] LN [REDACTED]'s statement, [REDACTED] MK [REDACTED], [REDACTED] LD [REDACTED], [REDACTED] LT [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] MS [REDACTED] fitted more accurately in Category 1. However the degree of known abuse and quality of evidence for a number of students in Category 1 was of a lower level than for the three students named in the trial. ([REDACTED] MU [REDACTED], [REDACTED] LH [REDACTED], [REDACTED] LB [REDACTED]) On this basis the committee recommended that Category 1 should be divided into two Categories:**

**Category 1 A**

Those students with substantiated evidence of abuse.

1. LH
2. MU
3. LB

**Category 1 B**

Those students who have reported abuse, who regularly attended weekend respite at BP's house and who may have psychological/psychiatric reports that implicate BP. There is a high probability that they were abused.

1. MA
2. ME
3. MR
4. LE
5. LD
6. MK
7. LT
8. MS

It was suggested that payments for students in Category 1 A would be approximately \$100,000 and for those in Category 1 B a lesser amount of \$80,000 would be more appropriate.

The committee believed that while there was some degree of variation in the quality of evidence and degree of contact for the remainder of students in Category 2, that the updated information and re-categorization of some students had gone some way to addressing this issue.

**Criteria for Category 2:**

- **No evidence of direct abuse**
- **Travelled on BP's bus**
- **Were in the woodwork room**
-

### Criteria for Category 3

- **No evidence of even indirect unsupervised contact**
- **Limited opportunity for unsupervised contact**

The working party recommended that families in each category should receive different letters. The merits of sending a letter to families in Category 3 was yet to be decided

Eileen and Anne will re-check Category 2 to establish which of these student were on the bus and in the woodwork room

**Media Release.** Joan said that now that she had a copy of Tony's draft letter she and Chris could start to prepare a media release.

Angela Ryan said that she was concerned about any reference to a gross amount paid out to families. This might encourage some families to compare their payment and make random inferences based on this comparison. She suggested that the press statement could refer to payments ranging from \$100,000 to \$xxxxxx

Joan said that she would be researching other reports on similar payments made in US on the Internet. She would send a draft of the media release to David Cappo

Joan said that she would continue to work on the draft letter to religious orders and clergy as well a draft letter to the parishioners.

### Helpline

Anne said that details of the 1800 help line has been investigated. This required three weeks notice.

**The address list** was been updated using the electoral roll.

**Centerlink Payment:** Tony to include a statement in the letter to parents that alerts them to their responsibility to notify Centrelink of the payment as well as the requirement relating to Capital Gains Tax.

Sue will confirm the following details with the Archbishop.

1. Will the letters be going out on his letterhead?
2. Which office will be printing and sending letters ?
3. Will the letters be posted or couriered to families?
4. When will the Archbishop be available to sign the letters ?
5. Who checks the return correspondence?

Should this  
be  
separate  
to  
letter ?  
information  
sheet ?

Tony said that he would be writing the letter to parents, parent advocacy, and Donald Craig. He said that Liz Perry would attend the last few meeting so that she would be able to pick up any issues when Tony was away at the end of October.

**Timeline:**

Sue revisited the proposed timeline and action plan. Sue to update this and attach to the minutes.

**Actions:**

- 1. Eileen and Anne will re-check Category 2 to establish which of these student were on the bus and in the woodwork room**
- 2. Sue to update Action Plan and attach to the minutes.**
- 3. Tony to draft the letter to parents, parent advocacy, and Donald Craig.**
- 4. Joan to continue to work on the draft letter to religious orders and clergy as well a draft letter to the parishioners.**
- 5. Joan will draft the media release.**
- 6. Anne to type minutes and forward to Sue for distribution.**

Anne Carolin