



## Dispute Management Services

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9 October 1997

Ms Mary Eather  
Secretary, NASGC  
PO Box 350  
Paradise Point  
Gold Coast Qld 4216

Sr Di-Anne Rowan  
Congregational Leader  
Sisters of Mercy  
PO Box 1576  
Rockhampton Qld 4700

Dear Mary and Di-Anne

I'm writing, only briefly, for two reasons. The first is to thank you and each of your colleagues for your kindness to me, and to take the opportunity (this time in writing!) to recognise your generosity of spirit during our discussions over recent months. It resulted in some very real achievements that reflect great credit on you all.

The second is to encourage you to keep up the momentum. Various agreements were made at the meeting on 23 September to exchange information with a view to exploring ways and means of coming to a mutually acceptable outcome to the one outstanding of compensation, and to seek to include the Diocese in those discussions. I don't expect it'll be easy, but you've got everything to gain and nothing to lose, and you've worked hard to achieve a platform of goodwill and trust from which to proceed.

Clearly Simon, Geoff and the Bishop's legal representatives should and will take the lead but it may be from time to time that there'll be a need for some independent facilitation of the kind I've been able to offer up to now both at and between the formal meetings.

As you know the Children's Commission has met my expenses to date, and Mr Alford has kindly agreed to continue to do so in the expectation (which I share) that while I may have a useful role to play in future it will be a relatively small one.

So: please don't hesitate to make contact if you think I can help. It would be a great pity if things were to get stuck in ways that might be avoided.

All the very best, and yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Briton', written over the typed name.

John Briton

cc. Norm Alford, Simon Morrison, Geoff Hancock