



Archdiocese of Sydney

8 October 2012

Mr John Ellis

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Dear John

As you are no doubt aware, for some time now, the Archdiocese of Sydney has been anxious to do whatever it could to assist you both pastorally and financially.

Following the apology you received from His Eminence in 2009 and Mgr Usher's letter to you of 6 August 2009, we have been pleased to provide assistance in various ways including reimbursement of counselling sessions and other financial support, most recently for house renovations.

The Archdiocese is pleased to have been able to provide you with this substantial financial support and hopes that this has assisted you through this very difficult period. It is also good to hear you have returned to the practice of law and we wish you every success now that you have resumed professional practice.

Given these developments, we thought it appropriate to summarise the support the Archdiocese has provided and establish the parameters for any future support.

I understand that we have provided approximately \$342,000 of assistance for the renovations of your home at Beecroft. Together with other payments, the total financial assistance is in excess of \$518,000. This assistance and support is in addition to the waiving of legal costs associated with the court case you commenced against the Archdiocese's Body Corporate and Cardinal Pell – as you are aware these costs, which were payable by you to the Archdiocese, were \$800,000.

When Mgr Usher committed to assisting you with your house renovations, he had anticipated a much more modest contribution to the works you were undertaking. Nevertheless, it is understood that storm damage caused a "blow out" in costs. He had certainly not anticipated a contribution towards the project of \$342,000 and had not anticipated the Archdiocese would be asked to pay for such a huge renovation. I need you to know that this has caused Mgr Usher, who

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is presently on leave, great worry in endeavouring to honour the Archdiocesan commitment.

To avoid any misunderstanding about the support that might be available going forward, we thought it appropriate to confirm that the Archdiocese remains committed to providing ongoing pastoral support. We will continue to provide reimbursement for counselling sessions. We cannot, however, continue to provide support for renovations of your house at Beecroft or for other expenses.

The Archdiocese will, however, make one final payment to you of \$50,000 in order to assist you to meet outstanding renovation costs. These funds will be transferred shortly to your AMP account BSB 939 200, Account No. 232 556 381. This payment will bring the total amount contributed by the Archdiocese for the renovations to \$392,000 and the total financial support (in addition to legal fees) to in excess of \$568,000. Thereafter, as set out above, payments will be limited to counselling sessions and, of course, we remain to provide other pastoral support as appropriate.

We do wish you all the best in the future.

Yours sincerely



Mike Bailey  
Executive Officer to the Chancellor