



VICTORIA POLICE

**Sexual & Family Violence Directorate
Crime Command Victoria
Police**

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Monsignor Greg Bennett
Vicar General
Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne
P.O. Box 146,
East Melbourne,
Victoria 8002

Dear Monsignor Bennett,

As you may recall, at our last meeting we had considerable discussion around the perception that victims contacting police necessitated a full police investigation and judicial response. As we indicated, this is not the case. In line with our ongoing reforms, in responding to reports of adult sexual abuse, we recognise and acknowledge the victim's right to decide the course of action they wish to take. Fundamental to this decision making is a sound understanding of the various options available, together with information on what each of these pathways may entail.

You have indicated that a paper or brochure outlining these options would be beneficial to the Melbourne Archdiocese. While there has been a delay in providing this material, it was important that a consistent State-wide process was articulated and to that end, the options brochure has been printed to cover all organisations and individuals.

I was hoping to deliver the brochures to you personally but I understand there is some difficulty in aligning availability in the short term, so please find enclosed a quantity of the brochures for your dissemination. If you require further, please let me know.

I would also like to reiterate that the information contained in this material is brief and it is our view that victims should be afforded the opportunity to speak with a specialist police investigator to discuss the options fully and answer any queries that may arise.

I am looking forward to meeting again soon.

Yours Sincerely,

Rod Jouning
Detective Superintendent
1 August 2014