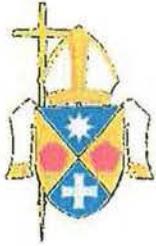


REDACTED



Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst

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25th November, 2015

Justice McClellan

Chair

Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

I am the Vicar General of the Diocese of Sandhurst and I have been asked to provide this letter for the purposes of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

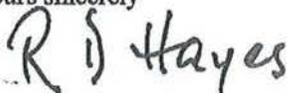
I have been asked to provide the Commission with information as to the status of two current priests of the Sandhurst Diocese, who were referred to in evidence at the proceedings Royal Commission yesterday.

I have checked the records of the Diocese and made inquiries of the Bishop and relevant senior officers of the Diocese, and say the following:

1. REDACTED
 - a. REDACTED to my knowledge and belief, is a priest of good standing in the Sandhurst Diocese, holding a parish appointment.
 - b. I have reviewed the records held by the Diocese of complaints of child sexual abuse against clergy of the Diocese, and advise that the Diocese of Sandhurst has received no complaints of child sexual abuse against REDACTED
 - c. I have made inquiries of the Victorian Office of Professional Standards and have been advised by Kerry Buchecker of that office that they have not received any complaint of child sexual abuse against REDACTED under Towards Healing, and that REDACTED is not listed on the national Towards Healing database.
 - d. To my knowledge and belief, REDACTED has never been either charged or convicted with any offence relating to child sexual abuse.
2. Father John Treacy
 - a. John Treacy, to my knowledge and belief, is a priest of the Sandhurst Diocese.
 - b. I have reviewed the records held by the Diocese in relation to John Treacy.

- c. The records held by the Diocese show that John Treacy was charged with an offence of indecent assault in 1993 and appeared before the Geelong Magistrates Court.
- d. Records held by the Diocese state that Father Treacy pleaded guilty to the offence, and was placed on a twelve month good behaviour bond and no conviction was recorded.
- e. John Treacy is no longer in active ministry, he is retired and living outside of the Diocese in Victoria.

Yours sincerely



Dean Romuald Hayes

Vicar General

RDH:slh

encl.