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7 March 2002

Mr Allan Dooley
Director
Catholic Education Centre
PO Box 179
TORRENSVILLE PLAZA SA 5031

Dear Allan,

Thank you for your letter. We have attached a signed permission for our statement to be forwarded to the Police.

However, after reading the contents of your letter we believe that this information is completely contrary to what was stated by the Vicar General at the meeting on Monday night in that he intends to initiate action within the Catholic Church and not to wait for Police finalisation. You state on page 2 of your letter,

*"in the normal course of events, the Police would then proceed ... Following the **finalisation** of the matter by the Police and the outcome of any charges **if the Police decide to proceed**, the Church would then proceed with its guidelines for receiving your complaint following the policies and procedures outlined in Towards Healing".*

In "Towards Healing" 37.4

"No church investigation shall be undertaken in such a manner as to interfere in any way with the proper processes of criminal or civil law, whether they are in progress or contemplated for the foreseeable future. However, where the complainant has chosen not to report the matter to the Police or other civil authority, or the civil authorities have decided not to take further action under the criminal law or child protection legislation, the church authority must act on the complaint".

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In our prior discussion with the Police, we understand that proceedings against Brian Perkins are not worth pursuing because the law is not able to prosecute due to the inability of the victims to give adequate evidence owing to their disability. We believe that our statement will not change the police view. Therefore, we are confused as to the position of the Catholic Church in the light of this situation.

We have this day attempted to phone you about this matter, as well as Jane Swift, Pauline Verity and Denny Williamson but all were unavailable. We then rang the Police (8463 7743) but were advised that there were no Police available to take our call, hence this letter.

It would appear that nothing will happen as the police are unable to get sufficient evidence to proceed and the Church will not proceed because of the inability of the Police to finalise the matter.

Once again we feel we are being patronised, pacified and fobbed off by the authorities in dealing with this serious matter. It would appear that process is more important than dealing with the issues in hand.

Yours faithfully,

LS and LR