

John Cleary

From: John Cleary
Sent: Friday, 6 March 2015 3:24 PM
To: Bishop Greg
Subject: RE: Brown Envelopes

Dear Bishop Greg,

My advice :

My notes from the 18 February meeting state

“bishop Thompson raised the issue with Keith Allen that Keith Allen reported to Bishop Thompson when they were both at the general synod conference in Adelaide in June 2014 that Allen had a lot of files on child sexual abuse matters. In fact, more than the diocese itself has. Allen no longer agrees with his comment from June 2014 and advised that he has passed his entire child sexual abuse files to the diocese already. He may have made similar copies of the files in his personal possession but asserted that he certainly does not have more than the diocese does”

Given Mr Allen’s past conduct, I have no confidence that Mr Allen has handed all information to the diocese already. The Director of Professional Standards, Scott Puxty and I have not received any of these files. Mr Allen has on many occasions provided anecdotal evidence to me which I have passed on to the Director of Professional Standards and the Royal Commission. I am unaware of any other employee receiving these files either. I therefore cannot understand Mr Allen’s change in position as to how he now arrives at the fact that he has passed his entire set of files to the diocese.

My understanding is also that Keith Allen refused to meet with Bishop Peter also to brief him when Bishop Peter was the Administrator to hand over the files and detail his knowledge of historical child sexual abuse matters.

In the February 18 meeting Keith Allen also expressed a “deep concern” for “the past management of the brown envelopes” and that in hindsight, “it was wrong”.

I think a further letter to Mr Allen is a good idea

I do believe the meeting should be with be Michael Elliott however not with Scott Puxty

Regards
 John



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From: Bishop Greg
Sent: Thursday, 5 March 2015 4:06 PM
To: John Cleary
Subject: FW: Brown Envelopes

Dear john,

Attached doc from +Peter regarding our conversation today and giving background on previous conversations with Keith allen. And a draft letter – can you from the notes taken on the 18 Feb add or advise how we may seek Keith's assistance?

Thanks
+Greg

Bishop Greg Thompson
Bishop of Newcastle
Anglican Diocese of Newcastle

From: Bishop Peter
Sent: Thursday, 5 March 2015 3:34 PM
To: Bishop Greg
Subject: Brown Envelopes

Dear Bishop:

Please find attached a memo including my recollections of conversations with Mr Keith Allen while I was the Administrator in which I discovered the existence of "the brown envelopes" containing professional standards material which are now with the Director of Professional Standards.

I am certain that Mr Allen could provide additional assistance to the Diocese by providing information in his possession and sharing his recollections. I was not able to secure a satisfactory response. I have drafted a letter similar to one I sent him in 2013. You may wish to check this with John and Michael.

+Peter