



THE DEAN OF NEWCASTLE
The Very Reverend Graeme Lawrence

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22nd January 1999

Mr ^{CKA}
REDACTED

Dear ^{CKA}

I regret that you were unable to keep the appointment I made for you with Bishop Herft on Thursday 14th January. We telephoned two or three times that afternoon but there was no answer. I had hoped that by now you would have made further contact with me.

As I believe I have tried to make clear to you during our conversations on Friday January 8th and Saturday January 9th and previously in April 1996, I am willing to be of assistance to you and to offer you the facilities which the Church has, in any helpful and positive way.

Each time we have spoken, you have expressed the fear that in some way the Church would want to sweep your complaint under the carpet. I assure you that neither the Church in general nor the Diocese of Newcastle in particular, has any wish or intention to do as you fear. We have a protocol for dealing with the type of complaint you raise and have in fact produced 2 leaflets which I enclose for your interest and attention.

I assure you again that the allegations which you make are treated by us as very serious and it may be that these allegations amount to criminal conduct. We acknowledge that it is your right to report this matter to the Police and we would not in any way wish to dissuade you from any such course of action.

Whilst emphasising that these are matters entirely for you, I would encourage you to consider counselling and advice from some source - not necessarily from the facilities of this Church - before you take such a course. Ultimately any decisions you make in these regards should be dictated by your own long term interests.

I recall from our conversation your reference to publicising your complaint and as I believe I affirmed to you in our telephone conversations, you have every right to do so.

02/06 '00 FRI 11:51 FAX

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Let me once again affirm to you that the Church has no intention to run away from or hide from the matters which you raise. We are prepared to offer as much help as the circumstances require.

Yours sincerely



DEAN

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