

CONFIDENTIAL**Findings in the Catholic and Anglican Church Sexual Abuse Reports
28 June 2004****Implications for FAYS and DFC**

Issues that arise from St Ann's include

- Support and follow up
- Recording of notes and files not kept
- Failure to support/ debrief and follow up with staff of the school

- **Child focus in all intervention**
- **Ability to provide the external experts for training relevant parties in paedophile behaviour, child sexual abuse and mandated notifiers training**
- **Impact of cost to train all mandated notifiers**
- **Ensure necessary support to families with high needs (as in the case at St Ann's)**
- **Support provided to school staff and follow up**
- **FAYS case management data base**
- **Documentation and recording mechanisms**
- **Visibility of grievance and complaints systems**

Implications across Government

- DECS
 - Intersectorial Group
 - Training
 - Consistent policies across non-Government sector

- Justice
 - SAPOL
 - Screening – national/ CRIMTRAC
 - Paedophile Taskforce
 - Arrests
 - ODPP
 - Prosecution/ convictions
 - ? fitness to plead
 - Crown Solicitor
 - Legislation change to S11 re sunset clause/ including sacred communication and confessionals
 - Courts
 - Bottleneck in trial listing
 - delays to CSA matters proceeding through the courts

Proposed Future Directions for Government

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(Layton report to tie in)

- Employ additional support and intervention workers for high need families to protect children and young people - \$9.1m over four years (Recommendations 16, 17 & 202 in part, CPR)
- Increase therapeutic and counselling treatment services for children and young people recovering from abuse - \$6.8m over four years (Recommendation 8 & 74, CPR).
- Provide additional counselling services for adults survivors of childhood abuse – \$0.25m over four years (Recommendation 23, CPR)
- Develop an independently operated helpline for adult survivors of childhood abuse focussing on victims of abuse in State care (Recommendation 23 in part, CPR)
- Continue to work with the Courts towards establishing safe and comfortable environments for child witnesses required to give evidence for court proceedings (Recommendation 95, CPR)
- Commenced work on improving closed circuit TV facilities in courts for child witnesses (Recommendation 101 in part, CPR)
- Developed clearer guidelines for notifiers of child sexual abuse (Recommendation 52, CPR)
- Upgrade FAYS case management information technology system to provide effective and efficient data collection and cross-matching - \$2.7m over four years (in line with FAYS Workload Analysis Project) (Recommendation 45, CPR)
- Identify support services for children and families where children have been harmed by someone outside of the family (Recommendation 49, CPR)
- Develop integrated policies and procedures across Government and non-Government services for working with children and families where there are child protection concerns (Recommendation 57, CPR)
- Establish agreed standards of responding across Government and non-government schooling sectors to allegations of child sexual abuse made against employees and volunteers (Recommendation 144 & 145, CPR)
- Develop guidelines for all non-Government service providers for making notifications of child abuse and neglect and for maintaining appropriate confidentiality of records and other required information (Recommendation 52, 58 & 60, CPR)
- Encourage tertiary institutions to incorporate child protection as a specific focus within the curriculum for professionals who work with children (Recommendation 149, CPR)

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- Improve data information systems so that outcomes of all children and young people who have been abused can be more effectively tracked across all systems from notifications to court (Recommendation 99, CPR)
- Worked together with non-government schooling sectors to achieve consistent approaches in child protection practices across all schools and care settings (Recommendation 145, CPR)
- Remove barriers that prevent the appropriate exchange of information about children, young people and families that are involved in the child protection system (Recommendation 36, CPR)
- Provided an additional \$500 000 to SAPOL to provide police screening of people working in the non-government sector with children and young people (Recommendation 132 in part, CPR)
- Subject to the passage of the Bill in the Parliament, establish a complaints and grievance process dealing child protection services within the Health and Community Services Ombudsman (Recommendation 3, CPR).