



PRIMATE  
OF AUSTRALIA

18 September 2007

CA

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Dear CA

Thank you for your letter of 12 September 2007 regarding the letters you have recently received from Bishop Keith Slater of the Diocese of Grafton.

As you know, it is very difficult – and takes considerable courage – to come forward and disclose personal experiences of abuse to other persons. I appreciate too that persons who come forward may need appropriate support and advice to assist them in speaking and negotiating with senior persons in the Church. It is then of the utmost importance that the Church responds to those persons with respect, sensitivity and pastoral care.

I can assure you that I have done and am continuing to do all I can to encourage the Diocese of Grafton to resolve this matter properly with all due care and concern for you and the other persons. I have again today written to Bishop Keith Slater enclosing a copy of your letter to encourage him to do all he can to resolve the matter.

I note that you also intend to write to Bishop Slater and the Reverend Pat Comben. I am confident that both will wish to address your concerns.

I continue to pray for you and other victims of abuse and thank you for your courage in speaking out. I hope and trust that you can find a measure of healing.

Yours faithfully

The Most Reverend Dr Phillip Aspinall  
Primate