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ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF GRAFTON

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TO: Rectors and Priests-in-Charge , Parishes in the Diocese of Grafton

DATE: 27 May 2013

**SUBJECT: Protocols for Handling Sexual Abuse Complaints
Sexual Abuse Complaint Contact Information**

I have enclosed a copy of the current Protocols for Dealing with Complaints of Sexual Abuse in this Diocese. This version was adopted in 2004 and outlines the various roles and responsibilities of individuals and entities in managing the complaints process. It may be appropriate to reissue the Protocol with a new introduction (and improved formatting) but all are required to comply with this version which is currently in force.

Please familiarise yourself with the Protocol and note that the role of Parish Priest sits within the definition of "Organisational Head". This protocol suggests that a person making a complaint should bring it to the attention of the Organisational Head who is then required to report it immediately to the Professional Standards Director. However, it should be noted that an individual has the right to make their complaint directly to the Professional Standards Director who will then ensure that the Organisation Head is informed.

For this reason we have produced a poster to be displayed in all Parishes which provides a direct phone number to make contact with the Professional Standards Director. A copy is attached.

Please arrange to display a copy of the attached poster (in colour) in various prominent places in all your Ministry Centres.

Please table this memo, poster and a copy of the Protocol at your next Parish Council meeting and ensure it is brought to the attention of all Councillors, Wardens and administration workers.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the Protocol or any other aspect of the Diocese's Safe Ministry program.

Anne Hywood
Acting Registrar



The Anglican Church of Australia

Anglican Diocese of Grafton

has formal procedures to deal with

Sexual Abuse

Have you or anyone you know,
suffered abuse in the church?

Help is available.

Please phone

800 774 945

anytime or

12 4926 3731

during office hours

to be put in contact with our
Professional Standards Director who
will provide advice on the complaints
process and ensure that action is
taken quickly