

"MEZS"

<b>DIOCESAN PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE</b>
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The Diocese of Grafton Professional Standards Committee met infrequently during 2009/10 which may be a positive reflection on the decrease of incidents and claims concerning incidents of sexual abuse by Diocesan clergy or church workers. As in the previous period such reports have continued to lessen in number and mainly concern 'historical' cases which, however, still require the compassion and attention of the Committee as do any current matters.

During 2009 the Committee members have been:

- Canon Ann Skamp (Chair)
- Mr Michael Elliott (Professional Standards Director)
- Ms Aniko Cripps Clarke
- The Rev'd Lenore Moules
- Mr Collen Pritchard
- The Rev'd Russell Trickey

with The Hon Rev Pat Comben and Ms Rosie Catt in attendance.

Mr Michael Elliott continued to act as the position of Professional Standards Director in the Diocese when called on to do so.

The Rev'd Russell Trickey replaced the Venerable David Hanger.

No new matters of sexual abuse were dealt with during 2009 or 2010.

A significant matter was finalised in the latter part of 2010. Mr Richard Campion who has been an on-going case related to the North Coast Children's Home decided to settle with the Diocese and sign a Deed of Release. As this report was being written a final payment to Mr Campion of \$32,000 was being arranged on return of the signed Deed of Release.

This leaves very few outstanding issues with the PSC.

Incidents of bullying were reported throughout the Diocese which is an increasing concern. Although not considered the brief of the Professional Standards Committee it is an issue related to abuse and needs attention at all levels throughout the Diocese. More copies of the Bullying booklet were distributed throughout 2009/10 for consideration by a number of parishes.

The Committee continues to work towards ensuring our Ministry Units are safe places for all.