

Mr Simon Harrison
Nicol Robinson Halletts
GPO Box 380
Brisbane 4001

Dear Mr Harrison

Thank you for your letters of 18 and 21 December 2006 regarding the Church of England North Coast Children's Home at Lismore.

While I am sympathetic to your commitment to achieve reasonable and appropriate settlements for the victims in this matter, I must reiterate that, as Primate, I do not have jurisdiction or authority to intervene in a matter which is the proper responsibility of the Diocese of Grafton.

You are aware that I have recently written to Bishop Keith Slater outlining to him those principles which from painful experience have been shown to be helpful in achieving beneficial outcomes for the victims and the Church. Encouragement and support of this sort is the kind of pastoral ministry and influence consistent with my role and my responsibilities as Primate.

I am advised that you have recently met with the Revd Pat Comben - Registrar of the Diocese of Grafton - and in your discussions progress has been made. I would encourage you to continue in your endeavours to achieve a satisfactory outcome for the victims.

Yours faithfully



The Most Revd Dr Phillip Aspinall
Primate

21 December 2006