

# Foott, Law & Co.

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SOLICITORS

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Our Ref: PJR:REB 06-0030  
Your Ref: SJH:HM:856432

6 March 2007

Messrs. Nicol Robinson Halletts,  
Lawyers,  
Box 380 GPO  
BRISBANE, QLD 4001

**"WITHOUT PREJUDICE EXCEPT AS TO COSTS"**

**FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION: 07 3853 8800**  
Confirmation of this Facsimile will be sent by Post/DX: YES

Dear Sirs,

**RE: THE CORPORATE TRUSTEES & NORTH COAST CHILDREN'S HOME**

We refer to your "Without Prejudice" faxed letter dated 6 March 2007.

We are instructed to reply to the proposal for settlement contained therein as follows:

- a. It is considered that the Diocese's previous offer is more than generous having regard to the major (if not, insurmountable) legal obstacles confronting your clients in any proposed action/s against our client.
- b. The proposal to pay \$800,000.00 in settlement of your clients' claims together with an additional \$70,000.00 for legal costs is accordingly rejected.
- c. Our client is however prepared, with the view to bringing this matter to finality, to offer, on an ex gratia basis, a lump sum package of \$820,000.00, inclusive of all legal, counselling and medical expenses including Health Insurance repayments and also subject to a full release of liability by all 41 claimants for the Bishop, The Corporate Trustees of the Diocese of Grafton and all persons who were involved in the management of the North Coast Childrens' Home . Such Release would also need to include a suitably worded confidentiality agreement.

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Messrs. Nicol Robinson Halletts,

6 March 2007

We are instructed that this offer will remain open until close of business , New South Wales time, on Thursday 8 March 2007.

Yours faithfully,  
**FOOTT, LAW & CO.**

Per:

Peter Roland