



Anglican Diocese of Newcastle

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CONFIDENTIAL

15th September 2010

The Most Reverend Roger Herft
 Archbishop of Perth
 GPO Box W2067
 Perth,
 W.A, 6846

Re: Rev'd Graeme LAWRENCE

Dear Archbishop Roger,

I am in possession of several documents that detail allegations of sexual abuse of minors by the former Dean of Newcastle, Rev'd Graeme LAWRENCE, that were made during which time you were the Bishop of Newcastle.

These documents indicate that;

- 1) Around February or March of **1997**, you were made aware of these allegations by Archbishop Goodhew, the then Archbishop of Sydney.
- 2) Around the 20th July of **1999** Archbishop Goodhew advised the then Bishop of Riverina, Rt. Rev. Bruce CLARKE to also contact you to discuss similar allegations again.
- 3) You spoke with Rev'd Graeme LAWRENCE in relation to these allegations and he denied them.

Unfortunately there are no records on hand in relation to these matters in the Diocese of Newcastle.

In order to assist me with this current and ongoing investigation could you please consider the following requests and provide me a response at your nearest convenience.

- 1) Detail your knowledge of any allegations relating to the former Dean, Rev'd Graeme LAWRENCE (including dates, names and contact details of any persons involved, discussions, meetings, investigations, actions, outcomes etc).
- 2) Indicate if you are aware of any correspondence in relation to the above (either formal or informal) and provide copies of that correspondence and/or indicate where it may be located.
- 3) Provide a detailed account of your interaction with Rev'd Graeme LAWRENCE in point 3 above, where allegations were put to him by yourself and they were denied.
- 4) Were any such matters referred to Police or any other authority? If so whom and where and provide any records that relate.
- 5) Provide any other information in relation to these matters that may be relevant.

I look forward to your prompt response to these pressing matters. If you wish to discuss this matter please contact me

Yours Sincerely

Michael Elliott
 Director of Professional Standards
 Anglican Diocese of Newcastle, Armidale and Grafton