



The Most Reverend Roger Herft
Archbishop of Perth

The Anglican Church of Australia
Diocese of Perth

Ref: 2751-170910

17 September 2010

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr Michael Elliott
Director of Professional Standards
Anglican Diocese of Newcastle, Armidale and Grafton
PO Box 494
NEWCASTLE NSW 2300

Dear Mr Elliott

The Reverend Graeme Lawrence

I am in receipt of your letter marked confidential dated 15 September 2010 handed to me opened by the Director of Professional Standards in the Diocese of Perth, Mr Bernard Hill, on the evening of 16 September 2010. I understand the letter was not sent as is customary in a sealed envelope. It would appear to me that the confidential nature of this correspondence has been compromised. I have no immediate recall of what you state the documents you have indicate.

I am leaving for General Synod today and return to the diocese on 27 September 2010 and have placed your correspondence in the hands of my Chancellor in case you need an earlier response.

Extensive records were kept in the Diocese of Newcastle relating to allegations covering inappropriate behaviour by clergy and laity. These were secured in brown manila envelopes, sealed and deposited in a safe in the Diocesan Office. The diary records of my day-to-day meetings kept by my Secretary over the time I was Bishop were also stored in the Diocesan Archives. Please follow this up and advise me if there are any relevant entries or documents pertaining to these matters.

I shall conduct a search through my personal diary records. To assist my recall I shall be grateful if you would send me copies of the documents you refer to.

I will respond to you on my return from Melbourne.

Yours faithfully

**The Most Reverend Roger Herft
Archbishop**