



Anglican Diocese of Riverina  
The Right Reverend Rob Gillion  
10<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Riverina



30 November 2016

Dear Tony Giugni

REDACTED

Schedule A

Question.      Clarification Required

Q7.                    Please attach The Parochial Administration Ordinance Amendment to the statement, it is not necessary to include in body of text

**Attached**

Q8(g).                Could you confirm whether there is currently a Professional Standards Committee and Professional Standards Board? Has the proposed arrangement in Question 24 with the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn occurred.

**The arrangement in which the Diocese of Riverina utilises the Professional Standards Board and Committee of the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn is in process. I have had a conversation in this regard with the Bishop of Canberra and Goulburn to formalise such an arrangement. It was formally minuted in our Bishop in Council in the Riverina on 25th August 2016. This arrangement is similar to that which exists in other parts of Australia where a common mechanism of implementation of professional standards practice exists. These arrangements are being enacted presently.**

Q21.                    Please provide detail of why the Tri- Diocesan covenant came to an end?

**The Tri- Diocesan Covenant was established in 2003 to find new ways of acting together in our region to strengthen our mission. It recognised that each Diocese involved shared 'much geography, a common history and a strong theological heritage.' Matters pertaining to child protection and professional standards were explicitly mentioned in the Covenant under the heading 'Co-operation in Ministry'. While sharing an affiliative link that was carried through the institution of working groups to progress collaboration on key ministry areas, each Diocesan Synod and Bishop retained their autonomy in decision making. That is, shared policy could only be enacted when each Synod had passed the requisite legislation or the respective Bishops had granted respective approval. Approximately a decade after its institution the working group of the Tri-Diocesan partners ceased meeting and the partnership was quiescent. This was largely the product of changing episcopacy in the Dioceses of Bathurst and Riverina, and pressing (though distinct) needs in each place.**

Q23.                    Please provide a reason, if any, why there has been no subsequent amendment in line with General Synod amendments of the model ordinance?

**This is an aspect of our Diocesan life that I wish to rectify shortly. It has been my priority to establish a firm method of implementing a professional standards framework.**

Yours sincerely

*RR. Gillion*

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Bishop of Riverina

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