



DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE

Tuesday, 12 October, 1999

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AE
(AEG ADDRESS)

Dear AE,

I have received your statement of complaint that you made to Mrs Anne Foat on 5.10.99 against Denis McAlinden.

I have some understanding of how difficult it must have been for you to have made this statement. I was very sorry to hear that you have suffered in the ways that you describe in your document.

I can assure you that your statement is being taken very seriously, and that the circumstances you have reported will be examined carefully.

The next step will depend on what action the police decide to take. If they begin an investigation, the Church is, of course, not permitted to make its own inquiries until the police have finished theirs, and then probably will not need to start a separate inquiry.

Unfortunately the whole process can take much longer than most people expect, so please do not think that you have been forgotten if you do not hear from anyone for some time. You will be advised as the matter progresses.

I hope that the processes that have now commenced will help you to achieve some satisfactory personal resolution around what was obviously for you a most disturbing experience at a very vulnerable time in your life.

I remain,

Yours sincerely

Most Reverend M Malone
Bishop of Maitland-Newcastle

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