

Witness Name: The Most Rev'd Philip Richardson

Statement No.: WITN0265175

Dated: 7th June 2023

ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO ABUSE IN CARE

**WITNESS STATEMENT OF THE MOST REVEREND PHILIP RICHARDSON
(ARCHBISHOP OF TIKANGA PAKEHA OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH)**

I, **The Most Reverend Philip Richardson**, of New Plymouth, Archbishop of New Zealand, provide a correction to my evidence given to the Royal Commission of Inquiry in the Faith-based Institutional Response Hearing as follows:

1 On 20 October 2022, I was questioned by Ms Katherine Anderson about the intended Anglican Church inquiry into abuse by clergy. The following exchange then took place:

At 15:28:31:

Ms Anderson: *“Because you certainly already have in terms of the what happened for example the first chaplain at Dilworth, there’s clear evidence isn’t there of reports of abuse um prior to the agreement and whatever the certification process was within the Church to move him to Dilworth.”*

Archbishop Philip: *“It appears to be non-existent at the time doesn’t it.”*

Ms Anderson: *“Sorry.”*

Archbishop Philip: *“It appeared to be non-existent at the time in terms of expectation of disclosure from one Bishop to*

another or from one Bishop to an institution in that case.”

At 15:29:05

Ms Anderson: *“That’s right yeah so there was knowledge but no communication of that information.”*

Archbishop Philip: *“That’s what the evidence suggests.”*

- 2 I made these comments based on my memory of the documentation at the time. However, upon reflection I believe I confused this situation with that of another survivor whose abuser was also a clergyman in the Nelson Diocese.
- 3 Legal counsel for the Anglican Church and I have gone back and reviewed all of the relevant documents provided by the Anglican Church to the Royal Commission relating to Peter Taylor. From what we could see, there is no documentation evidencing that the Nelson Diocese or Auckland Diocese was aware of allegations of offending prior to Peter Taylor’s appointment to Dilworth in 1975.
- 4 I would like to sincerely apologise for the mistake I made in my evidence and any confusion and harm that it may have caused to survivors.

Statement of Truth

This statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and was made by me knowing that it may be used as evidence by the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care.



.....

Signed

The Most Rev’d Philip Richardson

Dated: 07/06/2023