

**ABUSE IN CARE ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY  
FAITH-BASED REDRESS INQUIRY HEARING**

**Under** The Inquiries Act 2013

**In the matter of** The Royal Commission of Inquiry into Historical Abuse in State Care and in the Care of Faith-based Institutions

**Royal Commission:** Judge Coral Shaw (Chair)  
Dr Andrew Erueti  
Ms Sandra Alofivae  
Ms Julia Steenson

**Counsel:** Mr Simon Mount QC, Ms Katherine Anderson, Ms Kerry Beaton, Ms Jane Glover, Mr Michael Thomas and Ms Echo Haronga for the Royal Commission  
Ms Sally McKechnie, Mr Alex Winsley, Mr Harrison Cunningham and Ms Fiona Thorp for the Catholic Church

**Venue:** Level 2  
Abuse in Care Royal Commission of Inquiry  
414 Khyber Pass Road  
AUCKLAND

**Date:** 25 March 2021

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**TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS**

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1 **Q.** Thank you.

2 **A.** Thank you.

3 **CHAIR:** You'll be relieved to know I have no questions for you. Just to thank you very much for  
4 coming, providing your brief evidence and answering all of these questions, and also for I  
5 understand some personal inconvenience to you staying overnight and we do appreciate  
6 that.

7 **A.** Thank you very much.

8 **Q.** So thank you and that will bring the end of your evidence. I think it's time for a break  
9 Ms Anderson.

10 **MS ANDERSON:** Yes, I was going to suggest quite appropriate to take the morning adjournment  
11 now.

12 **CHAIR:** Yes, we'll take 15 minutes thank you.

13 **Adjournment from 11.22 am to 11.43 am**

14 **CHAIR:** Yes Ms McKechnie.

15 **MS McKECHNIE:** Commissioners, the next witness you will hear from is Father Tim  
16 Duckworth.

17 **CHAIR:** I presume you wish to be called Timothy or Tim?

18 **A.** Tim would be nice.

19 **Q.** He winced at Timothy.

20 **A.** I have memories of my mum who's still alive, only got used when I was naughty.

21 **Q.** When you were naughty, then we will not –

22 **A.** Tim would be great, thank you very much.

23 **Q.** We will certainly use that.

24 **TIMOTHY DUCKWORTH (Affirmed)**

25 **QUESTIONING BY MS McKECHNIE:** Tim, before we start, I'm just going to let the  
26 Commissioners know that Tim has a slight hearing difficulty in his left ear. We have  
27 checked over the adjournment and the microfication should be sufficient, but if there is a  
28 problem please let us know and we'll make some changes.

29 **A.** Thank you.

30 **Q.** Tim, you have prepared two briefs of evidence for the Royal Commission dated 23  
31 September 2020 and 12 February 2021. Do you have those in the witness box with you?

32 **A.** I don't know to be perfectly honest. I don't think I do.

33 **Q.** Mr Cunningham is going to give you some copies of those now.

34 **A.** He's a kind man, thank you. [**Copies provided**]. I have now, thank you.

1 **Q.** Can you confirm that the content of those documents remain true and correct to the best of  
2 your ability?

3 **A.** Yes.

4 **Q.** Thank you. Tim, you have provided extensive evidence to the Royal Commission and it  
5 has been read by the Commissioners. It will always be available online for anybody who's  
6 watching who wants to read the full breadth of your evidence. There's also a number of  
7 documents that have been attached to it. So what we're going to do today is we have two  
8 hours to summarise your evidence for the Commission and pick up some of the highlights.  
9 So what I'm going to cover with you is a bit of background to the Society of Mary, you are  
10 different to the congregation the Commission have heard evidence from so far. You have  
11 also had some quite significant differences to the other church entities in your redress  
12 process. So that will be the second point I cover with you and then why that's different and  
13 some of the complaint data that your records hold about the Society.

14 **A.** Okay.

15 **Q.** I'd like to start, Tim, by getting you to explain briefly what your current position is within  
16 the Society of Mary?

17 **A.** Since 1 February last year I have become the Provincial of the Society of Mary in  
18 New Zealand. You will remember Tom spoke of provinces sort of, and we would be wrong  
19 to think of those as the provinces in New Zealand, but it's a geographical area and the  
20 geographical area in which I am the CEO, as it were, is New Zealand. So I am the CEO, in  
21 a secular way I think you'd use that word, of the Society of Mary in New Zealand.  
22 Sometimes people call us the Marist Fathers and Brothers, but that really does confuse  
23 people in a big way. Even confuses the news media, so I think we're better to be called the  
24 Society of Mary.

25 **Q.** What is the difference or indeed the relationship between the Marist Fathers and Brothers,  
26 the Marist Brothers, the Marist Sisters, it is confusing.

27 **A.** We would use the term Marist family. Let's call them cousins of ours. We have similar  
28 origins, the group of French people in Lyon in the south of France were the beginners or the  
29 founders of those three different congregations. There's in fact a fourth congregation, but  
30 each of them, they all knew each other, they worked together, they bounced ideas off each  
31 other, but in fact Rome thought the whole lot being bunged together might be a little bit out  
32 of control-wise and then – slow down, I'm sorry. And so Rome thought look much better to  
33 have three distinct congregations.

34 **Q.** And how did the Society come to be in New Zealand, Tim?

- 1 A. I'll try to make it brief, but –
- 2 **Q.** Please do.
- 3 A. The guy who was in charge of what we might now call the CDF [Congregation of the  
4 Doctrine of the Faith], Tom talked about that too.
- 5 **Q.** Slowly please.
- 6 A. The congregation that looks after evangelisation and things like that, that's a word that  
7 people use to mean the spreading of the gospel. He actually rose from that point to be the  
8 next Pope and so he was well aware of what areas of the world didn't have Catholic  
9 missionaries working in them and so he said, on my list is an area which I call the western  
10 Pacific. We might not necessarily use that term, we might even say south in something we  
11 were saying, but let's say that's what they called it and said "Okay, you've come along  
12 asking me to approve you to begin a religious congregation, the quid pro quo for me,  
13 I guess, is what about you take on becoming missionaries in the western Pacific", vicariate  
14 it was called. I think we were keen to begin and get going, so we accepted that from Rome.  
15 It was really important to come out – for us to come out to share the faith with those  
16 peoples that were out this way.
- 17 **Q.** And you're using current verbs but you're actually talking about the 1840s and 50s aren't  
18 you?
- 19 A. No, I'm talking about the 1830s.
- 20 **Q.** We have heard about religious groups who have connections outside of New Zealand. Do  
21 you have any Pacific parts of your province?
- 22 A. No is the short answer. They are a separate province, so what we would call the province  
23 of Oceania, people might call that the Pasifika or whatever, but it contains almost all of the  
24 islands that we would have relationships with as a country but also quite a lot of  
25 Francophone countries too.
- 26 **Q.** Can you briefly explain, Tim, when you joined the Society and what you have done in the  
27 many years that you have been a member?
- 28 A. It's quite a few years, I'll try to do it briefly. I joined the Society in 1973 as what we would  
29 call a first year person, an aspirant, and for 10 years I was a seminarian which means that I  
30 was ordained in 1982. After that I had already done two years at university doing largely  
31 what we might call a secular degree, in other words nothing about theology or things like  
32 that, but just secular subjects, and for me they were the sciences largely and then when  
33 I finished at the seminary and I was ordained they sent me back to two more years at  
34 university. So ten obviously wasn't enough and two more were added. So that completed

1 my degree and I ended up with the basics one would need to be a secondary school teacher,  
2 I guess.

3 **Q.** And as you say in your evidence from paragraph 5, you did start a teaching career at that  
4 point. Which schools have you worked in in New Zealand?

5 **A.** I taught first at Silverstream, but that was when I was a seminarian. I know when I meet  
6 people in the street and they say to me "You're Brother Duckworth", I know that I knew  
7 them from Silverstream, people use that informal title "brother" which probably doesn't  
8 really appreciate that it's different from those who really are Brothers, but to refer to a  
9 seminarian as a school I guess to give them some context of who I might have been, but  
10 I know if someone was ever to call me that that I knew from the days at Silverstream.

11 Since I've been ordained I taught at St John's College in Hastings for three years,  
12 when I was transferred to St Bede's College in Christchurch where I was a full-time  
13 teacher, a dean of the boarding school, so all of the boarders, the 200 of them were under  
14 my care. As well as that I ran dormitories of boys and I coached cricket, I coached rugby  
15 and all those things that people used to expect you to do. As well as that I worked  
16 extensively on the curriculum and the timetable because they were fields of expertise of  
17 mine, especially computing, making that work.

18 **Q.** And then you left Christchurch, what happened then?

19 **A.** Largely that was because I had done some additional studies I was given some opportunity  
20 to put some of those additional studies into practice.

21 **Q.** When did you finish your teaching career, Tim?

22 **A.** It's a long time ago. Probably 1995 roughly. Don't – I could check it out but it's not that  
23 important.

24 **Q.** What roles have you held since then?

25 **A.** When I left teaching it was primarily to come to use skills, as I said, that I'd learned in the  
26 States, assisting organisations to improve themselves. That's largely how I would term  
27 what I'd learned.

28 **Q.** What was your Masters degree in Tim?

29 **A.** Organisation development. So facilitation, planning, action research, change, you know,  
30 change I'd say would be the big thing that that organisation is about, organisation  
31 development is about, it's about making things that – organisations, that might be a profit  
32 company, it might be a not for profit company, it might be an organisation such as Rotary,  
33 which is neither of those probably, to assist those to improve to make change so that  
34 whatever is done is done better.

- 1 **Q.** And as you outline at paragraph 7 of your evidence you have held a number of leadership  
2 roles within the Society, including being part of the Provincial Council since 1997. What is  
3 the Provincial Council?
- 4 **A.** Simply it is the Provincials group of advisors, you might call them the board. So the  
5 Provincial is both the CEO, the manager, but is also the one that sort of, so to speak,  
6 holding the conch.
- 7 **Q.** What relationship does the province of New Zealand and you as the Provincial have with  
8 your international connections within the Society?
- 9 **A.** There are provinces and in all sorts of places like Europe and in South America and Africa  
10 and, as I said, previously in Oceania but also in Australia, I won't go through them all  
11 because there's no point in me doing that. All of those would meet regularly for various  
12 things. One of those would be called a General Chapter when the rules of the congregation  
13 and the things that need to change would be looked at and so policies and procedures and  
14 things like that would also be looked at. For good or for bad, the vast majority of Marists  
15 never get to go to a General Chapter, I've been to three, so, you know, and if I stay in office  
16 long enough I might end up even doing four, but I'm not sure I'm looking forward to  
17 travelling overseas yet.
- 18 **Q.** How long can a Provincial stay in office within the Society?
- 19 **A.** Three years. It's a term of three years. You can be re-appointed. A strange anomaly with  
20 us is that, you know, we all looked at the term of the past President of the United States and  
21 he could do four years I think, and then he could come back or have contiguous terms, but  
22 for us you could do two terms and then you could not be the Provincial for a term then you  
23 could come back to be the Provincial. We've never done that in New Zealand. It has been  
24 done in the world but not in New Zealand.
- 25 **Q.** How are you appointed Provincial?
- 26 **A.** Elected. So popular franchise among the members of the congregation in New Zealand.
- 27 **Q.** Do the international organisation have any role in that?
- 28 **A.** A small role. In the sort of the what might be called the straw vote or the ballot to  
29 determine who rises to the smaller group to be voted from, they have the role of saying we  
30 give our approval to any of these people on this list being the next Provincial. So as an  
31 example, if they knew, and they may know that I was, say, something like an alcoholic and  
32 yet I was there, then they would – my name just would not appear. So they give what's  
33 called the nihil obstat, nothing is standing in the way.
- 34 **Q.** So it's a vetting of the contenders for election?

- 1 A. Yeah, that's right.
- 2 **Q.** I'm going to stay with the Society in particular at the moment, there will be some questions  
3 later about as you are a priest how that works as a parallel idea. But in terms of the Society,  
4 how many members do you have in New Zealand at the moment?
- 5 A. I'm going to say 100. It is slightly less than that, we lost one last week, so it's probably 98,  
6 somewhere like that.
- 7 **Q.** And do you have anybody in formation at present?
- 8 A. We do. We have guys in formation in New Zealand here in Auckland, and we have guys in  
9 formation in Rome, Italy. We have chosen in the Society, because we are diminishing in  
10 numbers, to do some of our formation in common. So some in your own home country and  
11 some in common, so the smaller band of men who will be the Society of Mary in the future  
12 will have the possibility of knowing each other and working together. But here in  
13 Auckland we've got three or four and I'm really heartened by them, young men wanting to  
14 still join us, and especially I'm doubly heartened that two of them are from the tangata  
15 whenua, I would say all of our guys are very proud of that.
- 16 **Q.** So these 100 members that you have at the moment, how are they geographically arranged  
17 in New Zealand?
- 18 A. Under two sort of headings. One would say houses or communities, that's one heading, and  
19 the other one would be under ministries. So as an example, a group of people that were in  
20 one parish, one parish that we look after at the moment is the Parish of Whangarei and there  
21 we have three priests who live there in community in-house together working together, but  
22 they all share the same ministry, they are all priests of the parish. And one of those is the  
23 parish priest. In other places it would be possible to have a community, a house, a living  
24 space, for a group of men who had some different ministries among them.
- 25 **Q.** What are the other ministries that your members typically have outside parish priest?
- 26 A. Unlike many congregations, Marists can do – no, Marists may do almost any ministry  
27 within the Church. So I'm not saying they can, one would need skills. I mean I'm regularly  
28 trying to make this point to people, if you want to do a job you have to have the skills to do  
29 it. And so, you know, training sometimes has to happen during one's life as a priest, as  
30 I put it some of mine was. But each guy can be in various ministries, we've got some who  
31 skill teach, we've got some who do other sorts of things like lecture here in the Catholic  
32 space teaching seminarians and things like that. We've got some who are in charge of what  
33 we would call formation, you'd probably call them in train, some of our guys are leading  
34 that role. Some of them work for particular jobs for a bishop, the bishop might say to me

1 would it be possible – and this has happened in the past – would it be possible if you would  
2 have a man who could do a particular job for a diocese or for the Church in New Zealand.  
3 We have some men doing that. At one stage I know the Cardinal – not this Cardinal but the  
4 previous Cardinal – asked for me to go and work for the Archdiocese on computers to set  
5 that up and get that working. My lot said no to him. But that's what happens.

6 **Q.** And if that does happen, is that man paid as an employee?

7 **A.** There'd be a contract between us and the diocese. It's really hard to know whether they'd be  
8 paid. The person would never be paid. You know, so if I go back to the theological college  
9 here in Auckland there would be from the theological college a contract saying we require  
10 services of lecturers. Can you supply services of lecturers from the Society of Mary. Our  
11 answer would be yes, and in this year these are the ones that we can send and then there's  
12 what's called a national stipend, in other words an amount of money that would be  
13 considered appropriate to keep a priest. I won't say what some others would say whether it  
14 really was an amount that you could, keep somebody on, but that doesn't matter. The thing  
15 that would happen is they would pay us. By "us" I mean the money would go into the  
16 common, what we would call the cor bonum, the money that we have for ourselves as a  
17 congregation. None of it would ever go to the individual, which means therefore that the  
18 congregation has to feed, clothe, house each of the individuals. So I'm not sitting with the  
19 fat wallet, you know, I'm just doing – I get the same amount of money given to me as one  
20 of those guys would or anyone of our men in any one of our houses.

21 **Q.** The Society has had a very considerable role in education, I do want to ask you some  
22 questions about that.

23 **A.** Yes.

24 **Q.** Just to set the scene for that, there are obviously Marist Society of Mary schools and then  
25 other schools that you have been very heavily involved in. If you could outline those and  
26 also the difference between your schools that you are the proprietor of and other Catholic  
27 schools where society men have worked?

28 **A.** It is quite complicated, I'll try and cover off the schools which we don't own which we're  
29 not the proprietors of first. We are now currently in none of those schools. But from  
30 Whangarei in the north to Timaru in the south, we have been involved in several colleges  
31 that are owned by the bishop of the diocese. And the bishop of the diocese at the time,  
32 again, the interaction is something like this. "Dear Provincial, would you consider with  
33 your men beginning a Catholic secondary school" usually for boys, in Hastings as an  
34 example, in the place where I taught, and we would have looked around and said to



1 ourselves we've got 300 guys or 350 or 400 guys or whatever we had at the time and yeah,  
2 we could take that on. So let's begin there, a school and you know, call it what you will,  
3 and we would have worked in consultation with the bishop. The bishop would have said  
4 "Aah I can buy the land" and then he would have said "I'll need to build some buildings.  
5 Could you recommend to me how many I'd need for a school that might start off there?"  
6 And we'd work in consultation with the bishop but we would never own that.

7 I hope that's enough, that's just an example of one school. Then we would have  
8 been its first teachers there. Maybe we might have had a maths teacher, a science teacher, a  
9 history teacher and an accounting teacher, but we may not have had something like a  
10 woodwork teacher or a PE teacher, or a teacher of, I'd like to say something like modern  
11 dance or something like that, I'd like to think that in those days we might have been a little  
12 bit more advanced but we would have needed some female teachers in the school too  
13 because they would provide something additional to what we were offering in the school,  
14 but lay teachers too, I don't like the word "lay" because it implies somebody that's not an  
15 expert. In fact in many ways they may have been much more expert as teachers than we  
16 were. They were professional teachers rather than lay teachers, if you know what I mean,  
17 but they were not clergy is the only point I'm making.

18 **Q.** So for the schools that the Society is the proprietor of, there are three of those, St Pat's  
19 Wellington, which is obviously usually known as St Pat's town?

20 **A.** Yes.

21 **Q.** St Patrick's Silverstream and St Bede's. How are they different?

22 **A.** From the beginning the Society has owned the land and buildings there. They are a sort of  
23 establishments that are probably more longer standing. At one sense they're possibly an  
24 historical accident, i.e. in those days we would have had access at times to monies that may  
25 have come from overseas or something like that, or as a much bigger congregation than any  
26 of the one diocese, any one diocese would have been, we may have had access to more  
27 money. And we may have been well-known as reasonably good educators, and so the  
28 bishops stay in Wellington at the time, I don't want to make things complicated but he was  
29 actually a Marist.

30 **Q.** We'll come back to how you can be a bishop and member of a congregation later, Tim.

31 **A.** Okay. He said "I personally – this was Archbishop Redwood – I personally had a Marist  
32 education in Ireland and I would like there to be a way in which boys in this city can get a  
33 Marist education." He would have also been talking at the same time to the Sisters of  
34 Mercy, and to the Mission Sisters, the sisters, we'd call them RNDM and they set up girls'

- 1 secondary schools too and primary schools as well. We never ran primary schools.
- 2 **Q.** So integration of all of these schools after 1975 broadly took place in the Catholic  
3 education system in the early 80s. How has that changed the Society's responsibility for  
4 those schools? Let's start with the ones that you ran but did not own. What was the impact  
5 of integration for those schools?
- 6 **A.** Technically and in reality they become State schools. They are State schools owned by  
7 somebody else, the building and the land, where they are permitted to have what's called a  
8 special character. I'd call it a Catholic character. Other schools are integrated as well that  
9 are not Catholic schools and they might say that the character we have in this school here is  
10 Anglican or Presbyterian or something like that. Those special characters are not limited to  
11 a particular faith.
- 12 **Q.** So in the context of redress which is what this hearing is about, how has that integration  
13 impacted on responsibility, say there is a Marist father working in that school in 1985 who  
14 harms someone, who takes responsibility for that?
- 15 **A.** We have to. Who else is there to? Let's say – 1985 you gave, let's say the principal of the  
16 school there now, a man, I don't know, but I'm sure he's a good man, and his staff there,  
17 what would they know about what happened in 1985 if one of our men had offended in  
18 those years. So our encouragement to people would be if a Marist offended, then come and  
19 see us. Who takes responsibility? We have to. We have to face that.
- 20 **Q.** And if it's a lay teacher, after integration?
- 21 **A.** Well, if we were the proprietors of the school after integration and it was – sorry, before  
22 integration, sorry, if we were the proprietors before integration then we would have been  
23 employing the lay teacher, again I say I don't like that word. The person who's not a cleric.
- 24 **Q.** Pausing Tim. Being clear, we're talking about after integration in the schools that you're  
25 not the proprietor of but you used to run?
- 26 **A.** We're not in any of those schools.
- 27 **Q.** Let's say 1990 a lay chemistry teacher offends at St John's which is an integrated school,  
28 who's responsible for that?
- 29 **A.** Well, after it's integrated and it's a State school, it would fall to the board of trustees.  
30 Originally in – I think even by 1990 they might have still been called the Board of  
31 Governors. But they would be the first port of call for somebody. I would personally, if I  
32 was asked, have encouraged them to seek help and advice from the local ordinary, the local  
33 bishop, who would say "Yeah, this school was under my care too", you know, so yes, we  
34 might have to work in partnership with the Crown to resolve this case. But if it was after

1 integration, certainly the governance and the management of the school is in the hands of  
2 the Crown. So it's their responsibility. But the diocese I would hope and I would expect  
3 would not shirk their responsibility either.

4 **Q.** When you say responsibility, do you mean legal or moral?

5 **A.** Definitely moral. You can't give somebody legal responsibility if they don't have it. I don't  
6 think the bishop has a legal responsibility in that sense because the school is a Crown entity  
7 and the board of Governors, the board of trustees is, I was going to use the word quango,  
8 I probably shouldn't use that word, but it belongs to the Government. It might have parents  
9 on it who might say we just sort of elected but they are a committee belonging to the  
10 Government.

11 **Q.** So turning now to the schools, the three schools where the Marists were – the Society was  
12 and remains the proprietor, I'll give you two scenarios.

13 **A.** Sure.

14 **Q.** Pre-integration, where you employed a lay teacher in those schools and that lay teacher  
15 offended, who is responsible in your mind for resolving that issue with a survivor?

16 **A.** Several people are responsible for resolving the issue. But a big part of that would have to  
17 come to us because we were the employers and therefore and the proprietor of the school,  
18 we employed a person who offended. That would certainly have to come to us if you're  
19 looking for redress. We would, as we have said to, well, to everybody that's come to us,  
20 you can take this through other paths, you know, I would hope they might go to the Police  
21 as well and that would be my firm encouragement to them, "You can and we even can  
22 come and assist you to take this case to the Police." I'd say that about a Marist and – sorry,  
23 a Member of the Society of Mary, I'm trying to say it like that so we don't get confused. I  
24 would say that about a member of the Society of Mary who offended and about a teacher, a  
25 lay teacher in the school too, that we will come with you to take this, your case and your  
26 story, to the Police, if you'd like us to. But yes, redress in terms of that person would  
27 certainly be to us and we have had cases like that.

28 **Q.** So post-integration?

29 **CHAIR:** That was a pregnant pause, just to make sure that our signers are keeping up.

30 **A.** I know, my dad, Judge, referred to me as inoculated with a gramophone needle. He may  
31 well have been right.

32 **Q.** He may well have been right. If we could just slow the tempo down of the gramophone,  
33 thank you.

34 **A.** People probably think I'm hyped up, I'm not, this is the way I always am.

- 1 **QUESTIONING BY MS McKECHNIE CONTINUED:** I can attest to that Madam Chair.
- 2 Turning to the next scenario, Tim.
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 **Q.** For the three schools where the Society is the proprietor, post-integration, so let's say 1990,  
5 if there was a member of the Society teaching at the school, who is responsible?
- 6 A. Who is responsible?
- 7 **Q.** If he harms someone.
- 8 A. Us, the Society of Mary.
- 9 **Q.** In the same year if it's the lay chemistry teacher, who is responsible?
- 10 A. After integration?
- 11 **Q.** After integration.
- 12 A. The board of trustees, because the person is not a Member of the Society of Mary, and he's  
13 working for the Government. So the board of trustees I am certain would take advice from  
14 the Government how do we deal with this and I'd say honestly the Government is very  
15 good at helping schools in situations like that. They'd probably put in somebody to be their  
16 person alongside them so they don't do it wrong. I'd be very surprised if the board of  
17 trustees tried to deal with it themselves because they would not have the expertise in-house,  
18 or it's very unlikely that they'd have the expertise in-house to deal with it.
- 19 **Q.** I'll ask you some questions later about the role of the bishop and the Society, but  
20 particularly in these scenarios with schools we're talking about, where you're the proprietor  
21 of the Society, does the bishop have any role in a redress process in your experience?
- 22 A. I think that my answer to that would be does he have any role in a redress process; possibly.  
23 Sometimes people feel that the – "I really want my apology from the bishop", and I might  
24 have to go cap in hand and say to a bishop, "One of our complainants that's come to us has  
25 said that he would like the apology to come from you. Could you possibly assist us and  
26 meet with this person." And I've dealt with several bishops in that way and they've been  
27 most accommodating in terms of apologising. You'll remember Tom said that the care of  
28 souls, I don't like the word "souls", as if we're sort of somehow bipolar bodies in souls, but  
29 anyway, the care of people is all under the bishop. And he would be wanting to care for  
30 that person too. And if that person is going to be helped by the bishop meeting with them  
31 I'm sure absolutely that the bishop would meet with them. But primarily, I'm not going to  
32 pass the buck, it's my job in my role to make sure we're caring for the person.
- 33 **Q.** Before we leave schools, there is a particular issue about the way boarding schools were  
34 dealt with in integration and the Society have two quite large boarding houses. So what

- 1 was the impact of integration and responsibility in the context of boarding?
- 2 **A.** Yeah, things are complicated in schools when all of that's part of it. But in a boarding  
3 school, and we would refer to our schools as boarding schools, some people might say with  
4 an attached hostel, we want these schools to be integrated into the school, the boarding  
5 department not to be them over there and separate from them, but, you know, to be  
6 integrated together. The boarding school is still part of the responsibility of the owner, the  
7 proprietor. So directly, but we have boards that run these things for us called a Board of  
8 Proprietors, it would be their responsibility, but ultimately come back to us for what would  
9 happen in response to somebody that made a complaint. And I have been involved in that  
10 sort of situation too and, you know, while all sorts of people may want to criticise us, and  
11 I'm sure they do, we do have some expertise in this area and we would be offering our help  
12 to a school to deal with – to help to the Board of Proprietors to deal with the case. So it is  
13 still within our ambit with the Board of Proprietors of the school whom I have appointed in  
14 each case. So you can see that they share in the proprietorship of it with the Society, but I  
15 have appointed them all, all those Board of Proprietors members and so ultimately it does  
16 come back to me. You know, lawyers have told me I am the beneficial owner. I'd love to  
17 see where the benefit is but that's me, you know, thank you.
- 18 **Q.** Are you guided by that legal structure?
- 19 **A.** We have to be.
- 20 **Q.** In making decisions, is there an attempt to exclude people because you might not be legally  
21 responsible for the harm?
- 22 **A.** To be honest I was going to say I don't care about legally. What I care about is the people  
23 and it's our job to be putting it right. So whether it's our job legally or not, if I can assist in  
24 any of this in any of our men or any of our people that work for us in this area can assist I'd  
25 be first up to offer it.
- 26 **Q.** Tim, I'm going to ask you some questions now about how the Society has priests in it.  
27 We've heard a bit of evidence about this and the Commissioners and people listening in the  
28 last ten days have had a lot of comparative religions, we've had Salvation Army, we've had  
29 Anglicans, and this is quite a complicated matter. So Commissioners particularly, if you  
30 have questions as we go through this please do ask Tim because I realise this is a uniquely  
31 Catholic feature and that you want to have it clear in your minds. Tim, you are a priest  
32 which means that you have been ordained as a priest, but because you are a Society of  
33 Mary priest you are not incardinated. Can you please explain to the Commission why that  
34 is and why somebody would be incardinated?

1 **CHAIR:** I think you better start by telling us what that means.

2 **QUESTIONING BY MS McKECHNIE CONTINUED:** We'll start at the beginning, what's  
3 ordination?

4 A. Depends on who you're asking.

5 **Q.** Tim, tell me what you think ordination is.

6 A. Ordination is a sacrament whereby a person is set aside to have a particular job or role or  
7 ministry within the Catholic Church if we're talking in the Catholic Church context. I'm  
8 sure the Anglicans would say something pretty similar.

9 **Q.** It's the former process by which you become a priest?

10 A. That's right.

11 **CHAIR:** It's also a holy process, I think, you call it a sacrament.

12 A. Indeed, and I think our beloved Queen would have thought of herself as being ordained into  
13 her role too. And she and her father had a very strong commitment to this is – I am doing  
14 this under God.

15 **Q.** We've heard of the ontological effect of ordination.

16 A. Yeah, I'm not sure.

17 **Q.** We won't go into that.

18 A. No, we won't, I think that would be a very good idea.

19 **Q.** We'll just park that.

20 A. Okay.

21 **Q.** So we've got ordination.

22 **MS McKECHNIE:** I'm not sure Tim shares the Anglican Archbishop's view on that, so it is  
23 probably best –

24 **CHAIR:** I'll leave them to battle it out outside this hearing room.

25 **QUESTIONING BY MS McKECHNIE CONTINUED:** With that in mind what is the process  
26 of a priest being incardinated, what does that mean?

27 A. Okay. Much of my background in teaching was in biology. You cannot have an  
28 acephalous priest, a priest without a head. And so he has to be joined into an organisation,  
29 so he's either joining the Society of Mary and becomes a Member of the Society of Mary,  
30 of course or another congregation or he becomes and joins a diocese. And when he  
31 becomes and joins, part of a diocese, and joins it, that process incardicates him into that  
32 diocese. He is then formally a member of that diocese and he is answerable to his bishop.  
33 His ordinary – meaning ordinary, boss, and I am – I don't know whether the bishops would  
34 completely agree with me, technically in canon law I'm an ordinary of a different type, I'm

- 1 not a local ordinary, I'm an ordinary, i.e., the ordinary boss of a group of guys.
- 2 **Q.** So what's the process within the Society, if a diocese has incardination, how do you become  
3 a member of the Society, is there a religious process?
- 4 **A.** There is. It's called profession. One professes vows. As a junior in the outfit after about  
5 two years you're asked to profess or promise to undertake three vows, chastity, obedience,  
6 and poverty. They don't necessarily mean exactly what the words might say. Poverty  
7 doesn't mean you'd never had another dollar and you had to walk around in rags, but that's  
8 what they do mean that what we hold, we hold in common, that we give up the right to  
9 marriage and to sexual relations, and that we put ourselves, we would say, under the  
10 obedience of the ordinary, the boss. And so if I say to somebody, please can you go to our  
11 parish somewhere, then in ordinary ways he says "Gosh do I really have to?" Then he says  
12 "If that's what you really want yes, I will do that", he's obedient to me. So he's then joined  
13 to the Society of Mary as what we'd call in temporary vows. Why temporary, because he  
14 might change his mind. Young people, I began – when I was first professed I was probably  
15 21, I don't know about all 21 year olds that you know, some of them change their mind  
16 after a little while. Some of them leave and that's okay, they can leave when their vows  
17 expire because you profess them for a year or two or something like that. Then at is certain  
18 stage well through the process, at a time corresponding to the incardination into a diocese  
19 we would have what we call perpetual profession or final profession, you are bound to the  
20 congregation by a lifelong vow, or three lifelong vows.
- 21 **Q.** Thank you. I'll ask you some questions later about how someone may leave the Society or  
22 how, as the Provincial, you can remove them. Commissioners, do you have any questions  
23 before we move on from those more religious ideas?
- 24 **CHAIR:** I'm happy with the explanations so far. Any questions arising? No, you're doing well so  
25 far.
- 26 **A.** I'm sorry you're probably bored to death.
- 27 **CHAIR:** No.
- 28 **COMMISSIONER ALOFIVAE:** Very interesting actually.
- 29 **CHAIR:** To the contrary, we are deeply fascinated, as Ms McKechnie said, a highly educational  
30 matter for us and we're very happy to receive it.
- 31 **A.** Quite honestly most ordinary Catholics don't understand it as well.
- 32 **Q.** I hope they're all watching.
- 33 **A.** We've had to, yeah.
- 34 **QUESTIONING BY MS McKECHNIE CONTINUED:** Tim, a final question then.

- 1 A. Sure.
- 2 Q. Some of the members of the Society are working as parish priests?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And you explained before that you would ask them to go and do that and as part of the  
5 Society they will respond to your request. What's the other process that you need to go  
6 through with the bishop in relation to a particular parish?
- 7 A. Let's just talk about what I would do in the Archdiocese. Cardinal John is in charge of all  
8 of the parishes. The parishes are sort of like a geographical divvy up of the diocese. So  
9 you know we have in fact in the Archdiocese a parish called St Mary of the Angels  
10 downtown ministry there. And I can appoint priests to go there, but out of respect and out  
11 of a spirit of cooperation and also because he may have a different opinion, I would write a  
12 letter to Cardinal John and I would say, "Dear Cardinal John, this is what I am proposing to  
13 do" and by then I would have already teed that all up and the rest of it, and I usually keep  
14 that confidential because sometimes a bishop says "Well actually I prefer no, that you didn't  
15 put somebody there." I think he's far too opinionated, they'd probably say that about me  
16 and things like that, but, you know, he might say "Look, he's a man who's unsuitable for  
17 that role I think." But then there's a particular thing of somebody being the parish priest.  
18 And then I say to him and I propose to you John Smith to be the parish priest of the parish  
19 of St Mary of the Angels. And then I would wait, and let's say he was out of the country,  
20 I might wait two, three weeks or whatever for him to respond, and I cannot announce or  
21 appoint that person unless he has said "I approve of that and I will appoint him to be the  
22 parish priest of St Mary of the Angels."
- 23 Q. Thank you. Tim, I'm going to turn now to the redress process that the Society of Mary  
24 uses. I'm going to do this in two parts. You set out in your brief for those who are  
25 following along the document from paragraph 52 the process from about 2000/2002 when  
26 you were appointed the delegate. And then I'm going to talk about the contemporary  
27 experience. So these first discussions are just more about the historical development of  
28 what the Society did in response. And I'd like to start by mentioning the 0800 helpline that  
29 the Society established in 2002 which you talk about in your evidence and can you please  
30 explain why the Society set that up and the type of response that the Society got at that  
31 time?
- 32 A. Yes. Around about March I think of 2002 there was a television programme New Zealand  
33 made probably in response to a lot of other stuff worldwide about sexual abuse of clergy  
34 and I think it was entirely Catholic, in New Zealand. And one of our most notorious cases



1 of a person belonging to the Society of Mary, much of what harm he had done was made  
2 very public. And because they interviewed the Provincial of the time, the guy who had my  
3 role at that time, I knew and he knew that it would cause people to want to report. And so  
4 we couldn't set up overnight for it, but we put half a dozen social workers and counsellors  
5 into a system where people rang in and they were directed to these people to answer the  
6 calls. I think, I'd have to check, but, you know, 137 is what comes to mind the number of  
7 calls that we had in a few days. They were not all, I hasten to add, about the Society of  
8 Mary, they're not all even about the Catholic Church, they were about all sorts of  
9 institutions and organisations in New Zealand that a lot of people didn't have anywhere else  
10 to go, and we acted as something of a clearing house for those. So if they're about the  
11 Military we would have handed those on to the military, as an example. I hasten to add I  
12 have friends in the Military and they were not all about the military.

13 **Q.** So at that point, the Society was quite extensively involved in the early drafts of A Path to  
14 Healing. And you set out in your evidence Father Bearsley's role in that and him going to  
15 the United States as a representative of the Catholic Bishops Conference as part of that  
16 process. As part of that you were appointed as the delegate. So in the context of the  
17 Society, what is the delegate and what did you do in that role in the early days?

18 **A.** Basically as the delegate, you are the person that coordinates for the Society, you are the  
19 person that coordinates the response, the redress, for each individual as they come forward.  
20 And to do that we had a team of others we gathered around us, experts in trauma, in abuse,  
21 in social work, in counselling and things like that to help us to respond to what I think  
22 would be fair enough to call a tsunami of complaints. It was in fact, it was a terrible thing  
23 for the people I'm sure, but it was wonderful, I think that finally people actually could say  
24 what they'd probably not been able to say for 100 years or whatever, you know, or however  
25 many years. So was it good? No, but was it good? Excellent, yeah, you know.

26 **Q.** I said when I started to ask you questions your evidence talks about the different processes  
27 that the Society has.

28 **A.** Sure.

29 **Q.** The Society is a signatory to A Path to Healing?

30 **A.** Mmm-hmm.

31 **Q.** But in addition at paragraph 55, and I'll get this document brought up please, CTH0001743,  
32 you talk about this at paragraph 55. This is the Sexual Abuse and Boundary Violation  
33 Policy most recently revised in 2006. You're familiar with this policy, Tim? I'm just going  
34 to bring it up on the screen.

- 1 A. Sorry, I wasn't sure, yeah.
- 2 Q. So this was first created in 2002 and revised in 2006 as you can see. Why was this  
3 document created?
- 4 A. To guide what we did. So, you know, there were already being set up sort of what we call  
5 protocols, the ways of dealing with it, but a lot of the times those things are more  
6 theoretical and so in this here it was to try and guide what we did as we moved forward.
- 7 Q. If we could go to page 4 please and call up the lower half of the document. You have this  
8 in your bundle, Tim, at tab 13 if that's easier for you to have a look at?
- 9 A. That's excellent, thank you.
- 10 Q. You'll see heading "Receiving Complaints", if we could call up the bottom half of that  
11 document please on the screen. You'll see there reference to A Path to Healing?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Then instructions for receiving complaints. For the Society, how do these documents fit  
14 together, how does this society document and A Path to Healing fit?
- 15 A. This in general is sort of a basic way of sort of writing down what we were going to do. In  
16 fact in most cases at this time me and one or two others would have actually been putting it  
17 into place and we tried to write this because we knew we'd need a bigger group and the  
18 bigger group we brought on these were the guidelines for running it but we trained these  
19 too to take part in these receptions of complaint.
- 20 Q. This document is called the Sexual Abuse and Boundary Violations Policy, Tim, and I can  
21 tell from your body language it's not a phrase you like. Can you explain what it means?
- 22 A. It sounds a wee bit like something from the wild west or something like that, "boundary  
23 violations", but I guess the boundaries that's put around one's life are things like vows, or I  
24 don't wish to treat everybody as if they need to be taught about the Catholic Church,  
25 Diocesan priests don't have vows, they take a promise of celibacy, okay? So in theory a  
26 diocesan priest could be married, in theory. But I may as well say that because it's true.  
27 But nonetheless, if you've got a promise of celibacy or a vow then you would be stepping  
28 outside your boundaries, if you were to have something like a consensual sexual  
29 relationship with another person. I'm not saying you'll abuse them in any way, the other  
30 person may in fact totally like that relationship that they're having with the person that they  
31 shouldn't be having it with, but nonetheless, if we were to hear of that, we would consider  
32 that to be a boundary violation. Sorry about the words.
- 33 Q. Is that language used now?
- 34 A. I've seen it used, some people would use that, it's not what I would say. I would just

- 1 describe what was happening to be perfectly honest.
- 2 **Q.** Your brief of evidence sets this out in chronological order, the developments that the  
3 Society have undertaken in terms of responding. You talk about the sexual abuse response  
4 team becoming the Sexual Abuse Protocol Committee. Is that Committee still in existence?
- 5 **A.** Yes.
- 6 **Q.** Are you briefly able to explain to the Commission the skills on that Committee and who  
7 their role is within the Society?
- 8 **A.** Largely they are an independent body of us. We employ these people as contractors to  
9 work for us, to help us to deal with the complaints as they come to us. So they're made up  
10 of people like social workers, I'm not going to give you the exact make-up of today because  
11 I'm not certain I could, but social workers, counsellors, former Police persons, former  
12 customs inspectors, people like that sort of thing, there may be a psychologist or a  
13 psychiatrist or all sorts of things like that on that Committee, as well as that there would be  
14 a member or two of the Society who was there in the sort of "fill in the gaps" role. They  
15 are not directing that, if you were to say to me was Ninian Chambers there in 1842,  
16 somebody's got to be able to say the answer to that, never heard that name. Somebody's got  
17 to be able to say that. One of the inspectors from the Royal Commission came to us and  
18 spoke to us the name of one of our guys, he was one of yours, it says about that in the  
19 paper, then they'd be away on a fast camel trying to investigate it –
- 20 **CHAIR:** Excuse me, you're on a fast camel Tim.
- 21 **A.** I'm sorry. One of the inspectors came to us and said this guy was one of yours. And I said  
22 I've heard that name in my life. I went through all of our stuff to prove that they'd never  
23 been part of us. I met the inspector here, very nice man, but then he discovered in fact he  
24 was in a seminary in Auckland, despite the fact that this -- it said in the newspaper they  
25 were in the seminary in Hawke's Bay which was definitely ours. Sometimes newspapers  
26 don't have it exactly right.
- 27 **QUESTIONING BY MS McKECHNIE CONTINUED:** So what is the Rome of this  
28 Committee, Tim, are they an assessment Committee, a decision-making body, a  
29 recommending body, what do they do?
- 30 **A.** Okay, so it depends what year you're talking about exactly.
- 31 **Q.** Let's stay with the first part of the process, we'll come to the present later.
- 32 **A.** When I was the delegate?
- 33 **Q.** Yes please.
- 34 **A.** So what we would have done was we would have set aside people to be, as it were, the

1 meters of the complainant. So I have to be honest here and say a whole lot of this we were  
2 helped through by a particular social worker by the name of Kitty McKinley. I'd add she's  
3 well-known to the Police for being an advocate of all sorts of people but and the courts as  
4 well. But she said to us "You must have a robust system whereby you are victim-centred,  
5 whereby you are willing and able to go and listen to them and to share with them their story  
6 and to ask around that gently and to record all of that", and that, so we took her advice to be  
7 honest. And if I might say this, when Tom the other day was talking about best practice,  
8 I thought to myself, maybe I might give Kitty an ice cream or something, she put us right,  
9 we could have got it wrong, and I'm very grateful for her, her work doing this, but also for  
10 several others, and I do want to add this because it's very important to me. Especially that  
11 they were women. Men are sometimes very dumb in this area. Very dumb. That includes  
12 priests.

13 **Q.** Virginia Noonan from NOPS obviously has just been giving evidence immediately before  
14 you, she's been talking about the role of the National Office. The Society of Mary don't  
15 participate in the National Office of Professional Standards process. Can you explain why  
16 the Society is the only congregation that doesn't participate in NOPS?

17 **A.** Yeah, I can. I'm not sure I want to but I can. I think the way we do it works well for most  
18 people and it works well for us. We are able to stay closer to the people that want to deal  
19 with us. I wouldn't stop somebody if they wanted to go to NOPS and have it dealt with by  
20 them and not come anywhere near us, but in many cases the person that's been harmed  
21 wants to actually engage with us and we want to engage with them because what happened  
22 to them was done by one of our guys who's ruined in many cases whole aspects of the life  
23 of those people. And I don't want to say go out there you know, some extraordinary  
24 well-skilled group will deal with you and we'll walk away and say how do we – what do we  
25 care, you get dealt with by this independent authority. We have to go there, we have to say  
26 we got it wrong, we didn't supervise you as well as you should have been supervised and  
27 we allowed terrible people to do very bad things to you.

28 And then when I've been involved in this I have to say and on behalf of our men,  
29 we are deeply shamed by this and we're very sorry for what's happened to you, because  
30 they have to be told that, they have to have that pastoral care, they have to be listened to  
31 and believed and understood and wrapped around and looked after and, you know, yeah it's  
32 hard, it's very hard, and sometimes people push back against it and you still keep trying to  
33 do the right thing and it's not always possible to do the right thing. But it's important to me  
34 that we don't outsource it. It's important that within our Protocol Committee we have

1 people that are entirely independent of us, you know, that are investigators and their job is  
2 to investigate, not, you know, but you know, I have to be careful with them, they want us –  
3 former policemen – to not show the complainant any pastoral care first. And I have said to  
4 them, no, that cannot be the way it is. They say "You contaminate our witnesses" and we  
5 say "No, we're not, we're not trying to stop them saying anything, we're just there to listen  
6 to them and there to express our sorrow and there to say we're here to work with you." So  
7 I know that Police people are good and they're skilful and I really want them to be robust in  
8 doing all that stuff, but I also want to make absolutely sure that the person that's been hurt  
9 is helped, it' probably the wrong word, I'm going to use it anyway, is shown love.

10 **Q.** Earlier in the week, Tim, counsel assisting asked a question of one of the other witnesses  
11 about when in the process a survivor being believed is important and when in the process  
12 does a survivor get that feeling.

13 **A.** From us?

14 **Q.** In your experience having done this and sat with 20 or 30 survivors, when do you think a  
15 survivor gets that feeling within the Society's process?

16 **A.** It must be on the very first day that you have a meeting with them. How else will they feel  
17 they can continue to be part of the process? My absolute horror would be two policemen  
18 going to interview them, former policemen sorry. There's nothing wrong with the Police  
19 they do a great job. Do I think all cases should go to the Police? Absolutely, I wish  
20 everybody had gone on the first day and it had been investigated then, but even now the  
21 Police are more sensitive, but not every Police person is as sensitive as I would want them  
22 to be in going to see this person, because they might approach that person as a possible liar.  
23 And my approach to them is that they are not a possible liar. I could tell you now no-one  
24 would come to this process with a lie like that. Within seven seconds of meeting with them  
25 you know that they're not lying. And it's important to listen to their whole story, and, you  
26 know, I regret to say that "story" is not a great word, sometimes think "story" means made  
27 up. But the whole gamut of what they want to tell you and then to say to them "I believe  
28 what you're telling me and I'm sorry about it. You got hurt, at a time when you were a  
29 lovely, often young person who'd come into our care and we didn't protect you." And  
30 whether people believe it or not, two of our hallmarks as a congregation, we're not called  
31 the Society of Mary for nothing, we would take what we are as being a group of men who –  
32 I have this ideal picture of a woman who was caring and who was loving and who was  
33 compassionate and who worked in the world at the time of Jesus, his mother. And I know  
34 that that's not everybody's cup of tea and I'm sorry, I'm not trying to preach here. But, you

1 know, they ran out of wine at the wedding so she goes and says "Get off your chuff, go in  
2 there and sort that out can you." She was pregnant herself, she goes to see an old relative.  
3 Those things we would take from that that we must be compassionate and loving and  
4 merciful and some of that goes into the exact opposite of that. And, you know, our guys  
5 that haven't done these things are very hurt by it too, but that's secondary I know, I'm sorry.

6 **CHAIR:** Please do not apologise, I'm only concerned for you. Would you like to take a break at  
7 this moment?

8 A. No thanks, I'm fine.

9 **Q.** You're fine?

10 A. Yeah, I've dealt with this many times.

11 **Q.** I'm sure you have. We've got another 10 minutes for you to be fine then we'll take a break.

12 A. That's great, thanks.

13 **QUESTIONING BY MS McKECHNIE CONTINUED:** Tim, I've just got a couple more  
14 questions to ask you about this then we'll move on to another subject after lunch. You  
15 haven't put an apology in your evidence. And we talked about this last night and you made  
16 the point to me that almost everybody else has put an apology in their evidence. I want to  
17 ask you so you can explain to the Commission and the people listening why have you not  
18 done that, why is there not a written apology in the brief.

19 A. I don't want to for one second take away from any apology, any other person that's come  
20 here and has made, and I know that Cardinal John intends to apologise on behalf of the  
21 entire Catholic Church, and he will include me and my lot, for want of a better word, in that  
22 tomorrow too. And I sincerely thank him for doing that.

23 He's a very kind and gentle person and he would be more sincere than I could ever  
24 be. But to me an apology has to be made face-to-face. **[Applause]** I was thinking to  
25 myself, you know, for me everybody apologies that I've made has been face-to-face of the  
26 yes, I've written some down, people sometimes like to have a piece of paper that says this  
27 is – this shows that it really happened, you know, maybe even to a family member or  
28 something they can go back to and hold on to and say see, this wasn't all made up. But, you  
29 know, all of my apologies and all of the apologies that I have seen made from the Society  
30 of Mary have all been face-to-face with somebody. It's an important Māori concept too,  
31 this face-to-face thing. And, you know, I don't for a second profess to be the great answer  
32 to Te Reo Māori, but kanohi ki te kanohi, it's really, really important if you – I think I said  
33 to you yesterday when we were preparing, you know, you don't break up with your  
34 girlfriend by text message, you don't tell somebody you love them for the first time by

1 e-mail, you do it face-to-face. Nowadays I suppose with Covid and the rest of it it might be  
2 that you have to do it on Zoom, but it's still face-to-face.

3 And that is, you know, but the one thing I would like to say – sorry to go on – is  
4 that I think that in all spheres of abuse, only some people come forward. And whether  
5 we've got the tip of the iceberg or half of the iceberg or whatever percentage of the iceberg,  
6 to those people that have found it too difficult, too difficult to come forward, I would say if  
7 it was a member of my lot of the Society of Mary, I really do sincerely apologise if you've  
8 never come to us. If you want to come now, at any stage come, and even if you just want to  
9 talk with us and begin and see what's possible, if you want to be assured that the person that  
10 offended against you is not in ministry or anything like that, great. It doesn't have to be  
11 public if you don't want it to be. But similarly, go to the Police, go to a lawyer, go to a  
12 counsellor, get helped to come forward. It does help I think but for them that may never  
13 come forward, I sincerely say, I'm really sorry. Not on my own behalf only, but on behalf  
14 of our guys who wanted to do only what was good and ended up doing some of the things  
15 or some of our guys doing things which were only bad.

16 **Q.** Thank you, Tim. So to take you to one other document from this period before the break, if  
17 we could call it up please, it's CTH0001749. While it's coming up I'll just explain to the  
18 Commission this is a document from 2002. When we see it, Tim, I'll ask you to confirm,  
19 Tim, you are the author of this document. If we could pull up the top half please. Tim, it's  
20 not dated so can you confirm this is from 2002 and that you wrote it?

21 **A.** I did. It is 2002, absolutely.

22 **Q.** We'll have a look at the rest of the document in a minute. If you could now call up the  
23 bottom of half of it. Could you explain what this is and why you wrote it?

24 **A.** I've heard people talk about in the evidence of the other faith-based organisations a matrix.  
25 And, you know, I actually did teach maths, I was quite good at matrices, it's really the basis  
26 of a lot of computing, which is also why my mind goes that way. But this is an attempt to  
27 set out for us how we might sort of work our way through that. What are the factors that  
28 you would put into the equation, and I'm not talking about a financial equation, although  
29 ultimately it does lead towards that, but what would you take into account if you were  
30 going to look at some sort of financial settlement. I don't know what the right word to use  
31 nowadays is, because people talk about compensation, they talk about ex gratia payments  
32 and they talk about koha. I don't want to call it a koha, I don't want to call it that because I  
33 don't want just Te Reo to take the responsibility for something which is – so you know,  
34 I wouldn't want to give offence to the Maori people that we were calling this a koha. So I

1 don't know, you know, maybe you might tell me sometime whether that's a good word for  
2 it, I don't know, but you know, whatever it is, what would be some sort of financial redress  
3 that we could make. And I set out there the factors that I thought should be used.

4 **Q.** If I could just pause you there, Tim, there are three factors we can see on that page. If we  
5 can go to the next page please, just call them up, there are in fact 16 factors in this  
6 document, so I just want the Commission to briefly see, the people watching, to briefly see  
7 this. If we could call up the first half of the document. And then the second half of that  
8 same page. Then moving to the final page of the document under the heading "A rough  
9 guide". So you've set out in this document, Tim, an extensive list of factors you'll take into  
10 account or should be considered when thinking about responding. And then you've set out  
11 a rough guide there.

12 **A.** Mmm-hmm.

13 **Q.** This was written in 2002. Has it guided what you've done subsequently?

14 **A.** Yeah, we very quickly had to move the 30 to 50, but I'd hope so. I mean I don't have any  
15 hands on involvement with the Protocol Committee nowadays and how they come up with  
16 what their recommendation would be. The Society does not make a decision about the  
17 financial redress that we would offer. The decision is made by our Protocol Committee and  
18 it comes to me and they say to me "This is what we recommend" and sometimes even in the  
19 short time that I have dealt with it I have said that I don't think that's enough. But, you  
20 know, that's that.

21 What I also think – I want to say this even though it really has nothing to do with  
22 the financial thing. What you're dealing with with a person who has been offended against  
23 is the severity of the offence as they have received it. I was talking to a young man outside  
24 yesterday and he said "This is my truth." And I think you have to realise that as a  
25 responder that, you know, no matter how small you might think what happened to  
26 somebody is, on this scale they can be still severely hurt. So, you know, to say to  
27 somebody it was just a pat on your shoulder is to minimise and to try and – anything like  
28 that is to try and reduce what's happened to a person. But at the same time I think you have  
29 to have a system which says once put through this matrix, if we want to call it that, once put  
30 through this probably highly inadequate document that I wrote, somebody's got to come up  
31 with a determination of how we can help.

32 We went through the processes of discussing this with ACC, discussing this with  
33 several people in the legal profession, to say what is it that is around about the right – I  
34 think they use the word "quantum", I haven't used that word for probably 10 years, and the



1 answer to that really comes down to, what would you have got for a permanent injury like  
2 having your arm chopped off in a machine. What might your family have got if – sorry  
3 about this – but if you were dragged into the machine and killed, and that sort of thing, and  
4 trying to weigh it up in terms of that. It's really hard to, you know, compare my one eye I  
5 can't see out of, with your whole leg that you don't have, or Jenny's sexual abuse. But  
6 you've got to try, I guess, otherwise you just say well we're stymied by this. This is an  
7 attempt to try.

8 **MS McKECHNIE:** Might be an appropriate time to take the adjournment ma'am?

9 **CHAIR:** I'm sure we're all very grateful for that. We will take the lunch adjournment, can I ask is  
10 it for an hour, 2 o'clock?

11 **MS GLOVER:** Yes, thank you ma'am. Let's make it 5 past 2.

12 **Luncheon adjournment from 1.08 pm to 2.07 pm**

13 **CHAIR:** Yes Ms McKechnie.

14 **MS McKECHNIE:** Thank you ma'am. Ma'am, before we resume a minor housekeeping matter.  
15 I understand from Counsel Assisting the Commissioners are engaging with our time-tabling  
16 challenges given we're running a little bit late.

17 **CHAIR:** We're looking for counsel to provide solutions, the sands of time are running out for us  
18 pretty rapidly.

19 **MS McKECHNIE:** Yes, they are ma'am. In order to assist your decision-making if I can let you  
20 know what the issues are with next week for the Cardinal.

21 **CHAIR:** Yes certainly.

22 **MS McKECHNIE:** Unfortunately, as we've indicated for some time, he can't appear next week.

23 **CHAIR:** It's the holy week, yes.

24 **MS McKECHNIE:** Particularly, ma'am, he has a thing called a Chrism Mass on Monday, in fact  
25 the Cardinal has to give three, one at 11 am on Monday in Palmerston North, then on  
26 Tuesday in Nelson and then on Wednesday – sorry on Tuesday afternoon in Wellington. If  
27 he does not attend as the bishop they cannot take place. So it is unfortunately an  
28 unavoidable and unmovable obligation.

29 Tim is happy to sit later this evening, or as long as you need to finish his evidence.  
30 The Cardinal has offered, without asking me, ma'am, he can start at 7 am or whatever time  
31 you need tomorrow and again can sit as long as is needed tomorrow, but with his apologies,  
32 he is not able to attend on Monday or Tuesday.

33 **CHAIR:** I think that's entirely understandable. Thank you for the explanation which will assist.  
34 Do we need to make final decisions now? But we'll think about it through the afternoon.

1 Can I just express my gratitude to all of those who are prepared to be flexible and to assure  
2 you we will be as flexible as we can to make sure that everybody gets the fullest  
3 opportunity. The last thing I want is for anybody to feel that their evidence is being  
4 truncated or rushed in any way. Thank you for that information.

5 **MS McKECHNIE:** Thank you ma'am.

6 **CHAIR:** Welcome back, Tim. We'll carry on with your questioning.

7 **MS McKECHNIE:** Thank you ma'am. I have two other areas I'm going to cover with Tim now  
8 and I have talked to him about answering my questions succinctly mindful of the sands of  
9 time and also that we will both speak slowly and stay away from camels ma'am.

10 **CHAIR:** Yes.

11 **QUESTIONING BY MS McKECHNIE CONTINUED:** So Tim, I said at the beginning I was  
12 going to ask you about current process and we have talked quite a lot about some of the  
13 things that happened now in the answers to the questions before lunch. So if you are able  
14 to briefly summarise, if somebody approaches the Society with a disclosure or to talk to  
15 you in 2021, what will happen with that process?

16 A. In the way they approach us we'd probably approach them back that way unless they were  
17 by chance to directly connect with the right person. The first thing to do would be to set up  
18 a meeting between a delegate usually and one of our priests usually in the same way  
19 I talked about going to see people face-to-face. I think it's essential that one of us and one  
20 of us in the leadership goes to the person and sits with them wherever they want to, that  
21 might be an independent place, they might want to come to our offices, they might want us  
22 to come their home, they want us to meet their whānau, whatever. And sit with them to  
23 begin the process, to cut it short, which I've already outlined. And it would be at that  
24 meeting again that those important things would happen then, there may be some  
25 backwards and forwards clarification necessary, you know, that usually could be done by  
26 multiple different ways, but sometimes, you know, "You said it happened in 1963, our  
27 records show that might have been 64", "Oh yeah, that's right", those sorts of things for  
28 clarifications, but then the process would be similar to what I've outlined, to making sure  
29 that we've got the statement of the person correct and then if the respondent is alive, there  
30 would be a process of assigning interviewers to the respondent and possibly even to assign  
31 an interviewer to the complainant. Sometimes if a complaint has been well-documented in  
32 an early phase it may not be necessary to go through another what could be retraumatising  
33 event to have to explain it to a whole lot of other people who sometimes don't understand  
34 all of the realities of what the situation might have been. One of the things with somebody

1 that's worked with for a long time is that they get better at knowing the deal, where we  
2 were, what we did and our guys that respond can help them with that too. But then, once  
3 all the information is gathered, then our Protocol Committee would meet, the interviewers,  
4 independent people, would report to the Protocol Committee, the interviewers would make  
5 any statement that they wanted to make and would leave the room. Then the Protocol  
6 Committee would make a determination as to the best ways, having already done things  
7 like offering counselling and all that sort of stuff that might have been happening, as the  
8 best way we could offer further redress. That might be by formal letter, that might be by a  
9 meeting, that might be by a payment, that might be by couple's counselling, all sorts of  
10 things, and we have had a wide range of other things. I heard other people talk about things  
11 that they had done. We have done things like that too, you know, sometimes it's important  
12 to somebody "What I really want to do is go and see whānau in Australia" or whatever.  
13 That might be a wee bit stymied at the moment but that sort of thing does happen. Then  
14 ultimately the delegate would come to me the Provincial and say "This is our determination  
15 of what should be done by you to resolve this matter as much as it's able to be done." That  
16 might include the payment, that might be the apology letter which I would write and sign  
17 and that sort of thing.

18 **COMMISSIONER ERUETI:** May I just quickly ask here, thank you counsel. First it comes to  
19 the Society, then –

20 A. It may not first come to the Society, sorry, it could come through NOPS.

21 Q. Right, okay.

22 A. And quite often it probably does come through NOPS, it's probably better known. But  
23 sometimes people know us and know where to ring, it comes from various ways. It could  
24 be even come to say the Marist Brothers or a diocese and they would redirect.

25 Q. Brilliant, thank you, and redirect it to the Society of Mary?

26 A. Yes.

27 Q. Then there's another step with the interviewers or like the investigators?

28 A. Investigators, right.

29 Q. And then there's the Protocol Committee. And then back to the Marist – sorry, the Society  
30 of Mary?

31 A. Yes.

32 Q. Thank you.

33 A. But all the time the person may need to continue having pastoral care, and that would be  
34 organised through the delegate and possibly just personally done by the delegate.

1 **Q.** Thank you.

2 **QUESTIONING BY MS McKECHNIE CONTINUED:** I'm sure there'll be some other  
3 questions from my friend later about that process, I'm going to move on now to what  
4 happens with the respondent. You talked briefly about that then. So if a complaint comes  
5 to the Society where the respondent is alive, what is the process in terms of potential  
6 discipline of that individual?

7 **A.** A complaint of?

8 **Q.** A serious harm.

9 **A.** To?

10 **Q.** So an individual comes forward with a complaint that a man from the Society who's still  
11 alive harmed them in a serious sexual manner.

12 **A.** I draw a distinction between somebody who was at the time of the complaint a minor and a  
13 person who was at the time of their complaint possibly a non-vulnerable adult, shall I put it  
14 that way. I don't like calling people vulnerable adults, I don't think it's life-affirming or  
15 anything like that. I don't believe that people who were badly hurt are always vulnerable.  
16 So I don't like that word at all really. I just think they're adults but they've also been hurt.  
17 Our first thing would be to say to call that person to us or probably we'd get in our vehicle  
18 and get to the person and say "I'm sorry to tell you this has happened, from this moment  
19 you are suspended from ministry."

20 **Q.** What does that mean Tim?

21 **A.** What that means is, I think the common parlance would be you're stood aside. Sometimes  
22 I've heard words like gardening leave, I don't quite understand that word in business world,  
23 but, you know, "You're not on the job. You're no longer to operate, act as a priest,  
24 I wouldn't even say you should answer the phone. You're not to operate as a member of the  
25 Society and/or a priest." And I would say, "Taking a photo at an event outside a wedding  
26 and turning up in your blacks", "I'm not the ministry", I'd say "Yes you are, you're there in  
27 your black clothes, maybe they think you're a priest in good standing, so don't do that, just  
28 avoid all of those situations."

29 **Q.** So as you set out in your evidence the respondent is interviewed?

30 **A.** Mmm-hmm.

31 **Q.** There was some questions asked earlier in the week about what happens if there is a denial,  
32 what's your experience of that?

33 **A.** It's a really good question. We've never had one. Well, I mean there's been guys that have  
34 been dead, but of guys that are living not one has said no, that's not true. I don't know

1 whether to say this or not really; for many years I was in charge of boarders. I could tell  
2 when a boy's lying and when a boy's not lying, I can tell when a priest is lying and a priest  
3 is not lying too. I think that they would think there's not much point lying to me if it were  
4 me going to be the interviewer. But our processes are pretty robust and I would say there's  
5 little point denying stuff when it's damn well best that you did it.

6 **Q.** Following an admission, what happens to that priest or brother?

7 **A.** Well, they would still be on suspension, so to speak. Because the whole process has to  
8 finish, you know, and the judgment made and the rest of it, but at the end of that time, and  
9 I've only had to do this once personally, I would write a letter explaining all of the  
10 constraints that would be on this person for the rest of his life, I would go personally to see  
11 that person, I would make sure they have a support person with them of their choice but  
12 probably from their own community, and I would walk them through all of that. I would  
13 give them the letter explaining it more carefully, I would then give them time to react to  
14 that, to ask questions after that, time to go away and reflect upon it and come back and ask  
15 questions. I would speak to that person's community.

16 **Q.** And by that you mean house?

17 **A.** House I do, yeah, that's probably an easy word for you, yes, and say this man is in your  
18 midst and has offended against whatever and there would be no names or anything like that,  
19 not even the school it happened in as an example or the parish. But from this moment on  
20 for the rest of his life, he will be out of ministry. And as I said, we personally in the  
21 Society of Mary, are very, very clear that ministry means anything that's face-to-face with  
22 anybody else.

23 **Q.** Can they come back into ministry?

24 **A.** No. There's one actual strange exception. If they were a priest they could, say, go to the  
25 prayers and celebrations in the community with the others, if there was nobody from  
26 outside the organisation there. There's one other thing that I would say, it's strange but I'll  
27 say it anyway; a priest – you would have heard Tom say that he was still a priest. No-one  
28 that I know would say he's still a priest. Once you're dispensed from being a priest you are  
29 no longer a priest. I'm not saying that against him, I'm just saying that against him, I'm just  
30 saying that's the facts. But in the event of somebody nearby him being in extremis, about to  
31 die, you can again act as a priest. Why? Because the person is more important than the  
32 job. So that would be the one possibility of acting as a priest to administer the sacraments  
33 to a dying person.

34 **Q.** So you remove the faculties from that individual?

- 1 A. Yeah.
- 2 Q. So they are no longer and cannot be in ministry?
- 3 A. Mmm-hmm.
- 4 Q. Why don't you remove them from the Society?
- 5 A. It's a good question. If I was the local butcher, he'd get fired because I cannot help him in  
6 his ordinary life. I can't say "Hey come and move in with me and my family", or whatever  
7 else like that. But I think there's really good reasons for not, say, kicking them out. People  
8 say words like defrocking, it's a very strange word to me, it's not a word we use, or have  
9 them laicised or dismissed, and we could do that. But then where would he go then? He  
10 would go into a little State house somewhere, because he wouldn't have much money, he  
11 has had no salary or income for all of that time and he's got to be somewhere, is he going to  
12 live next door to some school down the road in a house by himself, not on my watch he's  
13 not. Absolutely not. He's going to live in a community where he is supervised and cared  
14 for and looked after and hopefully loved inasmuch as we love each other, you know, see  
15 how they love each other, not in any immoral sense, and supported. I don't want him to go  
16 away and feel so ashamed that he tops himself either, to be blunt. I would take no pleasure  
17 in that at all. In fact when anybody takes their life I take absolutely no pleasure in that at  
18 all. So I want young people or whoever the person might have as their target one might say  
19 to be safe, and I also want to make sure that they don't set up themselves somewhere in a  
20 place where they might do something. So I think that we are responsible for this man and  
21 we, some of our guys probably think to themselves I wish we didn't have to, but we do have  
22 to, we do have to keep him and everybody else safe, and that's our firm commitment. And  
23 would I tell the bishop yes, because he must know, he must know that a man who could  
24 have been thought to be a priest in his diocese isn't – he must know. And if you want to ask  
25 Cardinal John you can tomorrow. I sent him the exact letters that I sent both to the  
26 individual handed him personally, and to each of our communities saying this man has been  
27 dismissed from ministry and will no longer function with any faculties.
- 28 Q. Does that letter go anywhere else?
- 29 A. I send it to Rome too.
- 30 Q. Where in Rome?
- 31 A. To our Superior General, he may have reporting functions, I don't know about how many  
32 priests have been removed from ministry, they've never asked me to serve in those great  
33 heights, I don't honestly know exactly what happens.
- 34 Q. Moving on to the information that the Society of Mary collected in relation to your records

1 about complaints and disclosures, Commissioners this is part of a briefing paper you have  
2 been given previously and you have a copy in the bundle in front of you for all of the  
3 diocese and congregations of the Church, so I'm going to ask Tim about the ones for the  
4 Society. To begin, Tim, how do the Society hold their records?

5 A. If we go back a long way they possibly were kept in a file which was sort of a confidential  
6 file about things. Once -- again I'm sorry to mention it because it's not her fault at all, but  
7 Kitty McKinley came on board with us, she said "You've got to have absolute perfect files  
8 for this, you never know when you might need it." I never thought this might happen, but  
9 we have kept really good records I believe since those days.

10 Q. And when did Kitty join and start working with the Society?

11 A. At the time of the tsunami, the 2002 tsunami is what I refer to, yeah.

12 Q. So to assemble this information, those records were examined. Did you do that yourself?

13 A. Sometimes, yes, sometimes. But we would -- each complaint comes in, we'd send them a  
14 file, we've had to go back and do it for some that existed previously that were not put in a  
15 file as well-structured and organised as they are now.

16 Q. Turning now to preparing the information for the Royal Commission.

17 A. Sure.

18 Q. Did you do that yourself?

19 A. No.

20 Q. Who within the Society prepared the information?

21 A. Several people really. And they weren't all members of the Society, at least three of them  
22 weren't. A man who was a policeman and a lawyer did some of the work, a guy who  
23 developed our database for keeping it and our spreadsheets and that did some of the work,  
24 and Kitty McKinley did some of the work too. It seems to us that the familiarity with it  
25 was probably helpful. You know, if you go to Kitty and say Jim Smith -- my mother was a  
26 Smith so I shouldn't probably take that name in vain -- but she'd say "Yeah, that's that file",  
27 so you could find it or whatever, so that was helpful. And our instructions to them were we  
28 asked to be part of the Royal Commission, we have to give them everything they ask for.  
29 And we have.

30 Q. As you'll know, Tim, because you are on the Tautoko governance group.

31 A. Sure.

32 Q. This process began before the Commission had formally asked for anything. So what sort  
33 of information in terms of disclosures abuse complaints, what is included in this data?

34 A. Categorisation of each of the complaints and about the complainants and about the

1 respondents probably including their ethnicity, their age at the time of the offence, both of  
2 the individual and the respondent, where it occurred, what sort of situation it was, was it in  
3 an educational setting, was it in a parish setting, was it somewhere else, and all that sort of  
4 categorising information.

5 **Q.** In order that this information is now public, I'm going to ask you some of these questions  
6 so you can share the information with the Commission and with the people watching.  
7 Commissioners, you have these documents if you want to follow through, the table  
8 numbers I'm referring to are the tables that you also have. So Tim, first I want to ask you  
9 about the numbers from your records, how many reports or disclosures of abuse the Society  
10 of Mary have on their files. This is table 1.

11 **A.** So the total number is 81. I have to be honest here and say the most recent thing where I  
12 was indicating before somebody had been taken out of the ministry I do not know whether  
13 that's in here or not. But it would fall in scope.

14 **Q.** I can confirm to the Commission it's not and when we continue our continuous disclosure  
15 we will include that. This information was gathered before that event took place. Tim, of  
16 those 81 complaints, 58 of them are against children who are classified as being 16 and  
17 under and 23 of them are against adults. Of the Church entities this is an unusual  
18 proportion of abuse against adults, it's the highest of any of the Catholic Church entities as  
19 a proportion of total claims. Do you have any observations about that?

20 **A.** I do. I can't be certain about this but I know, I was going to say anecdotally, anecdotally's  
21 not true, but because of my involvement with it, I find this very hard to say. Some of the  
22 adults were, I believe, religious women and to me that's terrible, as terrible as it is with a  
23 child. Not because they were anything less than a fully functional adult, but women who  
24 choose a life like that deserve to be allowed to – the quiet enjoyment of that life in the  
25 ordinary sense of the legal term. For somebody to violate that I find it thoroughly  
26 repugnant as I do with a child as well. Not that with any other adult I find it fine or  
27 anything like that at all, but it just strikes me even as a sharper dagger, one might say.  
28 That's what I suspect is partly the problem there.

29 **Q.** There's been a lot of evidence and it's quite well-established that there is a delay between  
30 people being harmed, very often, and the complaint being made. At table 4 of this  
31 information that is clear in the Society's records. There were three complaints made within  
32 six months of the event but then the vast majority are made two, three or four decades later.  
33 You've heard quite a lot of evidence in listening about barriers to people coming forward.  
34 What observations do you have about the barriers from a – particularly if you can in the



- 1 Society that might have led to this?
- 2 A. I'm going to use a word which I probably use but I'm going to use it anyway. Quite often  
3 I get asked to speak to young people. One of the things I talk to them about is the bag of  
4 shit that life gives you. I promised you I wouldn't swear but I just have. All of us can pick  
5 up in life stuff that really we carry around with us like a knapsack and quite often you get to  
6 your – you arrive at midlife and you say I have carried this bag long enough and I must  
7 now open it, no matter how bad it is, and how bad -- we won't go there, but, you know, and  
8 look at it, open it up, explore it, deal with it, have help with it and try to have a better  
9 second part of my life. And I think that a lot of the people that I've been associated with,  
10 that was their founded hope, that the harm initially, but even through the early part of their  
11 life, because they hadn't dealt with it would encourage them to come forward at midlife,  
12 you often re-evaluate it, stupid men buy motorbikes and fast cars, but sensible people  
13 evaluate what might have gone wrong and what the cause was that.
- 14 Q. Turning now to table 8, Tim, which is on page 6 of the document you have, in terms of  
15 respondents who are alive at the time of the complaint – apologies, if we could go back to  
16 table 6, sorry, this is about where the harm took place, the institutional setting. Your  
17 records, and I appreciate this is difficult from some of the records, that 45 of these  
18 disclosures took place in an education setting, nine in residential care or an orphanage, 11  
19 in a parish and some others. Residential care in this table also includes boarding schools  
20 and I know you wanted to make a comment about that 45 and 9 in the context of education.
- 21 A. I'd just lump them together. That's where I think it's 54 in my – I wouldn't guarantee that  
22 somebody said it happened to me when I was at St Pat's that they were a day boy or a  
23 boarder, they are the same thing. I do think, however, that, you know, if we go back to the  
24 matrix, if you were in fact a boarder it makes it worse, because you're not going home to  
25 mum and dad at night and you are co-institutional with the offender, at least mum and dad  
26 is something to go home to and if you're a boarder you don't have that. You might at the  
27 end of the term. I think that's a factor I would add into intensifying the experience of  
28 badness, which is probably a ridiculous thing to have said.
- 29 Q. Looking at table 8, 45 complaints at the time they were made, the respondent was alive.  
30 We've talked about that process, what the Society does when the respondent or accused is  
31 alive. 35 of the complaints were made against people who were deceased. What process  
32 do the Society use when the man is no longer alive?
- 33 A. Same process. We don't say "Sorry the guy that offended against you is dead so tough luck  
34 or go away" or anything like that. We go through the same process, we might have to do it

1 with reviewing the files. I think Peter Horide was saying about if it's a one and only against  
2 somebody it makes it more difficult, but if it's a recidivist offender there's no problem at all.  
3 But as I said earlier, I don't think that there's a great phalanx of people who come forward  
4 with a made-up story. Our first belief would be if you're coming to us to tell us about this,  
5 we're here and ready to believe it, and that's why I always said when I was doing these, "I  
6 believe you and I believe you on behalf of the Society of Mary." Sadly, I wonder about  
7 this, people sometimes came to us within a year or two of the death of the individual. And  
8 I'm not attributing any bad motive to the complainant, I'm just saying that might be the only  
9 time when you're free enough to do that.

10 **Q.** Ms Anderson asked Virginia Noonan this morning about in the NOPS process why you'd  
11 need to do an investigation if the person is dead. I appreciate you don't use the NOPS  
12 investigation process, but the process you've just talked about, when a person is dead, why  
13 do you still need to do that?

14 **A.** An investigation might be not the best word, but, you know, you've got to know that the  
15 person was there at the time, you know, if they say "I was abused by Tim Duckworth when  
16 I was in – at Saint – some school, St (inaudible) school, we were working in Whangarei,  
17 I've never worked there. So you'd sort of want to check that out. Having said that, we did  
18 have one gentleman that came to us that said that he was abused by a particular person and  
19 probably, to my shame, I investigated it fully with others and the rest of it. The person that  
20 he says abused him was never there at that time. I'm proud to say that others saw better  
21 than me that this person was probably abused even though he completely got the name  
22 wrong but he was so insistent that was the right name that it wasn't easy. But we've since  
23 gone through the whole redress process with that person and I hope that they're okay.  
24 I sincerely regret that I didn't see the sensibleness of just believing them anyway even  
25 though they got the name wrong. Sometimes that's what you've got to do, I think, but, you  
26 know, a lot of people would say you're a damn fool for doing that. But I think I tried not to  
27 be a damn fool, but probably made myself a complete fool by not but others have made up  
28 for me afterwards, which is often the way, someone else would put it right after I've put it  
29 wrong.

30 **Q.** I have a final question about table 9 which is about redress outcomes, and the quantum is  
31 there for the Commission to see, but the last questions I wanted to ask you were about the  
32 apology and the figure on the table is 55 and that's where there is a record in the file or a  
33 written apology. In your experience, is an apology given to somebody in the redress  
34 process?

1 A. In my experience always. Now whether that was somehow in a shorthand way left out of  
2 some records, I don't know. I didn't do all of the records, in fact I did very few of those  
3 records. And whether somebody's counted up where a formal apology was given and  
4 written down or they received an apology at the time of the financial settlement, I don't  
5 know. But – and I've got no reason to suggest that the figure's wrong, but if I know what  
6 I know, I would say that all cases that we have gone through and come out the other side  
7 with, they have all had an apology, so yeah.

8 **Q.** Thank you, Tim. For completeness, Commissioners, that document I've been discussing  
9 with Tim is EXT0015730. It's appendix 5 to the Cardinal's brief, briefing paper 5.

10 **CHAIR:** Thank you.

11 **QUESTIONING BY MS McKECHNIE CONTINUED:** Thank you Tim.

12 A. Thank you.

13 **Q.** Ms Glover has some questions for you now.

14 **CHAIR:** Thank you Ms Glover.

15 **QUESTIONING BY MS GLOVER:** Thank you Madam Chair. Tim, I'd like to start by asking  
16 you just a few questions arising out of some of the things that you've just said.

17 A. Sure.

18 **Q.** One of the comments you made was when you were talking about the role that the bishop  
19 has in relation to schools and you said that the care of people all falls within the  
20 responsibility of the bishop. And you said "But primarily I'm not going to pass the buck,  
21 I'm going to deal with the redress process properly and not shirk responsibility." What do  
22 you think the bishop should do if the person in your role did shirk responsibility in any  
23 way?

24 A. Well, I guess that's exactly what the bishops have done. They've set up a process which  
25 takes it away from the vagaries of what people might or might not be able to do or might do  
26 badly. That's what they've tried to do I think. You know, we are a larger congregation.  
27 Why I'm not going to shirk away from it is because I think we have the resources to deal  
28 with it. But if you're talking about a group of three brothers who are all elderly and about a  
29 complaint which happened many, many years ago, they may not be able to deal with that,  
30 and so the bishops have set up this process so it can be dealt with, even if the congregation  
31 can't. So I think that they are shouldering the responsibility of it not being done by the  
32 congregation themselves, even though I would personally see that as ideal.

33 **Q.** So the process, you're talking about the NOPS process here I take it, that takes it so far, but  
34 then the end of the process when you're talking about the actual redress provided by a

1 diocese or a congregation to the survivor, that part remains with that particular diocese or  
2 congregation. So what ought the bishop do, do you think, if that part of the process falls  
3 down, if that's where the congregation or diocese ends up shirking their responsibility, it  
4 would be the congregation, sorry, if it were the diocese it would be the bishop anyway?

5 A. I know this is a hypothetical question, but, you know, I'd expect the bishops that I know if it  
6 were me to come and apply the blowtorch to me. That's what I'd expect. I must be  
7 accountable for what I'm doing. You know, one of the meanings of bishop is overseer.  
8 You know, that's a role of governance, it's not necessarily a role of management, but I have  
9 a role of management and it's me who's supposed to be managing it. So if it was another  
10 religious head of a congregation who wasn't managing it well, and it became known to the  
11 bishop, then I think that would be quite fair for the bishop to say to a congregational leader,  
12 we believe that you're not doing that as well as you might, maybe this – and if the Cardinal  
13 or one of the other bishops said "We don't actually believe that the Society of Mary's  
14 redress process is doing what you claim it's doing, if you believe that a congregation or my  
15 congregation is not doing what should be being done, then please come and tell me" and  
16 my, you know, I would expect a rap over the knuckles in the first instance and then to be  
17 giving the assurance that I am doing it. And, you know, I do see that the NOPS CAC  
18 bishops processes are working that way.

19 Q. You were talking also about the composition of the Sexual Abuse Protocol Committee.

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And you were saying that it's largely independent, we employ them as contractors, you've  
22 got social workers, counsellors, former Police, former Customs officers, psychiatrists,  
23 psychologists, those kind of people, and then you said that you have a member or two from  
24 the Society of Mary who act in a filling in the gaps role as a sort of repository of  
25 institutional knowledge. I just wanted to ask you about the evidence that we heard in the  
26 Phase One hearing in December last year from Ann-Marie Shelley, and we'll come back to  
27 her experiences, but her evidence was that your role in the meetings that she had with you  
28 was very much not, in her experience, just filling in the gaps, and her words were "He kind  
29 of took control of the meeting." So when she's talking about the meeting between you and  
30 her and one other person, she's very much directing her comments at you because she saw  
31 you as taking that leadership role within the meeting. What would you say to that?

32 A. I'd say to that firstly – I presume you understand the case we're talking about?

33 Q. Yes.

34 A. So I wasn't there as a Marist at all, this was not a case that came to the Society of Mary

1 Abuse Protocol Committee. In fact, to prepare for this I had no, no access even to the file,  
2 so that I could reinform myself, because it was a case which would be confidentially held  
3 by the Archdiocese.

4 **Q.** I see.

5 **A.** So, you know, did I lead in that regard? Yeah, the woman that I work with, a wonderful  
6 woman by the name of Jacqui Dromgool, a very lovely and compassionate woman that was  
7 part of the inquiries, she's now deceased, she and I did it together, but she said to me on the  
8 very first day "I've not done a lot of this, can you take the lead in this", and I had done a lot  
9 of it. And I was sort of as a favour helping the Cardinal, not this Cardinal, the late – sorry,  
10 sorry Tom, he's not dead, but the former Cardinal, to help to do theirs because I had more  
11 expertise than maybe some of their men did.

12 **Q.** You say that you wouldn't stop someone who wanted to go through the NOPS process from  
13 doing so, even if it were a complaint regarding a Member of the Society of Mary. Do you  
14 think that complainants, survivors, victims know that?

15 **A.** We provide people with options. And the options that they have are all on the table at all  
16 times and at times, you know, people come to us sometimes through the media even,  
17 sometimes through the Police, sometimes through legal channels, sometimes they switch  
18 from one to the other and over a period of many years they often switch the processes that  
19 they're using. It's their choice, it's survivor-led. So yeah, I mean absolutely, if they say  
20 "Look, we would prefer, or I would prefer this case to be dealt with by NOPS", then we  
21 would have to, we would have to, you know, let NOPS deal with it.

22 **Q.** But that option isn't put directly to the survivors I take it?

23 **A.** I'm not doing it at this stage, it never existed when I was part of it, I am not part of our  
24 Protocol Committee and I can't answer that question I'm sorry.

25 **Q.** You also said that you had to quickly move from a cap of around \$30,000 to \$50,000?

26 **A.** Yes.

27 **Q.** Why was that?

28 **A.** As I said earlier, we consulted lawyers who were in this field, we also consulted ACC and  
29 what had been given to us we realised was possibly on the low side so we adjust it.

30 **Q.** What led you to consider it was on the low side, was it as a result of that external advice?

31 **A.** Mmm-hmm.

32 **Q.** When was that change made?

33 **A.** Honestly I can't tell you exactly. If you looked at the data we just saw there and you drilled  
34 down into it you'd see when we first changed, I think you said there were some that was

1 received in that – the first one that received that would tell you when. I'm sure you've got  
2 all that data and you could get that answer very simply. I don't have that with me.

3 **Q.** You said that in every instance where you've gone to an alleged abuser and said this is the  
4 claim against you, they've all admitted it?

5 **A.** Mmm-hmm.

6 **Q.** And then you spoke about this process where you go to them with a letter and constraints  
7 around what they can and cannot do, and those constraints would remain with them for the  
8 rest of their lives. And you said "I only needed – I have only done this once." So what  
9 happens to the others? What happened to all of the others who admitted that they had  
10 abused somebody and yet didn't end up in this position?

11 **A.** They all did end up in the position, as Ms McKechnie asked me morning, how long have  
12 you had this job, the answer is just over a year. So it was not my responsibility before now.  
13 Before me I can give you the list of all of those men that might have had to do that. But it  
14 would have been the Provincial at the time that had to do that. They're not going to send  
15 some underling along to do it which I would have been.

16 **Q.** So do you have any insight as to whether the position that you would take as Provincial  
17 would be any different?

18 **A.** Absolutely, that's our policy and that's what we've always done, every person has been  
19 permanently removed from ministry that has offended against a minor or a vulnerable adult.

20 **Q.** You also said in relation to the Society of Mary's involvement with this Inquiry, that "We  
21 asked to be involved, we took the approach that we had to provide everything to the  
22 Inquiry, we had to do that".

23 **A.** Mmm-hmm.

24 **Q.** In your personal view, do you think that that obligation to hand over everything should  
25 extend to, for example, legally privileged documents?

26 **A.** Absolutely, yeah. I mean honestly, and I know this is offensive and I don't mean it to be  
27 personally offensive, I think lawyers are very good at hiding and I think that all lawyers  
28 should always own up to what they do and say. I say that not in any way offensive but, you  
29 know, we have not used lawyers in the large extent and for that very reason. When I first  
30 came on the advice that lawyers gave us was very, very bad advice and that was to fight it  
31 all, you know, and when I got there I thought to myself why are we fighting this? We say  
32 we're compassionate and honest and open and loving and we care about these people, so  
33 fight them back with a lawyer; no, that's the wrong thing to do, I absolutely repudiate that.  
34 And our men that did that in the early years made a bad mistake but that was the advice

1 they were given by very, very well-paid lawyers. And as far as I'm concerned I wouldn't  
2 pay a lawyer to give me any advice on any of this stuff at all.

3 **Q.** When you say when you first came on board and that was the position, what time period are  
4 you talking about there?

5 **A.** I'm pretty sure that – hang on, I can check. April 2002.

6 **Q.** Okay, so we're talking the tsunami period.

7 **A.** Yeah, absolutely. It just happened to coincide with me taking office as Vicar Provincial at  
8 that time, vicar meaning second in command, and the boss said to me somebody has got to  
9 run this. So I actually stood aside from being a Vicar Provincial and took on this job,  
10 because it was, as I said, the tsunami. But previously he had done his level best as well to  
11 operate in the same way with the advice of counsellors and social workers and things like  
12 that to modify it, so in fact I'm not claiming any of the credit for that change, he initiated  
13 that, I just followed along.

14 **Q.** I'd like to bring up a document now please, it's EXT0000495. This document, when it  
15 comes up on the screen, you'll see it comprises case notes from one of the witnesses from  
16 last year, Mr F. So this is the Society of Mary's internal case notes. So I'd like to highlight  
17 a passage from page 4, beginning with the phrase "Mr F said that all clergy need to be  
18 aware of what is happening in relation to all this abuse. He believes the Church needs to  
19 honestly appraise the situation and make an assessment of the size and scope of the  
20 situation." Then missing a sentence there moving on to, "Kitty said that the Society of  
21 Mary is genuinely spending time on resolving these sorts of issues and that they are  
22 learning from the process but she could not speak on behalf of the whole Church."

23 **A.** Mmm-hmm.

24 **Q.** So at that time, so August 2002, what was the Society of Mary doing in order to try and  
25 assess the size and scope of the abuse problem?

26 **A.** Quite honestly at that time we probably had in the order of 35 active cases which we were  
27 working. I was meeting at that time, and one of the meetings I know with the Cardinal at  
28 the time, Bishop Pat of Auckland and other bishops and things like that to try and say how  
29 can we deal with this together. And we came up with a plan for dealing with it which was  
30 that you deal with yours and we'll deal with ours. The protocols had already been  
31 developed, one of our men, a very intelligent man by the name of Pat Bearsley – he was  
32 Oxford-trained, and probably the most intelligent man that ever taught me. No, I could be  
33 wrong about that, another gentleman we have, still alive, possibly just as intelligent -- he  
34 had done a lot to develop the protocols for this and, you know, we had been a big part of

1 that, but the Cardinal and other bishops had asked us to take a lead on that too, because –  
2 **Q.** Are you saying you were just responding to the tsunami that was in front of you rather than  
3 at this stage –

4 **A.** No, no I'm not.

5 **Q.** – trying to get a scope?

6 **A.** No, it's not what I'm saying. I'm saying at that time yes, I was responding to the tsunami  
7 but previous to that we had been setting up this stuff, because there had been a small  
8 number of cases. So we were starting to deal with this stuff in a better way than we had.  
9 And as I said earlier, the big problem with the way we were dealing with it was that a lot of  
10 people's first approach to us was through a lawyer. And the legal profession, I'm sad to tell  
11 you, let us down badly. And I think they let the Church down badly and I think that they  
12 shouldn't try to take on subjects that they don't know much about.

13 **Q.** So my question really is more about the data collection and what was being done, not so  
14 much in developing the protocols and how to respond to complainants, because – and we'll  
15 come to those, but more about was anybody at that time standing back and trying to assess  
16 the scale of the problem?

17 **A.** I don't know the person who was standing back and trying to assess the scale of the  
18 problem. What I do say is this: I maintain that one of the things I'd really like to see from  
19 this Royal Commission is mandatory reporting of offences that have been admitted to or,  
20 you know, complaints that are brought forward by any organisation in the country.  
21 Because only as my very good friend Pope John XXIII said, if you don't open the windows  
22 and let the light and the air in then how will you know the truth. And one of the things of  
23 wanting to be part of this and, you know, the Cardinal led this, but you know, we need to be  
24 part of this, is so that the truth is out. However it is –

25 **Q.** When you're talking about mandatory reporting –

26 **A.** Yeah.

27 **Q.** – how would you envisage that working, who's reporting to whom at what point in the  
28 process?

29 **A.** I would say that any organisation that has a complaint, I'd say – I'm not attacking you there,  
30 but a legal firm that's had these issues like we have had, of sexually inappropriate  
31 behaviour within a legal firm, they should have to report it, because otherwise we don't  
32 know that what's going on in this country is very bad. And some of it, I'm owning up to  
33 and saying a lot of that might have been existent in the Catholic Church. Honestly, I think  
34 most of us are surprised to find out how much.



- 1 **Q.** To whom would the report be made, are you talking about to the –
- 2 **A.** The Government's really good at setting up statutory bodies, I'm sure that they could. I just  
3 think that should be done. It stops cover up. Cover up doesn't help. Cover up is the enemy  
4 of dealing with this sort of stuff. And, you know, if we had to report it to the Police, fine  
5 by me. Absolutely. You know, the sooner we get on top of this problem and fix it, and it's  
6 not just a problem that we have, even though I absolutely have to say it is a problem we've  
7 had, all of us need to care for especially women and children in our society, I think this is  
8 really important. And, you know, one of the things that slightly upsets me about this is that  
9 this Royal Commission will look at the State and at faith-based institutions, there are a lot  
10 of other institutions where this is happening and a recommendation I would suggest would  
11 be that everybody has to report it, and that non-reporting of it becomes part of the cover up.  
12 Cover up is the problem. It's not the only problem, it's a big part of the problem. And we  
13 have to be honest, we have to own up to it.
- 14 **Q.** Just a more minor point, you mentioned that in 2002 the Society established a sexual abuse  
15 helpline?
- 16 **A.** We did.
- 17 **Q.** The helpline received a large number of complaints. That helpline's no longer active I take  
18 it?
- 19 **A.** That helpline is no longer active but we do have a helpline, yes.
- 20 **Q.** I see, can you explain the chronology of when that helpline was discontinued and why and  
21 when the fresh helpline was established?
- 22 **A.** Honestly I can't, but let me just take you through what I believe is what happened.  
23 I initiated a helpline for people to call in and we had either a landline or a cellphone which  
24 we could switch over from one to the other so it was manned, personed 24 hours a day in  
25 the period when it was necessary. There's not a lot of point having a helpline which wasn't  
26 being called ever. And so over time the number of complaints diminished significantly. At  
27 that stage we took away the 0800 number thing and we gave out information, we publicly  
28 said this is the number, we repeated a number of times this is where it is. You can find it  
29 online, and if you ring us we'll give you that number. But how long would that have taken?  
30 Probably a couple of years before things settled down.
- 31 **Q.** So the original helpline was in place for a couple of years?
- 32 **A.** Yeah. I think so.
- 33 **Q.** And when was the more recent helpline established?
- 34 **A.** From that moment on.

- 1 **Q.** I see, so there was no interregnum between the two?
- 2 **A.** Not as far as I know. I did this job, this initial job, for three years. I'm not trying to push it  
3 away, but it almost killed me. I had orange hair on the day this began and within one year I  
4 had white hair and serious health issues. At the end of three years I gave up and said I can't  
5 do this because it will kill me tomorrow. Then others took over, I think, you know, to  
6 continue the task, I've come back into it, I've not gone back into exactly the role that I had  
7 there, but others have taken up the task. Fortunately one of our men, Piripi, fluent Maori  
8 speaker, was able to take up after me, a man with more compassion than any man I know,  
9 and he followed me and did a wonderful job in that role. I really, really take my hat off to  
10 him, probably a much, much better job than I ever did. So you know, sometimes you think  
11 to yourself you're the one doing the right thing but other people come after you and do it  
12 better than you do. Certainly that would be true of him.
- 13 **Q.** I would like to ask you about the relationship between the Society of Mary and the Maori  
14 community of this country.
- 15 **A.** Sure.
- 16 **Q.** Because we heard from Peter Horide about the way in which the Marist Brothers came to  
17 New Zealand and with the primary purpose of working among the Maori communities,  
18 you've described the Marist Brothers as cousins in the Marist family. And equally I take it  
19 that that was one of the primary reasons why the Society of Mary came to New Zealand?
- 20 **A.** Exactly right.
- 21 **Q.** And you also mentioned that the Society were keen to establish a college, this is in your  
22 written evidence, they were keen to establish a college specifically for Maori boys and that  
23 resulted in Hato Paora being established. You've served on that board, I take it, among  
24 others?
- 25 **A.** Mmm-hmm.
- 26 **Q.** I assume it's right that you would be familiar with the obligations of boards of trustees to  
27 ensure that a school's policies and practises reflect New Zealand's cultural diversity and  
28 also to take all reasonable steps to act in a manner that's consistent with the Treaty of  
29 Waitangi?
- 30 **A.** [Nods].
- 31 **CHAIR:** We're getting nods here, are you agreeing with these possibilities?
- 32 **A.** Absolutely so far.
- 33 **Q.** It's just if you would say "yes" rather than nodding it would help thank you.
- 34 **QUESTIONING BY MS GLOVER CONTINUED:** Outside the schooling context, has the

1 Society of Mary made any explicit commitments with regard to the Treaty, do you know?

2 A. We've made – in the beginning I need to go back, at the Treaty we were there. One of the  
3 things that's – at the time of the signing of Te Tiriti the Crown was doing its best to  
4 establish this Treaty but our men, together with Bishop Pompallier, enshrined the 4th article  
5 which gives religious freedom, rather than have, you know, a church which was to be the  
6 State church, it gave Māori spirituality a place to stand in the Treaty. And I'm absolutely  
7 certain that that wouldn't have been there without our men. Secondly, I'm sure that they did  
8 it for their own reasons as well, you know, far be it for me to try and pretend that they were  
9 doing it solely for the beauty of Māori spirituality. I would add that in my experience  
10 Māori are the best people in the world at being ecumenical. So you often will sit on a  
11 marae with people of other faiths, including the faiths which I'd say were primarily Māori,  
12 but you know, we were there at that first instance.

13 But, you know, the participation and the partnership and the protection they're all  
14 enshrined in the Treaty. There's things that we've often grappled with and in more recent  
15 times I've been a big part of places where we've been establishing things in terms of that  
16 partnership. And in fact with Cardinal John, our most recent achievement would be that  
17 something we've done there at Otaki where there's been a very significant local iwi, hapū,  
18 that have been negotiating with the Church about land that the Church has been using and  
19 where it might be better worked through. We've done a lot of financial work with that too.  
20 We continue to offer financial assistance to some pupils at Hato Paora. We have been part  
21 of that boards and things like that, you talked about policies, I can tell you with absolute  
22 certainty, that everybody policy that Hato Paora had when I was on the board was written  
23 by me. They had none when I started on the board, so...

24 Q. So coming back to the question, and I take it from what you're saying that in your  
25 perspective this partnership with Māori has been an intrinsic way in which the Society has  
26 operated, but there may not necessarily be any particular explicit commitments to Te Tiriti  
27 that we can point to?

28 A. Once every four years we hold what's called a chapter and the chapter is the – there can be  
29 various types but the correct term for this would be a chapter of affairs, of matters, and the  
30 Society has renewed again and again its commitment to the Treaty of Waitangi and to the  
31 people Māori, because they were, as it were, our first love in this land. You know,  
32 Pompallier came with the Marist, Pompallier was never a great Māori speaker, but the guy  
33 that came with him learned English on the boat coming over and Māori within six months.  
34 And you know, I have a cousin who's a Marist, and is a Pākehā and is the epitome of what I

- 1 would hope we could all be but we can't.
- 2 **Q.** In terms of that explicit commitment to Te Tiriti, are you saying that we would find that in  
3 the records of the chapter minutes or records?
- 4 **A.** Yeah, absolutely.
- 5 **Q.** Thank you. And in terms of the documents that are specific to redress, has the Society, do  
6 you know, taken any steps to, because I know that the Society has provided various input  
7 into, for example, A Path to Healing submissions and the like. Has it ever made any  
8 submissions or suggestions that a commitment to Te Tiriti should be incorporated in A Path  
9 to Healing document?
- 10 **A.** To tell you the honest I've never been a part of any of that sending in submissions to how to  
11 improve the Path to Healing. I would have thought that that would have been foundational  
12 to that document. And I would say that, you know, to our great shame, many of the  
13 complainants that came to the Society were Māori and as far as I'm aware, we always dealt  
14 with that in a sort of Treaty partnership way with Māori speakers, with the respect with  
15 meeting together, with, you know, beginning with a karakia, inviting whānau, and sitting  
16 and sharing food with people and carrying on that relationship. In many cases they were  
17 not well related to the Society. But, you know, it's sometimes families do bad things to  
18 other members of the family.
- 19 **Q.** Thinking about the Society of Mary's own policy document, the Sexual Abuse and  
20 Boundary Violations Policy that we looked at earlier, do you think that that policy  
21 incorporates Te Tiriti in the way that it ought, is it foundational to that?
- 22 **A.** I think, I mean it's – you probably think it's – it doesn't because, I don't know, I can't  
23 remember what it says, but Te Tiriti is not about a document, it's about a way of life, and  
24 it's about a commitment and it's about a dedication and, you know, I don't think anybody  
25 would say that we as a congregation are not dedicated to the people of the land.
- 26 **Q.** In your second written statement you refer to an example where you say an adapted form of  
27 the Samoan ifoga was used for a Samoan complainant. I'm interested to hear what that  
28 looked like and in what ways that practice was adopted and incorporated into redress?
- 29 **A.** Can I say to begin with, that I'm aware that we do not have a number of cases of Samoan  
30 origin, of the complainant. And so I want to be very generalised in what I say because, you  
31 know, I never want to hurt anyone deliberately or accidentally. So I didn't know anything  
32 about this as a process and it's a process which is used in Samoan culture and ifoga is a way  
33 in which the person who is offended can be restored in relationship with the family and the  
34 individual that they have offended against and, you know, from my memory the person

1 who has offended would sit covered with a mat to begin with – I didn't know anything of  
 2 this, although I did learn quite a bit about Samoa as a 3rd former from a priest who taught  
 3 me from Samoa, sat I think outside, maybe on the ground outside the fale to – sat in shame  
 4 as he may well –

5 **CHAIR:** Tim, sorry to interrupt you. Are you describing what happened at the ifoga that was  
 6 carried out by the Society of Mary or are you describing your general understanding?

7 A. I'm trying to explain both because I'm well aware that in the room most people will have no  
 8 idea what I'm talking about, I recognise that Sandra will know exactly.

9 **Q.** I think there's at least one. May I suggest that you just tell us what you did.

10 A. Okay. As I said, in adapted form.

11 **Q.** Yes.

12 A. Okay. We're not in Samoa, the individual that was offended against was not Samoan born,  
 13 but certainly Samoan raised in New Zealand. And so we flew that person's family to  
 14 Wellington to meet with us, we took advice from – I said a lot of good things about social  
 15 workers, but from a Samoan social worker. She explained the process to us, she said how it  
 16 might run, how members of the offended family might participate, how I might participate  
 17 in it, how the individual that's been the offender might participate, and how I might,  
 18 together with them, lead prayers, and it finished in sort of a form of reconciliation which  
 19 I found beautiful actually, absolutely. Do I think everything was hunky dory after that?  
 20 No, but do I think everything was okay after that? Yeah. And sometimes that formal  
 21 recognition of the need for us to go through a process, you know, we Catholics have a thing  
 22 we call reconciliation or confession. And sometimes it's really important to be able to do  
 23 something like that publicly and say "I sinned, I got it wrong, I'm bad, can you forgive me,  
 24 would you ever be able to forgive me", and the answer came, I reckon beautifully from the  
 25 offended against woman and her family, there was a real reconciliation, we shared food  
 26 together, I thought it was good. I think she thought it was good, I've seen her quite  
 27 regularly since then, regularly by that I mean in most years since then, sometimes by  
 28 accident.

29 **COMMISSIONER ALOFIVAE:** Counsel if I may. Tim, can I ask, so it took place at a venue?

30 A. It did, it actually took place at a house.

31 **Q.** So it was survivor-driven?

32 A. Absolutely.

33 **Q.** You put it to them how they wanted it to happen and they essentially then directed –

34 A. Getting advice, worked –

- 1 Q. – put the parameters around –
- 2 A. Absolutely.
- 3 Q. – what should happen and –
- 4 A. Yeah.
- 5 Q. – who should be there? Did they explain simply – we're just trying to understand because
- 6 this is process that is used often and can be used very powerfully – what the roles were of
- 7 the different people from the Society of Mary?
- 8 A. The only person of the Society of Mary that was there was me.
- 9 Q. What was your role at the time?
- 10 A. Probably accompanying the offender, sort of, as it were, part of his aiga. But also probably
- 11 qua priest as well, and was able to offer the blessing to participate in it. To be honest, to
- 12 make sure it went okay too.
- 13 Q. And were you certain that the survivor was actually participating by consent?
- 14 A. Absolutely.
- 15 Q. There wasn't overt pressure from the family or from the faith?
- 16 A. I don't think before this the family knew of the existence of the problem.
- 17 Q. Thank you.
- 18 A. We can learn lots of things from other cultures, I thought it was wonderful, you know, in
- 19 the same way when I was at Hato Paora I experienced things there which are remarkable
- 20 that we can learn from Māori people, you know, the love that they have for each other, that
- 21 they demonstrate at times of real sadness.
- 22 Q. Thank you Tim. Thank you counsel.
- 23 **QUESTIONING BY MS GLOVER CONTINUED:** In his evidence at the Phase One hearing –
- 24 sorry, when I say that I mean the hearing at the end of last year when we heard the survivor
- 25 voices – Mr F said that it is difficult for victims and survivors to come forward and you
- 26 have echoed that today. Mr F also said that he feels that boys at boarding schools are at
- 27 particular risk and he says that there needs to be a helpline or something similar, some sort
- 28 of dedicated avenue that provides an independent way for them to ask for help. You've said
- 29 there's still a helpline in place and that's always been the case. It's not clear from Mr F's
- 30 evidence necessarily that he was aware of that. So two questions, firstly, has anything been
- 31 done specifically in relation to this particular cohort or any other particular cohorts about
- 32 enabling them to come forward.
- 33 A. I think unfortunately you're conflating several ideas into one. The first is that we don't run
- 34 boarding schools with Marists in them, so the thought that a Society of Mary priest would

1 offend in boarding school, they're not working in them. So you know, what am  
2 I expecting? I'm expecting that the board of the boarding school, by that I mean the Board  
3 of Proprietors, would have policies and procedures on how to deal with this. As well,  
4 schools nowadays have counsellors and things like that which they never had at the time of  
5 the person you call Mr F I think.

6 **Q.** Correct. And we can see from those records that we had up on the screen earlier, I don't  
7 think we need to go back to them, but that back in 2003 Mr F also made a specific  
8 suggestion to the Society of Mary that letters be placed in church foyers, apologising for  
9 abuse in the Roman Catholic Church and providing contact numbers for people to report  
10 abuse and seek redress?

11 **A.** Mmm-hmm.

12 **Q.** To your knowledge, were all of those suggestions fully implemented?

13 **A.** I don't know how many Catholic churches there are in New Zealand, I don't walk inside too  
14 many of them, I couldn't tell you from personal experience, so you're asking for an opinion  
15 I guess.

16 **CHAIR:** I think it's important you give us facts rather than opinion. Do you know of anything  
17 like that?

18 **A.** I do, I do know, I've seen in foyers of churches that I've been in things put up that NOPS  
19 has made but the diocese has made too, saying this is where you might get help, this is the  
20 number to call, this is the abuse thing, you know, the stuff when you go to every diocesan  
21 website explanation how you might come forward.

22 **QUESTIONING BY MS GLOVER CONTINUED:** So you would say to Mr F, "Yes to the best  
23 of my knowledge we have done that"?

24 **A.** I don't think what Mr F is requesting is that. I think Mr F feels that as a vulnerable young  
25 man in a boarding school he had nowhere to turn. I think if you follow through on Mr F's  
26 evidence, he also sent his son to a boarding school where his son was abused.

27 **Q.** Correct.

28 **A.** Not, I might add, by a Member of the Society of Mary but that doesn't matter. Would he be  
29 concerned about kids in boarding schools? Absolutely, and he should be concerned about  
30 kids in boarding schools and we all should be concerned about kids in boarding schools.  
31 One of the things as a person that was a dean of boarders was a constant concern to me was  
32 that kids in boarding school had an avenue of somewhere they could go for whatever it was  
33 that was concerning them. And I think that, you know, it's important that a school  
34 recognises that and I think it's essential that a boarding school has the right sort of

1 advocates that, in this case we're talking about boys, but certainly girls as well, could go  
2 and would feel safe and could make a disclosure of that matter.

3 **Q.** I think Mr F's concern as he was expressing it there, absolutely there is a concern about  
4 boarding schools, but he was also expressing a wider concern about the Catholic  
5 community more generally and whether or not the Society of Mary or the Roman Catholic  
6 Church as a whole had done enough to try and make people aware of avenues by which  
7 they could report abuse. So my question again, your response to Mr F, would that be yes,  
8 so far as I know we did do that, we did everything we could?

9 **A.** Absolutely. I've had a lot of people say to me over time that the Church shouldn't make it  
10 so much front and centre. I think that shows that we are taking it very seriously, and that  
11 the ways of approaching to make a complaint are so obvious that, you know, I mean I hear  
12 people say things like "I've never seen it", but, you know, nowadays we don't all sit in front  
13 of TV One, you know, and young people, for example, don't. And, you know, putting it out  
14 there all over the motu is hard today, it really is, but you know, you said to a person who's  
15 21, it's on the website they'd say "What, you want me to go to a website? Is it on  
16 Facebook?" And all that sort of stuff, and my answer to that is I'm not an expert on those  
17 fields either, but maybe we could do more in that regard to reach out to maybe the social  
18 media and other avenues, you know. I know a young man I was talking before about  
19 preparing the information for us, never watches TV in his life. He would watch Netflix,  
20 he'd watch other stuff, but you know, advertisements would ruin his enjoyment. So how  
21 would we reach out to him? I don't know, he could be every day at the church that I know  
22 of but he may never go and again, he's got the freedom of the children of God to do that,  
23 but –

24 **CHAIR:** I think your answer is we could do more and reach out social media, good idea for these  
25 young people.

26 **A.** Yeah, I'm not sure that even social media would reach them, you know, but it's certainly  
27 worth looking at.

28 **QUESTIONING BY MS GLOVER CONTINUED:** These comments that are coming to you  
29 about the Church, these suggestions that the Church shouldn't be putting this matter --

30 **A.** I didn't say that.

31 **Q.** – front and centre. What did you say?

32 **A.** What I said was I think that people who see these things say why does it have to be  
33 everywhere all in front of us all of the time?

34 **Q.** What do you think, where do you think those comments are coming from?



1 A. The comments I think they're coming from is they have no experience, like we do, this is  
2 why we put them there. So we have the experience, that's why we do it. They don't have  
3 any experience of this. And, you know, if you see an advertisement 53 times on television  
4 it normally makes me not want to go and buy that product. I think that's the sort of  
5 frustrations with people who have no experience of this are expressing.

6 **CHAIR:** Is this the right time to take a break?

7 **MS GLOVER:** This is the final question on this point.

8 **CHAIR:** I can see fingers getting very tired over here.

9 **QUESTIONING BY MS GLOVER CONTINUED:** My question there, you're saying about  
10 people seeing an advertisement 53 times, it might make them less likely to want to purchase  
11 the product. Are you saying that there might come a level of over-exposure that would  
12 reduce the likelihood of people coming forward?

13 A. I don't know. I mean you'd be asking me for an opinion about something which I have no  
14 expertise on at all.

15 **Q.** Thank you, thank you Madam Chair.

16 **CHAIR:** We'll take 15 minutes. Because we know we're short of time we'll make it absolute  
17 15 minutes. How much longer do you anticipate being Ms Glover?

18 **MS GLOVER:** Madam Chair, I think I need to consult with Mr Mount QC about that matter.

19 **CHAIR:** Certainly, all right, then we'll talk about timing after that.

20 **MS GLOVER:** Thank you.

21 **Adjournment from 3.33 pm to 3.52 pm**

22 **CHAIR:** Yes Ms Glover.

23 **MS GLOVER:** Thank you Madam Chair. Just a quick indication about the timing issue, the  
24 position is that we will endeavour to get through Mr Duckworth and Mr Dew's evidence by  
25 the close of play tomorrow but in immediate terms we'll reassess at 5 o'clock regarding  
26 progress with Tim.

27 **CHAIR:** You might like to help us, Tim, with just keeping your comments as, not minimal, but as  
28 economic as possible.

29 A. If you need to just tell me.

30 **Q.** I will. Bring your microphone forward, thank you.

31 **QUESTIONING BY MS GLOVER CONTINUED:** Thank you Tim. I'd now like to ask you  
32 some questions relating to experiences of one of the oral survivors we mentioned  
33 previously, Ann-Marie Shelley. And as you know, she was raped by a Diocesan Priest, not  
34 a Society of Mary priest, Peter Hercock, but you, as you mentioned, became involved in

1 this complaint because you were a member of the Archdiocese Wellington Protocol  
2 Committee that received the complaint. Ann-Marie Shelley said in her evidence that she  
3 wanted to know who else apart from the two investigators, and I think there she was  
4 referring to you and to Jacqui Dromgool, was on the Protocol Committee but she was  
5 refused an answer. Do you know why Ann-Marie was not informed of who was on the  
6 Protocol Committee investigating her complaint?

7 A. I don't. I don't believe that I was on their Protocol Committee, I was helping them with this  
8 work, but if you ask me the names of people I don't think I could even come up with them.  
9 I know a woman was their delegate at the time, but no.

10 Q. Do you think that that refusal was appropriate if that's what happened?

11 A. I think people need as much information as we can give them.

12 Q. So if it were you making that decision, you would have told Ann-Marie who was on that  
13 Protocol Committee?

14 A. I guess you've got to be careful with information about persons. You know, if somebody  
15 worked for us as an example and then they started to get abusive phone calls all the time,  
16 I'd be a bit worried about that. I'm not suggesting for a second Ann-Marie might do that,  
17 but you do have to be a little bit careful with people's personal information, their name,  
18 I guess. But if your name is Duckworth, you're fairly easy to find in the phone book; if  
19 your name is Smith's, like my mother's was, you're quite hard to find.

20 Q. Ann-Marie says she also assumed that the Protocol Committee used investigators with  
21 appropriate experience and qualifications and her expectation was that the interview with  
22 the abuser, Peter Hercock, would be recorded and notes taken and that she would be fully  
23 updated about that interview.

24 A. Mmm-hmm.

25 Q. She told this Inquiry that her assumptions in those regards proved to be very wrong. First,  
26 do you accept the criticism that the Protocol Committee did not use investigators with  
27 appropriate experience and qualifications?

28 A. I don't know. I don't know what investigations we used in that. I wasn't privy to most of  
29 this stuff.

30 Q. I think she was assuming you and -- I think she's referring there to you and Jacqui  
31 Dromgool?

32 **CHAIR:** As the investigator?

33 **QUESTIONING BY MS GLOVER CONTINUED:** As the investigators.

34 A. Can you ask me what you're asking me again?

- 1 **Q.** Ann-Marie criticised the way in which she was -- particularly the way in which Peter  
2 Hercock was interviewed. She thinks that the people who interviewed Peter Hercock took  
3 his word when he minimised things and she thinks that they should have taken a recording  
4 of that conversation with him and full notes and that she should have been updated in a fly  
5 on the wall type account after that interview and she says none of those things happened.  
6 You were involved in that process, what is your response to her criticisms?
- 7 **A.** She may well be right. But, you know, what one person wants another person doesn't want.  
8 Some people get very involved with their particular case and they've every right to be, but,  
9 you know, sometimes you need to make your needs known if that was an unusual way of  
10 dealing with it. And --
- 11 **Q.** Was that an unusual way of dealing with it?
- 12 **A.** To record them?
- 13 **Q.** Yes, and to take full notes?
- 14 **A.** At that stage yes, I didn't take the notes, Jacqui took the notes, that was not my job.
- 15 **Q.** And to provide a complete or comprehensive account of that?
- 16 **A.** Again, that wasn't my job, I have no knowledge of what she was provided with.
- 17 **Q.** Whose job was it?
- 18 **A.** It was Jacqui Dromgool's job. But I'm not calling her out, I just, you know, sometimes I  
19 was given some minutes to sign, I read them, I signed them, the documentation of it was  
20 not my job, my job was to go and help these people as much as I could. Sorry, it's just not  
21 in my job description that I had for that job then.
- 22 **CHAIR:** Could I just be clear, Tim, for this particular investigation was it you and Ms Dromgool  
23 who did the interview with the respondent?
- 24 **A.** We did interviews with both of them, yes.
- 25 **Q.** With both of them, okay.
- 26 **A.** It was at an early stage in the development process of this. We didn't have dedicated  
27 investigators at that stage. Not long after that they started to become part of it. But yeah.
- 28 **Q.** Thank you.
- 29 **A.** And I don't believe that, you know, somebody's denials of it or something like that is best  
30 fed back to a person. I accepted what she said. We were a long way down that pathway,  
31 what she said we accepted. Whether he denies it or what, you know.
- 32 **QUESTIONING BY MS GLOVER CONTINUED:** So you're saying it's not relevant?
- 33 **A.** I'm not saying it's not relevant, I'm just saying I'd be really worried of giving some great  
34 denials of somebody if that's what you say he did to the individual they'd be complaining. I

1 think they'd be very hurt by that. I said, and I still believe, I believe exactly what she told  
2 me and I made that abundantly clear to her. If you read the file which I've recently been  
3 given she thinks I made it abundantly clear to her too.

4 **Q.** But that's different from providing her full information about the process?

5 **A.** As I say, that wasn't my task in this.

6 **Q.** So Hercock was interviewed in March 2003 and he admitted his guilt, although he  
7 minimised it in certain ways, and then Ann-Marie met with you again to discuss the  
8 outcome of the interview with Hercock, and at that point she was told that Hercock had  
9 expected the complaint to come not from her but from another complainant. I'd like now to  
10 play a short clip of her oral evidence about that meeting with you and Madam Registrar  
11 that's Ann-Marie Shelley 1. (Video played). Why did you not see it as your responsibility  
12 to assist other victims of Hercock?

13 **A.** I'm very aware that whatever I say here may well hurt Ann-Marie Shelley. If you want me  
14 to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth I will answer that question. But it  
15 may not be a happy answer.

16 **Q.** Please do.

17 **CHAIR:** Ms McKechnie.

18 **MS McKECHNIE:** Ma'am, we raised this with Counsel Assisting in the weeks ahead of the  
19 hearing how these particular issues may be addressed and whether it's appropriate to pause  
20 the live stream while these matters are being discussed. I appreciate that Ms Shelley may  
21 be watching through the live stream and that would be very problematic for her, but Tim is  
22 very reluctant, as you can see, to further upset her, even if he is only answering to the best  
23 of his knowledge. So I would ask for your direction about how best to do this.

24 **CHAIR:** Ms Glover?

25 **MS GLOVER:** Madam Chair, Ann-Marie Shelley has been in close contact with members of the  
26 Inquiry in the lead-up to this hearing and has well-being support in place. She knows these  
27 matters are going to be discussed and in fact there is a risk that it may cause her trauma for  
28 answers for there to be --

29 **CHAIR:** For it to be closed down.

30 **MS GLOVER:** That's right, Madam Chair.

31 **MS McKECHNIE:** In light of that clarification I'm sure that will give Tim the confidence to be  
32 able to answer if Ms Shelley has that support.

33 **CHAIR:** I appreciate that everybody who's spoken so far has got one person's welfare in mind and  
34 that's Ms Shelley, and if you can give me that assurance that her well-being is cared for,

1 that it's not unprepared then I think it's in the interests of transparency that we continue.

2 **QUESTIONING BY MS GLOVER CONTINUED:** Thank you Madam Chair. So to repeat the  
3 question --

4 A. I don't need it repeated. I did not say that, I would not say that, I would never say that.

5 **Q.** I'd like to play another related clip, Madam Registrar this is video clip 3. It's related to the  
6 same issue in a way, but this time rather than looking at your personal responsibility or the  
7 responsibility of the Protocol Committee or the Society of Mary --

8 A. Nothing's with the Society of Mary, I'm sorry, but carry on.

9 **Q.** To ask or to seek out other victims, but rather the responsibility of the Roman Catholic  
10 Church as a whole to take that stance. (Video played). Do you agree with Ann-Marie  
11 Shelley that if people know that they are not the only victim, it is easier to come forward  
12 about the abuse that they've experienced?

13 A. Absolutely.

14 **Q.** And do you think that the Church has a moral or an ethical responsibility to seek out other  
15 potential victims and to help them come forward?

16 A. Mmm-hmm. I think we've covered that, but yes.

17 **Q.** I'd like to bring up a document please, EXT0015633 and just while that's coming up I'll  
18 give you some of the context. Ann-Marie Shelley gave evidence to this Inquiry about her  
19 experience sitting in the courtroom when Peter Hercock was sentenced. She said "The  
20 tension, while listening to the judge's sentencing speech, was increased when he read out a  
21 character reference for Hercock written by Father Tim Duckworth, the Protocol Committee  
22 priest who had investigated my original complaint to the Church." She said, "I have trouble  
23 articulating my shock and the sense of betrayal by the Church in general and Father Tim  
24 Duckworth in particular."

25 I'll go on to the question, I don't think we need to have the letter up on the screen  
26 for you to answer this question. Did you consider that you might have been in a position of  
27 conflict of interest in providing a letter of support for Hercock, given your role in relation  
28 to managing Ann-Marie's complaint to, well, involving you as a representative of the  
29 Society of Mary, but the complaint to the diocese?

30 A. I don't think there was any conflict of interest. I had been working for the Archdiocese and  
31 I think I made it quite clear to the presiding judge and, you know, I'd be very, very  
32 welcome for you to read that letter that I sent to the judge, I'd be only too happy for you to  
33 read it entirely to the court because it isn't a character reference for Peter Hercock, it is  
34 anything but a character reference for Peter Hercock. I clearly set out that I thought he was

1 a recidivist offender, I clearly set out that I was not supporting him as a --

2 **MS McKECHNIE:** Ma'am, are we able to have the document up please.

3 **CHAIR:** It's coming.

4 **QUESTIONING BY MS GLOVER CONTINUED:** It's coming. I'd like to bring up please the  
5 paragraph starting, or the section starting "Some abusers were psychologically unstable".

6 A. Can I just say, though, that you're choosing to take the bits which don't show that I set out  
7 clearly, as in the second paragraph, that I write not to excuse any of Mr Hercock's  
8 behaviour and you're just going to skip over those things which I think are absolutely core  
9 to what I was doing.

10 **Q.** I think in the interests of time we can't go through every aspect of every document.

11 A. Thank you.

12 **Q.** But your comments there are noted. The passage that I'd like to ask you about reads, and I  
13 think this will come up so that you can see it on the screen more easily, "Some abusers  
14 were psychologically unstable and we might now say that they had a personality disorder.  
15 Say, for example, narcissistic personality disorder. Some abuse also occurred where young  
16 men were educated in a single sex school, went on to a seminary where they were  
17 somewhat cosseted and where their sexual maturity did not reach the level that their age  
18 might suggest. I personally think this may be true for Mr Hercock at this time. I did not  
19 know Mr Hercock at the time of this offending -- this is further down the page -- my only  
20 contact has been more recently, but I write this letter to support him as he faces judgment.  
21 I do believe that Mr Hercock who stands before you today is not the same naive young man  
22 who committed the crimes." You're not a psychologist.

23 A. I am in fact but, well, I certainly study psychology and so I would say that I have got some  
24 expertise in it, yeah. I also know that the absolute report which says what was the cause of  
25 Catholic clergy offending, the John Jay report that came out of the United States, says that  
26 those things I identified there were two of the major causes for abuse.

27 **Q.** But can you see that from Ann-Marie's perspective that she might take issue with you  
28 providing this explanation, given that you didn't know Hercock particularly well and in fact  
29 had only met him a couple of times?

30 A. Not really, no. If you want the full and final truth I'll give you what I did. I met with  
31 Hercock before this and he wanted to dispute the evidence that was going to be --

32 **Q.** Yes, you've made that clear.

33 A. No, I haven't made that clear at all.

34 **Q.** Ann-Marie made that clear in her evidence, we know that you --

- 1 **CHAIR:** Sorry, Ms Glover, I think the witness is entitled to finish his sentence. Just tell us what  
2 your version is.
- 3 A. I convinced Peter Hercock to plead guilty to all charges.
- 4 **Q.** Yes.
- 5 A. He did intend not to do that.
- 6 **Q.** Quite.
- 7 A. I absolutely and firmly believe that I did my best for Ann-Marie Shelley in that regard.
- 8 **Q.** But that's quite a separate issue, is it not --
- 9 A. No, it's not, no, it's not.
- 10 **Q.** -- from the issue of preparing this letter?
- 11 A. No. Because all people deserve help. I don't know whether you're a criminal barrister or  
12 not, but if you were, you would know that lawyers, like yourself, defend people who are  
13 before the court, and they seek assistance from those that might give assistance. I'm giving  
14 assistance to the court here in the way I know I can. And my assistance to the court was to  
15 assist the accused to plead guilty, which I think did a huge amount to help those that were  
16 standing there as the offended against, because disputing that is to re-abuse people. I think  
17 honestly I have worked hard in this case and I'd love to read you, I know we haven't got  
18 time, all the many comments Ann-Marie sent to the Cardinal and others saying the work  
19 I did was great. I know that she was shocked by this, but I'm not at all excusing anything  
20 that Peter Hercock did.
- 21 **Q.** So just my final question in relation to this issue, could you not have encouraged,  
22 persuaded Peter Hercock to plead guilty and to thereby save Ann-Marie in a way from  
23 having to go through that?
- 24 A. And others, and others.
- 25 **Q.** Without necessarily then going on and providing this letter to the judge?
- 26 A. You're asking me a question that I couldn't possibly answer. Couldn't I have saved her? I  
27 don't know, I did what I believed was the right thing to do.
- 28 **Q.** So was this letter tied to the fact of him pleading guilty?
- 29 A. Yes.
- 30 **Q.** So in your view he wouldn't have pleaded guilty --
- 31 A. That's right.
- 32 **Q.** -- if you had not --
- 33 A. Absolutely.
- 34 **Q.** -- you personally had not written this letter?

1 A. Absolutely, absolutely and I did it solely for that reason, to assist, in particular, Ann-Marie  
2 and none of the others because I didn't know any of the others.

3 Q. So I said that was my final question, this is my final question in relation to this issue. Do  
4 you think in retrospect it might have been helpful to Ann-Marie if you had told her that  
5 that's what you were proposing to do and sought her consent to it?

6 A. It might have been. I didn't have -- I was 10, 12, more years, I had no contact with her, I  
7 had no contact information for her, you know, I had done many things for her and she'd  
8 actually, you know, despite what's been said here today, had recommended me to other  
9 victims as the person to go to. And I could prove that if you'd like me to. I know she was  
10 upset by this, I understand she would be upset by it, but I would really like her to know that  
11 I did this entirely for her. I did this to help her. She was badly hurt, very badly hurt, and  
12 this man had done it and I haven't excused anything that he did and I've tried to explain to  
13 the judge the situation that existed.

14 Q. I'd like to ask you now some specific questions about another of the survivor witnesses with  
15 whom you were involved, Mr F, we've spoken of him previously.

16 A. We have.

17 Q. Mr F's evidence was that -- this is at paragraph 4.6 and 4.7 of his written statement -- "Tim  
18 Duckworth told me that Frank Durning had abused other boys. Also on 1 August 2002  
19 Duckworth told me that Durning was a scumbag and referred to by his fellow priests as  
20 'Fred the fiddler'. Duckworth later denied making this comment when interviewed by Phil  
21 Pennington of Radio New Zealand." Did you tell Mr F that Durning had abused other boys  
22 or that he was referred to by his fellow priests as 'Fred the fiddler'?

23 A. My answer to that is no, I didn't. I'd never heard the term 'Fred the fiddler'. The radio  
24 reporter thought he'd caught me, you know, he rang one day and straight out asked me if I'd  
25 said that. I have no memory of saying that -- no, I wouldn't say that; I would not say that.  
26 And I can absolutely guarantee, bring the witness up here right now to say to you they were  
27 in the room at the time that all that meeting occurred and I never said that. And what's  
28 more, I know Kitty McKinley --

29 **CHAIR:** I'm sorry, but please slow down.

30 A. Okay, I know Kitty McKinley well, and she would always tell the truth, and I said to her  
31 "Kitty, I didn't say that did I" and she said "No, and what's more, if you had have said that  
32 I've have given you -- her words -- a slap about the head." Believe me she would have.

33 **QUESTIONING BY MS GLOVER CONTINUED:** As you'll know, Mr F also said, and this is  
34 in that paragraph 4.51 of his written statement, "I rang Tim Duckworth in 2019 to get a



1 copy of the file on Durning. I was told and assured by Duckworth that after Stream -- St  
2 Patrick's Silverstream -- Durning had no more access to students. I know this not to be  
3 true. I have talked to fellow survivors who have contacted the radio stating they were  
4 abused when Durning was moved to St Patrick's in Wellington. This just shows Tim  
5 Duckworth again minimises and covers up the truth." That's what Mr F told this Inquiry.  
6 What do you say in response to Mr F's comments?

7 A. I want to say if he says I said it I did, but I didn't. All of that information, sometimes  
8 somebody like that rings you and says "Oh hi, how are you today, you know, and, you  
9 know, did -- can you tell me, you know, can you send me a copy of something", which  
10 I did. And you know, I wasn't working in this area and hadn't been working in this area,  
11 and had no access to the files even of this area for a dozen years or more since I'd seen  
12 Mr F. If I said that, and I don't believe that I did, but if I did say that it would be by  
13 mistake. I was not trying to cover it up, I am the one that is trying not to cover it up. And  
14 I -- I sincerely apologise to him if I did say that, I don't believe I did say that.

15 At times, however, you will see, and among his documents, sometimes we record  
16 things as the appointment of a person was Wellington. And I notice there's a magazine  
17 which we publish call the Marist Messenger and in it it says Wellington. Sometimes that's  
18 unclear as to what the person was doing. I might have relied on something like that.  
19 I didn't think he taught ever again, I'm not even sure he was teaching then at St Pat's.

20 Q. I think his obituary, and I'll just give the reference, EXT0000493 shows that Durning was  
21 moved a number of times. I take it from what you're saying you're not in a position to  
22 confirm or deny that he was moved on from those roles as a result of reports of abuse?

23 A. I'm absolutely confident that we had no reports of abuse at that time that any of those  
24 moves took place. They all came to light more recently. I can actually give you the dates  
25 of them all coming to light if you'd like me to.

26 Q. Actually that would be helpful, but we'll do it in a written --

27 A. It's all been submitted to the Royal Commission, but --

28 Q. Thank you.

29 **CHAIR:** We acknowledge it has been submitted, we will take note of it.

30 **QUESTIONING BY MS GLOVER CONTINUED:** Thank you Madam Chair. On a slightly  
31 different topic then, you've said that the -- and this relates to treatment of offenders, and  
32 you've said that you're either a psychologist or you've got some psychological training.  
33 You say that the Society of Mary records indicate that psychological assessment and  
34 treatment was sought for men accused of wrongdoing, and that sometimes this involved

- 1 treatment in Australia.
- 2 A. Mmm-hmm.
- 3 Q. And you say that at that time the nature of recidivism for sexual offending was not well  
4 understood in the late 1980s and early 1990s and it was thought that the drivers behind that  
5 sort of offending could be cured. So I take it from your use of the past tense and your  
6 reference to those previous decades that you no longer believe that --
- 7 A. I never -- I'm not saying I ever believed that, I'm saying people did believe that.
- 8 Q. What are your views on the treatment of offenders?
- 9 A. I think residential treatment of offenders can assist them to understand the enormity of their  
10 crimes. Do I think that it can overcome the psychological difficulties that they have or the  
11 propensity to commit crimes? I'm not willing to take the risk, I'm sorry. So my answer is  
12 no I don't believe that it will. That's why we have the policy, that's why I've explained all  
13 that to you fairly well already I think.
- 14 Q. I'd like to bring up now document CTH0001469 on to the screen. This is the notes of a  
15 meeting on 10 September 2002.
- 16 A. Mmm-hmm.
- 17 Q. It's a meeting that you've described in your evidence, it's a meeting that you attended. And  
18 it was a meeting to discuss the financial implications of sexual abuse claims. If we could  
19 bring up please paragraphs 1 to 3 on page 1 we see there at number 1 "The dioceses and  
20 religious orders in New Zealand need to have a common policy and act within agreed  
21 parameters." And then at paragraph 3, "In discussing the limits of our financial  
22 commitments, our objective is not to evade any moral obligation we might have to redress  
23 injustices, but is to exercise responsible stewardship over the resources that have come  
24 mainly from the Catholic people. How the people feel about payments is a proper matter to  
25 take into consideration. The Catholic people have already contributed to the ACC fund set  
26 up by the Government specifically to meet these needs."
- 27 Who are the people referred to here, is this the laity? I know you don't like that  
28 term, but ordinary Catholics, is that what it's talking about here?
- 29 A. I imagine it's anybody who might call themselves Catholic really, yeah.
- 30 Q. And it talks about taking into account how those people feel about the payments.
- 31 A. Mmm-hmm.
- 32 Q. Do you think that it is likely or possible that some of those people might have felt that  
33 providing financial compensation, even perhaps quite generous compensation, to victims of  
34 sexual abuse was the right thing to do?

- 1 A. They may very well have. I didn't write this but, you know.
- 2 **Q.** And then moving slightly further down this document looking at paragraph 4 on that first  
3 page, which reads -- this is referring to ACC claims and saying that "The financial  
4 compensation should be based on objective standards and for this reason we wish to use  
5 ACC assessments." You've already said today that different people can suffer markedly  
6 different consequences from similar instances of abuse. I'm interested in your thoughts on  
7 how ideally a redress scheme ought to balance, on the one hand, providing consistency of  
8 redress to people who have suffered similar types of abuse, and on the other hand meeting a  
9 particular victim's actual needs, whether that's paying for addictions treatment or health  
10 treatments, or housing, or education, or training, or whatever else they may need. I take it  
11 from what you've said earlier your preference is for the latter?
- 12 A. Mmm. Yes.
- 13 **Q.** Do you think that that should be determinative or do you think it should just be weighed  
14 more heavily in the balance?
- 15 A. Well, it all should be weighed in the balance. You know, to be blunt, I dealt with people  
16 whom a financial compensation, small or large, would have made no difference to their  
17 lives. I dealt with others who \$20 a week in the pay packet would have made a huge  
18 difference to their lives. Do I think we should possibly be more generous to those that  
19 would help more? Yes. But, you know, all of that needs to be taken into the determination,  
20 because at the same time I just add one more thing. Sometimes a person can believe that  
21 everything that hasn't gone right in their life is caused by one external thing that has  
22 happened to them. And you've got to be able to weigh that up. By that I mean, I have dealt  
23 with a person who probably in the modern parlance would be said to be differently abled,  
24 and you know, my,-- as an example, this isn't a quote but it will do,- my brother is a lawyer,  
25 my sister is a doctor but I'm not. Realistically if I'm honest I would have to say I don't  
26 think that you were going to be a l-awyer or a doctor or whatever. So the person's belief  
27 may be sometimes slightly erroneous as to the cause of their impairment.
- 28 **Q.** I'd like to move to paragraph 8 of this document which says, "The amounts being paid out  
29 will not be made public by the diocese or religious order. There will be no public  
30 disclosure of agreed ceilings." Do you know why there was not to be any public  
31 disclosure?
- 32 A. No idea at all. If you look at the list of participants, I'm the boy in the room. You know, I  
33 don't know whether you've experienced that, but the others are much, much more senior to  
34 me.

1 **Q.** Can you see that there might be a level of suspicion amongst survivors and their advocates  
2 that one reason why the amounts being paid out were not to be made public, was to keep  
3 other potential victims in the dark about the going rate, as it were, and therefore less able to  
4 negotiate effectively for a larger sum?

5 **A.** I do, but can I put the converse of that to you too. Two brothers were abused by a member  
6 of the Society of Mary. What happened to one and what happened to the other were vastly  
7 different. I would, if I was to recommend, and I think they actually got this, one got a  
8 significantly high pay-out, shall we say; the other one, what happened to him was  
9 significantly different, and if one brother tells the other this is what you will get, it isn't that  
10 helpful. So sometimes confidentiality about amounts like that can be helpful to the person.  
11 Similarly if you read in the newspaper that everybody in the United States gets 180 million,  
12 like George Floyd's family recently did, you might expect that in New Zealand. But you  
13 might expect it but you probably need to realise that that's not the truth, that's not what's  
14 going to happen.

15 **Q.** Another thing I'd like to ask you about is there is some references in these documents to the  
16 use of mediators. I'd like to bring up please CTH0001738. This will be a document that is  
17 familiar to you is an exhibit to your statement. It's the minutes of the November 2002  
18 Provincial Council. I'd like to bring up please the section that reads "In light of the bishops  
19 recently adopted policy, the Society of Mary will appoint a person to act as a mediator  
20 in -- this is referring to abuse cases -- that have been brought against our organisation." Did  
21 the Society of Mary ever employ a mediation-style process?

22 **A.** I see it's a name of gentleman there I'm not going to read out, you might want to. I don't  
23 think a man of that calibre would be the best person to use that, use that process. I'm not  
24 sure -- what I'm saying by that is, I don't think that a man of his high experience and skill  
25 should have been used in this. But would a mediator have been good? Yeah, I think that  
26 would have been a good idea.

27 **Q.** So my question was really, to your knowledge has it actually --

28 **A.** We have used, we have tried to use mediators, it hasn't been particularly successful as far as  
29 I remember.

30 **Q.** And why was that?

31 **A.** I don't remember but I could give you an answer, but it's not going to be pure fact it's going  
32 to be my opinion.

33 **CHAIR:** Was it tried and not continued, the use of mediators?

34 **A.** Yeah, that's what I would think, yes.

1 **QUESTIONING BY MS GLOVER CONTINUED:** Would you accept that there is a  
2 considerable difference in power between a victim of abuse who may still be suffering from  
3 all the issues that flow from that abuse, and the institution at which the abuse occurred?

4 A. Absolutely.

5 **Q.** That power imbalance would be presumably exacerbated by the fact that this is the victim's  
6 first time embarking on such a process, whereas the Society of Mary would have been  
7 through the process a number of times, there's a knowledge imbalance there as well?

8 A. [Nods].

9 **Q.** And would you accept that that might be one reason why a mediation process could be  
10 problematic in this sort of case?

11 A. It could be. The only other thing I'd add to that to help you is that when we were talking  
12 about, for want of a better word, I'll use the word settlement, we always advise people to go  
13 to a lawyer and ask is this what you think is fair, you know, consult a lawyer. Because if  
14 we're going to offer something which is completely in the wrong ballpark then they need  
15 somebody to be able to say to them, that's completely in the wrong ballpark. You know,  
16 you should go back and say that's not acceptable.

17 **Q.** I'd like to bring up another document please, CTH0001740, and again this is minutes from  
18 the Provincial Council dated December 2002. If we could pull out the part that reads,  
19 number 3, "A process for financial compensation -- at the top of the page -- for sexually  
20 abused." We can see the subheading there, or the note there, "Council discussed a process  
21 of settling financially with victims of sexual abuse." And underneath that we see that the  
22 Council agreed to offer ex gratia payments up to \$20,000 to persons seeking a financial  
23 settlement, but no more than \$10,000 would be paid out to victims of deceased confreres.  
24 If the offer is not accepted a mediator would be used to resolve the issue". And then as you  
25 say, "The complainant would be invited to engage a lawyer. Criteria will be developed to  
26 determine what the initial offer would be set at. The mediator would have an ability to set  
27 an amount of up to \$20,000 only. This fits within the approved budgeted figure for these  
28 settlements and this work in the financial years 2002, 2003 and 2004. Council will look at  
29 the protection of assets sufficient to provide for confreres living in the province."

30 The first point I'd like to draw out is this comment that the mediator would have an  
31 ability to set an amount of up to \$20,000. So in perhaps a more usual understanding of  
32 what a mediation would look like, the mediator would be completely independent and not  
33 acting as an agent for one or other of the parties and wouldn't have any control over the  
34 outcome of the mediation. Would you accept that the role that's been described here is

- 1 actually closer to a professional external negotiator rather than a mediator?
- 2 A. That might be a better word.
- 3 Q. And is this the process that was in place when you said that mediation was trialled and then  
4 ultimately rejected?
- 5 A. I'd like to give you an honestly, I honestly don't know.
- 6 Q. The other point I'd like to draw out is the comment about the approved budgeted figure for  
7 these settlements, do you know who sets that budget?
- 8 A. It would have been set in a conversation between the person that was the bursar and the  
9 Provincial Council.
- 10 Q. And do you have any knowledge of how that budgeted figure would have been arrived at?
- 11 A. I don't know what the budgeted figure is, so it would be hard for me to calculate that, but,  
12 you know, if you've got 100 people wanting \$20 you need 20 hundred, so I guess you've  
13 got to sort of set out for how much money you've got for your income and how much  
14 you've got to spend and all of us live within budgets like that I think.
- 15 Q. So are you saying that -- is this something outside your knowledge, are we moving into the  
16 realm of speculation here about how it was set, because I don't want to push you on it?
- 17 A. Pretty much, but I mean if I was part of this, and I don't know that I was, I certainly have no  
18 memory of it. My financial acumen at that stage would not have been great. I've learned a  
19 lot since.
- 20 Q. We also see here this statement that counsel will look at the protection of assets, sufficient  
21 to provide for the confreres living in the province. What do you think the reference to the  
22 assets being protected means, is it a reference to the assets being ring-fenced somehow or a  
23 settlement budget capped at a level that would mean there was enough left over to provide  
24 for the lifestyle of the confreres in the province? What do you take that reference to mean?
- 25 A. My understanding of what the reference would mean is, if you did -- I think it's, you know,  
26 you get a person that looks at the longevity of people and how long they might live and  
27 how much they might need to continue to live and their income and the rest of it, you've got  
28 to work out whether you've got enough to do what you're doing for the people and also  
29 carry on the ministry that we're doing which costs money and to work out are we going to  
30 have to say to everybody sorry, there's no money for food from now on, I think that's what  
31 it's saying. Now I don't know whether it's even a sensible thing to suggest, I don't know,  
32 but you do have to, in any budget, work out, you know, it's great to have spent a lot of  
33 money, say, on insurance, but if that means that you can't afford a car, there's not a lot of  
34 point having the insurance, if you know what I mean.

- 1 **Q.** In his evidence Mr F said at paragraph 4.23 -- this is why we're on to a slightly different  
2 topic. He said that, "In July 2005 Philip Cody wrote to my solicitors regarding the issue of  
3 compensation. He stated that the Society of Mary does not make and has never made  
4 compensation payments in respect of sexual abuse, but that they do make ex gratia payment  
5 gifts to acknowledge a person's suffering and to assist them with rehabilitation." He says  
6 "The Society offered me an ex gratia payment of \$5,000 which he stated was the amount  
7 offered to a complainant when a respondent was dead." Does that accord with your  
8 understanding of the position at the time that the ex gratia payment of \$5,000 was the  
9 standard amount offered to a complainant when the respondent was deceased?
- 10 **A.** I think we've probably seeing two things, one which said the smallest amount we gave  
11 anybody was \$5,000 and we've also seen that when making a judgment about a  
12 complainant that names a deceased person, that the desire was to pay a lower amount  
13 because the corroboration, you know, as I've said previously, all of our guys that were  
14 accused that were alive said "Yes, I put my hand up I did this." You have no person to put  
15 their hand up to say "I did this." In terms of the person we're talking about here, and I'm  
16 talking not about Mr --
- 17 **Q.** F.
- 18 **A.** -- F but in terms of the respondent we might call him, I don't think that there was a lot of  
19 justification to think that he didn't do what he said. But in terms of the matrix that people  
20 have talked about, and I don't want to say this but you keep wanting me to say these things  
21 and you assure me that people will not be offended by this: I worry that the offending  
22 would be considered to be at a lower level than some other offending.
- 23 **Q.** I'm interested in your comment about corroboration where the person is deceased, because  
24 you've also said that you don't believe that there is a huge phalanx of people who come  
25 forward, I'm talking survivors, who come forward and make these claims when they're  
26 untrue.
- 27 **A.** And I would absolutely emphasise I totally believe Mr F.
- 28 **Q.** Can you see that from a survivor's point of view, if they're coming forward to you and  
29 making their reports of abuse and you say that you can tell within 7 seconds whether or not  
30 they are telling the truth or not, from their perspective, why ought it make any difference to  
31 their redress depending on whether or not the perpetrator is still alive?
- 32 **A.** Was there a question there? I didn't see the question.
- 33 **Q.** So the question is, from a survivor's perspective, do you see that it might be seen as  
34 somewhat arbitrary if they come forward to you with a complaint of abuse that you believe,

1 but yet their redress outcome might vary depending on whether or not the perpetrator is  
2 alive or deceased?

3 A. I can see that they might think that. Given that a huge number of years had gone by, people  
4 have opportunities to do what they want to do and I guess, you know, there's two things that  
5 I'd say. One is that the offences that Mr F speaks of were not just what Frank Durning did  
6 to him, and I think that that compounds his understanding of where compensation should  
7 sit. But secondly, the longer one waits to do the right thing here, for one's self, the more  
8 chance there is of finding that the information that might corroborate it goes away. And  
9 even finding people that knew and worked alongside Durning by that stage was minimal,  
10 you know. I'm absolutely convinced when I read Mr F's evidence he believes we all knew  
11 about it all of the time. But I can and I would, if you wanted me to, and will subsequently  
12 show you that that's not true, and couldn't have been true.

13 **CHAIR:** Can I clarify something with you.

14 A. Sure.

15 **Q.** Given all that you've said, I'm having difficulty -- I'm struggling with this concept that if  
16 you see -- and we'll take Mr F out of it, just hypothetically -- if you hear the account of a  
17 survivor A and you believe them implicitly from the start, as you've said, and the  
18 perpetrator is alive, then you might give them \$20,000, but if you hear the same account  
19 from survivor B and you implicitly believe them and the perpetrator is deceased for  
20 whatever reason, and they only get 5 or 10 because of the death, I'm struggling to see the  
21 difference conceptually between the two amounts.

22 A. Totally agree with you, Judge. Totally agree with you. That was then, this is now.

23 **Q.** Have things changed?

24 A. Absolutely. We wouldn't make a determination based on the death of the respondent shall  
25 we say. Not now, no.

26 **Q.** Okay, thank you.

27 A. It does leave us a little bit exposed, I admit that.

28 **Q.** Only if you don't believe them when you speak to the person.

29 A. [Nods].

30 **Q.** If you had doubts then obviously you'd have to --

31 A. There's a fairly famous case in New Zealand of someone who was paid out a huge amount  
32 of money that was proved to have told a lie; it does happen, it does happen.

33 **Q.** But in any event, this is a realisation that was possibly not the best criteria to apply.

34 A. Yeah, I know, but to be honest you don't always get it right the first time.



1 **Q.** Absolutely. I think we've learned that.

2 **A.** We have.

3 **Q.** At great length. Thank you Ms Glover.

4 **QUESTIONING BY MS GLOVER CONTINUED:** Thank you Madam Chair. I would also  
5 like to explore with you this concept of an ex gratia payment and I know you've had some  
6 discussions about this already. You may be familiar perhaps with the recommendations of  
7 the Australian Royal Commission?

8 **A.** I am.

9 **Q.** And one of those recommendations was that the purpose of a monetary payment under  
10 redress should be to provide a tangible recognition of the seriousness of the hurt and injury  
11 suffered by a survivor. I take it from the fact you're nodding you would agree?

12 **A.** Yes, I know exactly what you mean, yeah.

13 **Q.** And you would agree with that proposition I take it?

14 **A.** Yes. To go back to that terrible Q word, quantum. Australian religious orders and dioceses  
15 have insurance for this. We were informed that with ACC, and this is why we go back to  
16 this over and over again, that that was unnecessary in our case. If it was necessary, fine, we  
17 should have had it. But once you're told it's not necessary, that's why we went back to what  
18 ACC was recommending. It wasn't so that we could minimise the amount that was being  
19 paid, what we were trying to do was to set the correct amount.

20 **CHAIR:** But I think the question, just to focus is, is -- we've heard that and I accept that evidence.  
21 It's the question of what the purpose of the payment is for and I think Ms Glover has asked  
22 you do you agree with the Australian concept of redress being a tangible recognition of the  
23 suffering of the survivor. In other words, focusing on the impact to the survivor as a result  
24 of the abuse.

25 **A.** Yes and no. Some people desperately want it, others would be offended by it. So it's  
26 not -- my answer is no, it's not universally acceptable, even to a complainant.

27 **QUESTIONING BY MS GLOVER CONTINUED:** I'd like to take you to one final document  
28 which is CTH0001743. Again, this is a document with which you'll be very familiar, it's an  
29 exhibit to your statement as one we've looked at already today, The Society of Mary Sexual  
30 Abuse and Boundary Violations procedural document. I'd like to go to page 13 and look  
31 there at the fourth bullet point. This notes that in relation to ex gratia payments, if the  
32 complainant requests financial settlement the abuse response team meets to assess and  
33 discuss the settlement request. And my question is, if a complainant did not request a  
34 financial settlement, whether because they didn't know it was an option or for whatever

- 1 other reason, would the Society of Mary check with them to see whether this was  
2 something that they would want or that might be helpful to them?
- 3 A. I think so. But I said previously to my previous answer that some people are offended  
4 they're being offered money. Some people see that as an attempt to buy them off, and  
5 I wouldn't want to in any way give that impression to people. You know, and some people  
6 are also actually retraumatised by an offer. You've got to make the offer very delicately in  
7 my experience.
- 8 Q. So given your concern for the impact of the victim of making a financial offer and your  
9 concern that that might retraumatise them, do you think that there's a possibility that might  
10 have led to an inequity in the redress that is provided to different complainants?
- 11 A. One thing that I would say, and it reminds me a little bit of the workings out of the tribunal  
12 of Te Tiriti, you know, it's possible that what was paid in an early time might need to be  
13 looked at again. But, you know, the talk I've heard of a matrix might help that, but it's hard  
14 to know, it's hard to know, you know, I don't know -- you know, I also said earlier that the  
15 effect on a person's life can vary, so you've got to be very careful of the 1 plus A plus B  
16 plus 2 equals X. I think, you know, some people, because of their life and the way it is,  
17 sometimes, it's like your children and your family. Sometimes you treat them all equally  
18 but sometimes some are more equal than others because they need that at that time.
- 19 Q. But if you're not asking them what they need because of a level of --
- 20 A. We always, we are always asking them what they need, you know, "How can we help you,  
21 what do you need?"
- 22 Q. But you're saying that one of the options that might be available to them isn't necessarily  
23 made explicit and that may be because of a degree of sensitivity on your part to their  
24 feelings about that option?
- 25 A. No, I'd probably put it something like this, if I were doing it and I'm not: There are many  
26 ways in which people seek to move towards some sort of closure with dealing with this.  
27 You know, some people want a formal apology, some people want a written apology, some  
28 people would like some sort of recognition of it, you know, say something like receiving a  
29 taonga or something like that. Some people might want a financial settlement, some  
30 people -- but I wouldn't say "Do you want a financial settlement?"
- 31 Q. I see.
- 32 A. It's a kind of different --
- 33 Q. It would be flagged in some way?
- 34 A. Sure, absolutely, absolutely.

- 1 **Q.** I'd just like to pull out looking at all four of those bullet points please. So this is a  
2 non-exhaustive list of the suite of options available to survivors. Noting that it's  
3 non-exhaustive, it's still striking, perhaps, what is left off this list. So, for example, there's  
4 nothing there about providing answers, survivors tell this Inquiry that they want to know  
5 who knew about the abuse, how it could have happened, was it covered up, did it happen to  
6 others. Do you think that that is something that could usefully be included here?
- 7 **A.** I think that's the very nature of the close relationship that exists between whoever it is that's  
8 providing pastoral support around the person. If you go, as an example, to Mr F's case and  
9 you read through his case notes, you will see that probably something like 100 or more  
10 times he was asking questions. And at every opportunity those were answered for him.
- 11 **Q.** So you're saying that is an integral part of the process?
- 12 **A.** Absolutely, some people require them a lot more than others do. It would be fair to say that  
13 I think he was dealt with really well in terms of getting answers.
- 14 **Q.** Another omission from this list potentially is there's nothing here about ensuring proper  
15 consequences for the perpetrator, and we've heard that this sense of justice being achieved  
16 is something that is important to survivors?
- 17 **A.** Always talk to the people, if the person's alive they would be absolutely assured the person  
18 is out of it. As you said in the beginning when you were asking these questions it's not an  
19 exhaustive list. And it's not there because it doesn't apply to all the people that were dead  
20 and things like that.
- 21 **Q.** But you accept that it --
- 22 **A.** Always, absolutely.
- 23 **Q.** -- it is something important to survivors?
- 24 **A.** Totally and I would always hope that they are told that.
- 25 **Q.** Finally and this is my last question for you, this comes back to something we were talking  
26 about earlier, there's nothing in this process about seeking out other potential victims or  
27 publicising the issue so that others might be encouraged to come forward, and I'd like to ask  
28 you what you think the proper process is or what should be done in that regard?
- 29 **A.** I think I answered that question earlier when I said about what the Church has been doing.  
30 And at every opportunity when publicity arrives around this, this situation of the abuse  
31 that's occurred in the Catholic Church, we, both the Society of Mary but especially and  
32 much more so even than us, the bishops are always saying, you know, if you have a  
33 complaint, bring it forward. You know, every time the microphone gets shoved in front of  
34 one of the hierarchy that's what they say.

- 1 **Q.** What about in particular cases, so for example if you know that there is a perpetrator in a  
2 particular setting who has abused one person, what do you think the Society of Mary should  
3 be doing about finding others who may have been exposed to that same perpetrator?
- 4 **A.** One of the things we have done at times is where there's something like a school jubilee,  
5 we have been to those and fessed up and said things like sadly -- I could give you the text  
6 of Craig Larkin who was one of our provincials what he said at a jubilee; "Sadly we  
7 also -- we do believe we've done some great things here but sadly we've done some other  
8 things." I think that those sort of occasions when the great cohort of former pupils gets told  
9 something's coming up, that's a good time to tell them. If it were now something happened  
10 today in this parish, then it should be absolutely plastered all over every wall of every  
11 parish.
- 12 **Q.** That it happened?
- 13 **A.** Yeah, absolutely.
- 14 **Q.** And there may be other victims and they're encouraged to come forward?
- 15 **A.** Yeah, we don't have, as far as I know, cases that involve situations which are current. You  
16 know, so you know, I know people don't like the other word, the H word, but, you know,  
17 we're not talking about a situation where it's happened at a school that we're in, I'm talking  
18 about something that happened in the past. And that cohort of people, in fact, you know,  
19 I feel sorry sometimes for the principals of a Catholic school that people say, you know,  
20 "What are you doing about this?" They don't even know, I mean there's not one person in  
21 that school that even knows any of the people that were at the school at the time, no  
22 teachers are the same, the principal's not the same. So you've got to contact -- a terrible  
23 word, certainly it's okay in the male but not in the female -- the old boys should be told.
- 24 **Q.** And you think that is something that should be done?
- 25 **A.** Absolutely.
- 26 **Q.** The old boys should be contacted --
- 27 **A.** Absolutely.
- 28 **Q.** -- if there was instances of abuse in a school at a particular year when they were there, they  
29 should be advised of that and invited to come forward?
- 30 **A.** It would be a great thing to do, yeah.
- 31 **Q.** Thank you. That concludes my questions Madam Chair.
- 32 **CHAIR:** Thank you Ms Glover.
- 33 **COMMISSIONER ERUETI:** Tēnā koe Tim. Just a quick question, you note how the Society of  
34 Mary has taken responsibility for providing redress themselves. And you said that with

1 great enthusiasm and emotion at the beginning of your evidence, and that was very  
2 important to you personally, you made that clear. But I wonder whether from a survivor's  
3 perspective about whether that could actually be contrary to their aspirations and desires,  
4 because it's not an independent process. So I wonder how would you respond to that  
5 comment from a survivor?

6 A. I understand what you mean and at one level I agree with you about independence. There's  
7 nothing quite so straight up and honest as somebody else investigates it, you know, that's  
8 exactly what you're doing here, somebody else is investigating it. At the same time I think  
9 I made it fairly clear that what we did -- by "we" I mean us as a congregation did -- is  
10 something we need to own up to and it's something we need to apologise about. And  
11 maybe there's a mixture of the two. You know, a totally and utterly independent thing I  
12 think would be to try and pass it off to somebody else to deal with.

13 Q. So perhaps there's a role for the Society of Mary to offer an apology as part of an  
14 independent process, but otherwise they're not involved in it?

15 A. Not only an apology, but, you know, to go face-to-face and to say -- but the person has to  
16 want that, you know, I mean I would hope that even with an independent process that we  
17 could offer to meet with a person face-to-face if that's what they'd like.

18 Q. Just briefly the other point you made was about the Treaty being more than a document and  
19 being a way of life. Of course words in documents matter, the Treaty is the cornerstone of  
20 our constitution and what it says is very important to Māori and to the Treaty partner the  
21 Crown. I just wonder whether, particularly given your involvement with Māori  
22 communities over many, many years, including you talked about your time at Hato Paora  
23 College, it seemed that referring to the Treaty in the minutes of a chapter meeting once  
24 every four years would be a disappointment to many Māori, they would have higher  
25 expectations of your order?

26 A. The very first thing I'd say is that the highest body in the province is the chapter, the  
27 chapter is over the top of me, and that is for me the most appropriate place where it can be  
28 said because it says this is enshrined in who we are, you know, this is foundational to who  
29 we are and our relationship, our partnership with Māori is fundamental to us. So you might  
30 be right, you probably are right that we need to do more than that. I think we do do quite a  
31 lot more than that. But for us as a congregation, that's where we talk to ourselves and say  
32 this is what's important to us.

33 Q. Would your Māori members know about these minutes in these chapters?

34 A. Absolutely, absolutely. While I'm aware I'm hoping they're preparing the most recent

- 1 chapter stuff to be printed to go out to all of our men absolutely.
- 2 **Q.** Thank you for your time, kia ora.
- 3 **COMMISSIONER STEENSON:** Tēnā koe.
- 4 **A.** Tēnā koe.
- 5 **Q.** So you've explained that the Society of Mary removes abusers from the ministry but not as  
6 a member, that's correct?
- 7 **A.** That's right, certainly.
- 8 **Q.** And there is support given to the abuser once they are removed, somewhere to live and feel  
9 safe and supported I think you talked about?
- 10 **A.** Yes. And therapy and supervision and all of that, yeah.
- 11 **Q.** Okay. Whereas in society if somebody commits a crime like rape, for example, they go to  
12 jail and many survivors who live in poverty with the impacts of the abuse and many with  
13 serious illness as a result. So from a survivor's perspective, do you think that the kind of  
14 support and commitment to the abuser makes them feel further aggrieved?
- 15 **A.** Makes the?
- 16 **Q.** Survivor feel. What's your view on that?
- 17 **A.** People have been saying, and one of the things that I've been saying is that one of the  
18 reasons for coming forward is to ensure that it doesn't happen again. Can I give you have a  
19 very quick -- I'll try to do it quickly -- example. One of our men went to prison, rightly so  
20 for offences he had a done in this area. He then came to live at one of our houses after his  
21 release from prison, the Government said that is within a kilometre of a school, in fact two  
22 schools, two girls schools -- he offended entirely against boys, but, you know -- and so he  
23 cannot live there. And so they wanted him to live somewhere else. We found a place  
24 where he had to live by himself with absolutely no supervision of us. If that was better, you  
25 know, not in my book I'm sorry.
- 26 **Q.** I guess I can understand the supervision in terms of safety, the part I'm struggling with  
27 around is the support, the kind of pastoral support that they seem to get continually,  
28 whereas many survivors go without that.
- 29 **A.** Pastoral support is something that occurs in families too, and when somebody in your  
30 family does something wrong you've got to stand around them as well. I mean Tom was  
31 saying exactly the same thing when he was talking about, you know, you've got to assist the  
32 person too, because they're an offender. I can see your point, totally. But, you know, the  
33 options --
- 34 **Q.** Sorry, I'm not making a point, I'm just trying to understand your thinking around it.

- 1 A. Yeah, the options, you know, maybe you'll put in the reporting is that you suggest is a  
2 better way of doing it, I don't know.
- 3 Q. Thank you.
- 4 A. Thanks.
- 5 **COMMISSIONER ALOFIVAE:** Talofa, good afternoon.
- 6 A. Talofa.
- 7 Q. Thank you, a lot of the stuff that I had wanted to ask you you've answered very fully, thank  
8 you very much to counsel. Just one point on the data. You have said you've got 100  
9 members in the Society?
- 10 A. Currently roughly, yeah.
- 11 Q. And that there were four in formation, are they part of the 100?
- 12 A. Two of them are, because two of them are professed. You know how I went through --
- 13 Q. Yeah.
- 14 A. Two of them are junior, three of them are junior so there's actually five, but four of them in  
15 New Zealand.
- 16 Q. And we've got the male and the female, but do you keep the ethnicity as well of your  
17 membership?
- 18 A. The ethnicity of our membership?
- 19 Q. Yes, of the Brothers.
- 20 A. In New Zealand?
- 21 Q. Mmm.
- 22 A. And the fathers?
- 23 Q. Mmm.
- 24 A. Yes absolutely, absolutely. Would you like to know --
- 25 Q. Yeah, out of 100.
- 26 A. -- how many priests are Māori?
- 27 Q. Yes, and others.
- 28 A. Okay. We have one guy who's Samoan, we have one guy who is Māori, we have one guy  
29 who is Chinese, we have one guy who is Filipino, not huge numbers, no.
- 30 Q. So the balance is European?
- 31 A. Well, Kiwis, yes.
- 32 Q. Thank you, that's it, thank you.
- 33 **CHAIR:** I think I've asked my fair share of questions during the examination. It remains for me  
34 to thank you very much for coming. You've given us a unique view into the Society of

1 Mary and without your evidence the Commission would have lacked that and, as we've  
2 been told, we've received great education and you've added to that, so thank you very much  
3 for explaining that so carefully, and for your description of the very important time when  
4 you received the tsunami of --

5 A. Complaints.

6 Q. -- complaints and how you dealt with them, that's added very much to our knowledge so  
7 thank you very much for that and thank you also for enabling us to finish on time, very  
8 grateful for that. Thank you very much Tim. And I think that brings our proceedings to a  
9 close for the day.

10 **Hearing closes with waiata and karakia mutunga by Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei**

11 **Hearing adjourns at 5.14 pm to Friday, 26 March 2021 at 9.30 am**

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