

~~Mr~~
Commission into Sexual Abuse
Peter O'Callaghan Q C

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19 December 1997

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Copy
received
11th September
2012

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to previous correspondence, and advise that I have now been provided with a copy of a letter you have addressed to the Archbishop, and which was provided to me via Mr [REDACTED].

I refer to my Secretary's letter in which she advised that I would be writing a lengthy letter dealing with matters you had raised previously. I think it is better at this stage to delay doing that and to deal only with the two matters I refer to below.

The costs of your counselling

I have requested Carelink that the fees of your counselling from Mr Shane Wall be borne by Carelink. I enclose herewith a copy of my letter to Carelink and also a copy of my letter to Mr Shane Wall, the contents of both of which I trust are self explanatory.

The tape recording

I do not propose to destroy the tape recording. My reason for this is twofold. First the tape provides a precise record of the conversation we had, and if there be any necessity to refer to what was said in the future, that precise record should be able to be referred to. In saying that I reiterate what I frequently said during the interview and afterwards,

namely that everything you have said to me is and will remain confidential unless you direct otherwise.

Secondly I consider it would be regrettable if I remain the only person to have heard the tape. I respectfully suggest to you that you should listen to the tape. I say this because what you told me was in my opinion a moving, revealing and helpful account of events which have played such an important part in your life.

Further, I feel that it may be that your recollection of the interview is somewhat clouded by the upset that you experienced. Further again you may find it helpful having listened to the tape to discuss its contents with Mr. Wall.

On the other hand if he having heard the tape you consider that there is something in it which was misunderstood, or that you have said something you had not intended to say you can raise that matter with me and I would be most anxious to discuss it with you.

I emphasise that nothing which you said at that interview did other than do you credit.

I accordingly propose to copy the tape and I will hopefully do that over the weekend and then provide a copy to you. The reason I am having a little difficulty in doing that is because the recorder that I use is a special speed recorder which precludes the tape being played in any machine other than a special transcribing machine.

I assure you that no one else has or will hear the tape and that I will personally do the copying.

I will be in touch shortly.

Yours most sincerely,



Peter O'Callaghan
Independent Commissioner