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Abigail Scholefield
Investigation Lawyer, IICSA

25th July 2019

Dear Ms Scholefield

I write further to the evidence I gave to the IICSA on 4th July, where I spoke on behalf of the Cambridge Theological Federation. It has been pointed out to me that I have misunderstood documents which were part of the evidence and so some of my answers were incorrect.

My confusion relates to documents ACE004257 (“Criteria for Selection for the Ordained Ministry in the Church of England”), ACE026771 (“Future Clergy. Criteria for Selection for Ordained Ministry as a Priest in the Church of England”) and ACE026772 (“Discernment Process and Framework – longer briefing paper – January 2019”).

As I stated at the start of my evidence, the Federation is responsible for the academic side of training. Responsibility for the formational side of training lies with Ridley Hall, Westcott House and the Eastern Region Ministry Course. (p 106-107 of the transcript). None of these documents is therefore pertinent to my area of work and I was beyond my area of expertise when commenting on them. In particular I was wrong not to correct Counsel’s statement that ACE026772 was presented by Bishop Mark as “the new proposed formation criteria” (p 125 of the transcript). I would be grateful if the panel could be made aware that the framework is proposed for use as part of the *discernment* process. It was also wrong of me not to correct Counsel’s statement that “this document is supposed to inform all of your teachings and all of your assessments” (p 126 of the transcript). That is not true.

I have also been prompted to clarify that my comment on lines 2-6 of page 126 of the transcript are a personal view and not a considered view of the Federation and I would be grateful if this could be brought to the attention of the panel.

I apologise for giving evidence that is misleading.

Yours sincerely

DPA

Alastair Oatey