

not recall the detail but his request was not appropriate in child protection terms, and I declined to support his case.

31. I did not have any dealings with any of the schools affiliated to or operated by any of the Benedictine Orders. Those schools were outside the remit of COPCA and subject to different legislation and regulations for safeguarding, although COPCA national policies would apply to all members of the Orders, some of whom might have been working in the schools.
32. In addition to an advisory and supportive role, COPCA was mandated to monitor implementation of the Nolan recommendations, though Nolan recognised the inherent tensions of these potentially contradictory roles. His optimism that good will would enable them to be reconciled was not fully borne out in practice.
33. Following recommendation 19, that COPCA should make a public annual report on the overall position in the dioceses and Religious Congregations, data was gathered each year to provide the basis for the Annual Reports published between 2002 and 2007. This covered the number of allegations received and information on how they were handled, information on risk assessments and on training events locally, and on the number of parish reps in place, and the number of CRB checks completed.
34. This was a limited and unsatisfactory level of monitoring of policy implementation which did at least have the merit of demonstrating openness and accountability about new abuse allegations on the Church's part.
35. I do not recall if Ampleforth or Downside completed Annual Report Returns.
36. During my tenure as COPCA Director there was frequent discussion with my line manager Terry Bamford on the need to introduce an audit process. The climate of resistance within the Church to any external scrutiny of the workings of Dioceses and Congregations militated against a full external audit process, as did the limited resources available in COPCA.
37. Eventually, a self-audit process was introduced in 2006 and 2007, in the full recognition that this was a first step and could not be a rigorous independent process.
38. I do not know if Ampleforth or Downside completed the self-audit.
39. I no longer have access to any papers that I had whilst a director of COPCA some 10 years ago. These papers may be available in the current CSAS offices if they have been archived. Without sight of those papers I am not able to recall any specific allegations or concerns about Child Sexual Abuse at either Ampleforth or Downside that might have been referred to within those