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5 March 1993

Dear Sirs

RE: THE RIGHT REVEREND PETER BALL

Thank you for your letter dated 18 February 1993.

Careful and anxious consideration has been given to the evidence and attendant circumstances in this case with reference to the criteria set out in the Code for Crown Prosecutors. The view is taken that there is sufficient admissible, substantial and reliable evidence available to support proceedings against your client for offences of indecent assault and gross indecency.

Having regard to all the circumstances, however, the Crown would be prepared to allow a disposal less than prosecution, namely a caution for one offence of gross indecency with Neil Stewart Todd on or about 23 October 1992, contrary to Section 13 Sexual Offences Act 1956, as an alternative to prosecution. I must point out that the administration of a caution can take place only on the basis of a full and unequivocal admission of the offence in question. If your client agrees to be cautioned, it must be on such basis only.

It is therefore suggested that if your client wishes to avail himself of a disposal by caution on the above-mentioned terms, immediate and direct arrangements should be made for this purpose with Superintendent Bennett of Gloucestershire Constabulary, who has been made aware of the position.

Yours faithfully

DPA

J B LONGDEN
GENERAL CASEWORK DIVISION