

To: 'Keith Akerman' [DPA] [AN-B1] [DPA];
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DPA

From: Colin Perkins
Sent: Fri 15/02/2013 12:54:04 PM
Importance: Normal
Subject: Robert Coles

As you will all have seen, Robert Coles was sentenced to 8 years' imprisonment yesterday. Additionally, the CPS in their presentation of the case made clear all the details regarding the '97 and '02 matters that we have relied upon in CDM 2, so that information is now in the public domain. They named both Bishop Wallace and Bishop Nicholas in open Court. At one point, when the defence barrister was using Coles' admission to the Bishops in '97 as possible mitigation, the judge cut in and said "But even when he admits his offences to his senior clergy nothing seems to have been done about it". As you can imagine Colin Campbell was in Court and was scribbling furiously. If you haven't seen it the BBC SE report last night is worth watching in iPlayer, and it's also in the Times today (page 23).

Campbell will also do a piece tonight picking up on ABC's statement, which has received universal appreciation as an extremely strong statement and a step-change from what we were hearing from Lambeth Palace previously. He uses very strong language including 'betrayal' and 'failure', and given the details that emerged in Court it is not difficult to figure out who he's referring to – particularly as it is clear from his statement that he has read accounts of this case provided for him by the Diocese and also the Commissaries.

One of the victims was in Court and was overwhelmed by both the judge's comments and also the length of sentence. Bishop Martin wrote to all the victims before the sentencing offering to meet with them to give them a full account of the details that emerged during the police investigation but which we have been unable to share until now and we have already heard back from one of them. Furthermore one of the victims has already said that he would be willing to receive ongoing support from [Name Redacted] who was also in Court with me.

Supt Nev Kemp yesterday tweeted that the CofE has been very helpful in this and other ongoing enquiries, and again to say that there has been excellent partnership working on these cases with the victims at the centre.

The 'next' thing on the horizon is the trial of Wilkie Denford and Mark Mytton, which starts on the 10th March. After that we have the 7-wk trial of Gordon Rideout, which starts on the 8th April. [Name Redacted] is in contact with the police regarding both cases and will be working with others such as Victim Support to offer support to the victims throughout these trials.

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