



# THE BISHOP OF CHICHESTER

The Right Reverend John Hind

THE PALACE, CHICHESTER, WEST SUSSEX PO19 1PY

TELEPHONE: **DPA** FAX: **DPA**

e.mail: **DPA**

## STRICTLY PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

11 August 2008

I am sorry not to be able to write to you personally but, quite rightly, the Police are unable to disclose your name and address. I am, however, grateful to the Police for passing this letter on to you.

Abuse is always inexcusable, and I am particularly sad and appalled to hear of incidents involving clergy of this diocese.

You have already had to wait a long time for justice to be done, and even for the matter to come to court. This will, I am sure, have added to the distress you have experienced.

Whilst the Church of England cannot accept responsibility for the personal actions of abusers, it deeply regrets these actions and has compassion for all who have suffered. I am of course unaware of your personal situation and what support and counselling, if any, you have received. If you do need help of this kind and feel you would benefit from support or professional counselling, the diocese would be happy to assist.

Please feel free to contact me or Shirley Hosgood, the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, at Diocesan Church House, 211 New Church Road, Hove, East Sussex BN3 4ED. If you would prefer to speak to Shirley, please ring **DPA**

Yours sincerely

**DPA**