

THE DEAN AND CHAPTER OF CHICHESTER

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DPA



CATHEDRAL OFFICE
THE ROYAL CHANTRY
CATHEDRAL CLOISTERS
CHICHESTER
WEST SUSSEX PO19 1PX

4th May 2001

I do apologise for not being able to address you personally but I am unaware of all but three of those for whom these last few days, not to mention the years, have been a considerable strain. I am grateful to the Police for kindly acting as 'postman'.

The sentence meted out to Terence Banks is a strong indication as to the severity of his offences perpetrated on boys and young men. What he did was totally abhorrent and I feel deeply for all who have suffered, and indeed still suffer, as a result of abuse. As a parent and grandparent, I sympathise with all who have been through this long period of acute stress and strain.

Measures are now in place in the Cathedral and the Prebendal School, and being strictly adhered to, in an endeavour to prevent anything similar happening again.

I repeat my sadness and that of other members of the Chapter at what has happened and a concern for all involved. If any one of us can be of help then we may be contacted through the Cathedral Office.

Yours sincerely

DPA



THE BISHOP OF CHICHESTER

The Rt Revd John Hind

THE PALACE, CHICHESTER, WEST SUSSEX PO19 1PY

TELEPHONE: FAX:

e.mail:

26 September 2001

I am grateful to the police for passing this letter on to you. I regret I am unable to address you personally as, quite rightly, the police are not able to disclose your name and address to a third party.

As you may know, following the trial and conviction of Terence Banks, a 'debrief exercise' was initiated to advise me on what lessons the Church can learn in order to create the safest possible environment for children and young people.

As a result of this a formal 'case review' has commenced. Edina Carmi, social work consultant, chaired the initial 'de-briefing' meeting and will continue to lead the review. She is supported by a multi-agency Steering Group chaired by Peter Collier QC. Other members of the Steering Group are representatives from Victim Support, the Police, West Sussex Social & Caring Services and Education Department, along with a member of the clergy and my Advisor for Child Protection.

The Chair of the Group, the member of the clergy and the representative from Victim Support do not have any connections with Chichester or West Sussex. The member of the clergy is a dean from another cathedral city with a choir school.

The purpose of the Review is to:

1. Establish, from this case, whether there are lessons to be learnt regarding the ways in which the Chichester Diocese can improve safeguards for children and young people involved in Church activities.
2. Establish whether there are lessons to be learnt regarding the way in which the Church of England, in the Chichester Diocese, can improve working arrangements with the statutory Area Child Protection Committee agencies.
3. Identify clearly the lessons to be learnt, how they will be acted upon and what is expected to change as a result.
4. Develop a model of good practice to be made generally available to the Church of England.

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A vitally important part of this Review is the opportunity for you, and your families, to be able to contribute your views on the lessons to be learnt.

I realise that this is a lot to ask you and may run the risk of reopening old wounds, but I am sure you understand how important it is that Edina Carmi is able to hear directly from you. This could be through meeting with her or, if you prefer, by contributing your views in writing.

If you and/or your family feel able to help, Edina Carmi can be contacted through writing to her at the address above, marking the letter 'Personal and Confidential'. This will ensure that the letter is not opened by anyone else. Alternatively, you may choose to email her on or leave a telephone message for her with Tony Sellwood, my Child Protection Advisor on

Nothing I can say or do can undo the past, which has caused you so much pain. I do hope, however, that the Review process will give you some confidence that your experience might help to create more safeguards for the future, and protect others from what you have undergone.

I want to end by saying how sorry I am about the way you suffered and to express the hope that if you are not already able to do so, you will eventually be able to get on with your life free from the problems of the past.

I have included, on a separate sheet, details of helpline numbers that Victim Support have suggested you, or your family, may wish to access now or at any time in the future.

Yours sincerely



From The Dean
The Very Reverend Nicholas Frayling

AN-A11

CONFIDENTIAL

DPA

24th February 2006

Dear AN-A11

Thank you for your letter of 7th February 2006. I am very sorry to hear of the problems which you have suffered in the past years.

You are no doubt aware that from the year 2000, when the activities of Mr Terence Banks became known, the Dean and Chapter of Chichester co-operated with the police investigation, and my predecessor's letter of May 2001 reflected the abhorrence that everybody here felt in respect of Mr Banks's behaviour.

I think it is important that you are aware that Mr Banks was not at any time an employee of the Dean and Chapter. He was, on occasions, a volunteer steward who assisted in showing people to their seats before services. He also provided some stage management services for concerts held on the Cathedral premises. Neither [Name Redacted] nor [Name Redacted] whom you mention in your letter had any connection whatsoever with the Dean and Chapter.

Whilst the Dean and Chapter sympathise with you at what is obviously a difficult time, we are clearly unable to accept any legal liability in connection with the behaviour and activities of any of the gentlemen you refer to, and consequently I regret to advise that we are unable to make any payments to you in respect of the monies you seek for your lost earnings and the cost of counselling.

I note the information you have provided relating to the claim you have made to the CICA, and the help and advice you have received to date from your counsellor and your solicitor. May I suggest that you discuss with them the monies you now seek, as they - and in particular your solicitor - will be able to fully advise you about this aspect of your difficulties.

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The Royal Chantry, Cathedral Cloisters, Chichester, West Sussex PO19 1PX. Tel: [DPA] Fax: [DPA]
Email: [DPA]

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You refer to 'Faoiseamh', which I understand is a helpline service available to victims of child sexual abuse which is run by the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland. Its purpose is to listen to victims of abuse and it may, if required, arrange one-to-one counselling.

I am sure this letter will be a disappointment to you, and I do apologise for that. However, I can only wish you well for the future and assure you of my prayers.

With every good wish

Yours sincerely

DPA