

## To be placed on letterhead of Diocese or Congregation

To: Most Reverend Michael McKenna  
Bishop of Bathurst  
PO Box 246  
Bathurst NSW 2795

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### STATEMENT BY CHURCH AUTHORITY RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

My Lord,

In response to the requirements of Towards Healing Paragraph 45.7, as the relevant Church Authority of \_\_\_\_\_, I hereby state that in relation to this person, there have been no substantiated complaints of abuse against him or her, nor are there any known circumstances that could lead to a complaint of abuse.

**Duration of Visit:** \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please provide arrival and departure dates)*

**Parish to be visited and purpose of the visit:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Sincerely in Christ,

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Printed Full Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date of Statement**

**Official Role:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

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### Relevant Paragraphs from Towards Healing

- 45.6 Whenever a cleric or religious is to transfer from one diocese or institute to another, (whether within Australia or coming from overseas) or is to carry out a ministry or apostolate in another diocese or institute, the Church Authority to which the person is to be transferred shall ask for a written statement from the priest or religious indicating whether there have been any substantiated complaints of abuse against him or her of whether there are known circumstances that could lead to a complaint of abuse. Such statements shall be held as confidential documents by the Church Authority.
- 45.7 In these circumstances the Church Authority in the diocese of institute where the cleric or religious previously lived and worked, shall provide a statement in writing to the new diocese or institute indicating whether such authority knows of any complaints of abuse which have been substantiated or is aware of circumstances that could lead to a complaint of abuse, or whether it considers that there would be an unacceptable risk to children, young people or vulnerable adults if a person were to be allowed to engage in particular kinds of ministry. Where there has been a substantiated complaint, the Church Authority shall furnish all information necessary to evaluate the seriousness of the offence, and shall report on all treatment undertaken, and other measures employed to ensure that further offences do not occur. Such statements shall be held as confidential documents by the church Authorities.