



The Safe Communities Unit
LEVEL 4
221 LONDON CIRCUIT
CANBERRA CITY, ACT

Please address all correspondence to:
GPO BOX 1981
CANBERRA, ACT 2601
T (02) 6232 3610 (Executive Support)
T (02) 6232 3620 (Direct)
M 0427 533 159
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RESPONDING TO ABUSE - GUIDELINES FOR PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT PEOPLE

PARAMETERS OF THE ROLE:

The role of the Professional Support Person is to provide counselling or therapy to primary or secondary victims (clients) where the primary victim has suffered abuse in the church¹.

Elements not to be included in this role:

- Advocacy
- Legal advice

EXPECTATIONS OF PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT PEOPLE:

The Diocese expects that a Professional Support Person will exercise their role consistent with the professional ethics, requirements and Code of Conduct of their registering body.

INTERACTIONS BETWEEN PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT PEOPLE AND THE DIOCESE:

The Professional Support Person is not to divulge to the Diocese any information that is discussed in professional support sessions with a client.

The Professional Support Person is required to advise the Diocese at six session intervals if they believe the client requires a further six sessions of counselling or therapy.

¹ **Abuse in the church** means that whilst being a member of a church in this Diocese or attending a church event or ministry program in this Diocese or engaging with Diocesan personnel within the context of their professional or vocational role, the person has suffered physical, sexual or emotional abuse.

The Professional Support Person is to invoice the Diocese regularly for sessions completed with the clients. Invoices are to be forwarded to:

Trevor Ament

Registrar for the Anglican Diocese of Canberra & Goulburn

PO Box 1981

CANBERRA ACT 2601

trevor.ament@anglicands.org.au

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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