

Principal Adviser
Individuals and Indirect Tax Division
The Treasury
Langton Crescent
PARKES ACT 2600
ACNCReview@treasury.gov.au

16 February 2018

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Review of ACNC Legislation: Issues 2 and 5 - Gap in regulatory framework and need for transparency

My family and I are long standing members of the Anglican Church, living in Victoria and New South Wales. Over many years we have supported and donated to the Anglican Church and related entities.

I am writing to ask about the Financial Reports of the Sydney Diocesan Synod Fund and to question whether they should be included in public reporting requirements, similar to other charities.

I do not think that there is at present sufficient transparency, or the expected level of transparency, to inform parishioners, donors, volunteers and the public that funds are being used for the purpose they are being given.

Could the Review Panel explain the policy reasons for exempting religious charities from public reporting?

Do you think we need to amend the Act to improve accountability and transparency of religious bodies to help meet the Objects of the Act?

Yours faithfully



Ann Birrell
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