**STATEMENT BY CHURCH AUTHORITY**

**RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS**

**[This declaration is to be completed by the Bishop or Religious Provincial**

**of the priest who wishes to visit the Diocese of Armidale**

**for the purposes of a ‘one-off ministry’ including as a supply priest]**

**Name of Cleric:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Duration of visit: From** …… /…… /……. **To** …… /…… /……

**Purpose of visit:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

In response to the requirements of *Towards Healing,* Paragraph 45.7, as the relevant Church Authority of the above named cleric or religious, I hereby state that in relation to this person, there have been no substantiated complaints of abuse against him, nor are there any known circumstances that could lead to a complaint of abuse. I am aware that, in moving into a new jurisdiction, this person will be subject to the requirements of relevant State legislation concerning clearances to work with certain categories of persons.

**Name of Bishop or Provincial:** ……………………………………………………………………………

**Diocese or Religious Institute:** ……………………………………………………………………………

**Signature** ……………………………………………………………………………

**Email to:**

chancery@armidale.catholic.org.au

**Date** …… / …… / ……

***Towards Healing*** **relevant paragraphs**

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 cleric or religious indicating whether there have been any substantiated complaints of abuse against him or her, or 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 same circumstances the Church Authority in the diocese or 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 the 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 Authority.