

SUBJECT: HANDLING SUSPECTED MISCONDUCT		PROCEDURE REFERENCE NUMBER GEN-007
DATE APPROVED 1 May 2025 by Bishop-in-Council		VERSION 3 Replaces original version dated 24 February 2022
IMPLEMENTATION DATE	REVIEW FREQUENCY	RESPONSIBLE FOR REVIEW
Immediate	3 Yearly	Bishop-in-Council

1.0 PURPOSE

This procedure is to guide users to the most appropriate ordinance, procedure or process in circumstances where misconduct is suspected.

2.0 SCOPE

2.1 Applicability

This procedure can be used where misconduct is suspected and that misconduct relates to a parish, Diocesan Registry, Archives, or in the operation of any other minister or ministry authorised and licensed by the Bishop of Grafton.

Any ordinance, procedure or process to which this procedure directs should be checked for applicability to the circumstances.

2.2 Exclusions

This procedure does not apply to the scope of operation of each of the bodies corporate of the Diocese of Grafton (i.e. Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School, Emmanuel Anglican College, Clarence Valley Anglican School, Bishop Druitt College, St Columba Anglican School, St Columba Anglican School Foundation, Anglicare North Coast and Lismore Parish Pre-School).

Grievances that do not relate to a workplace, church location or authorised activity of the Diocese are excluded from the operation of this procedure except to the extent that a grievance involves a person or persons licensed by the Diocese.

3.0 POLICY

3.1 Use of the Flowchart

Commencing at the top of the first page of the flowchart in Attachment A, follow the path of the flowchart in accordance with the answers to the questions in the flowchart relevant to the matter under consideration.

4.0 DEFINITIONS

Users of this procedure should refer to the definitions contained in the ordinance, procedure or that is specific for the process directed to by this procedure.



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5.0 REFERENCES

GEN-004 Prevention of Bullying and Harassment

GEN-005 Grievances

Clergy Discipline Ordinance 1966

Professional Standards Ordinance 2004



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ATTACHMENT A FLOWCHART FOR HANDLING ISSUES OF SUSPECTED MISCONDUCT You experience, observe or uncover signs of suspected misconduct. Is it a criminal act involving sexual abuse? Yes No Unclear/ Unsure Does it relate to sexual abuse, Report to potential Report to police and sexual abuse Director of Director of or sexual Professional Professional misconduct? Standards[^] Standards[^] Yes No Report to DPS^ Is it a criminal act (not involving sexual abuse)?



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page

No

No

Is it likely bullying

or harassment?

Yes

Procedure to apply

Bullying and

Harassment

* Archdeacon/Registrar are to ensure appropriate safeguards are put in place and referrals made once police have investigated.

Unclear/ Unsure

conduct.

Discuss with senior officeholder

who is not involved in observed

Yes

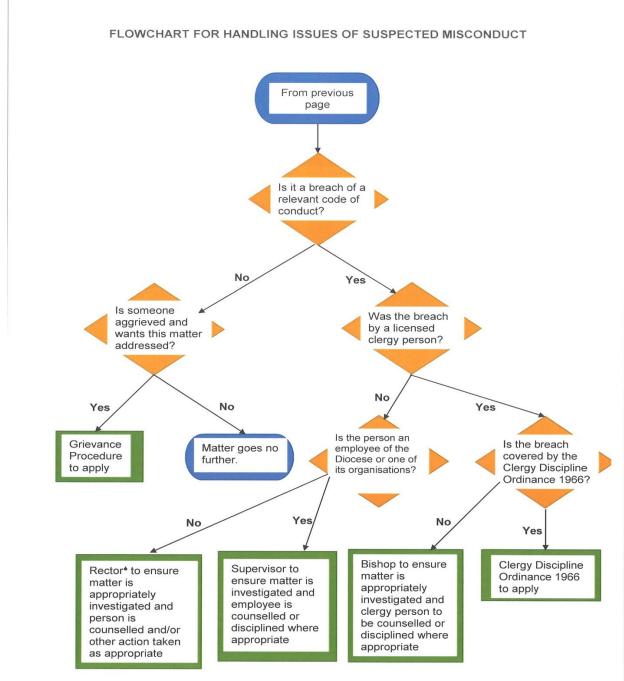
Report to police

and Archdeacon

and/or Registrar*



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[♦] Where a Rector has a real or perceived conflict of interest in the matter, it may be referred to an Archdeacon to determine a suitable process.