

**PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS ORDINANCE 2012 AMENDMENT
ORDINANCE #2 2020**

AN ORDINANCE to amend the Professional Standards Ordinance 2012.

BE IT THEREFORE Ordained by the Diocesan Council of the Diocese of Newcastle as follows:

BACKGROUND

This Ordinance empowers the Professional Standards Committee to assist the Diocese to comply with the Children’s Guardian Act 2019.

PART 1 – PRELIMINARY

Short Title

1. This Ordinance may be cited for all purposes as the ***Professional Standards Ordinance 2012 Amendment Ordinance #2 2020***.
2. The Principal Ordinance is the ***Professional Standards Ordinance 2012***.

PART 2 – OPERATIVE PART

3. Section 3(1) of Principal Ordinance is amended
 - a. by the repeal of the definition of “information” and the substitution of definition of “information” as follows -

“information” means information of whatever nature and from whatever source relating to:

- a) alleged conduct of a Church worker wherever or whenever occurring involving sexual misconduct or child abuse;
- b) alleged inappropriate or unreasonable conduct or omission of a Church worker who had knowledge of conduct of another Church worker involving sexual misconduct or child abuse;
- c) alleged criminal conduct by a Church Worker;
- d) a reportable allegation on the part of a Church Worker; or
- e) an alleged process failure being the failure of the Diocese (and/or any Church Worker) to deal appropriately with or to investigate any of the conduct set out in sub clauses (a) to (d) above.

- b. The insertion of a definition of “reportable allegation” as follows

“reportable allegation” means an allegation that a church worker has engaged in conduct that may be reportable conduct, whether or not the conduct is alleged to have occurred in the course of the church worker’s work or ministry with the Diocese.

**A BILL FOR A PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS ORDINANCE
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c. The insertion of a definition of “reportable conduct” as follows

“reportable conduct” means reportable conduct as defined in Part 4 of the Children’s Guardian Act 2019.

4. Section 31 of the Professional Standards Ordinance 2012 is amended by the repeal of all the existing words and the substitution in their place by the following

- 1) A member of the Clergy or a Church Worker or a Church authority in the diocese shall as soon as possible refer any information in his her or its possession or knowledge to the Director.
- 2) This section does not affect the operation of the Canon Concerning Confessions 1989 of General Synod or any other Ordinance or legislative instrument relating to confessions in force in the diocese.

I HEREBY CERTIFY the Ordinance as printed is in accordance with the Ordinance as reported.

PASSED BY DIOCESAN COUNCIL on the **28 May 2020**.



Mrs Linda Wilson

Secretary, Diocesan Council



ASSENT by Peter, Bishop of
Newcastle **28 May 2020**

This document is current at the date of last review and is maintained electronically by the Anglican Diocese of Newcastle. Users should refer to the Newcastle Anglican website to confirm the currency of the instrument.

In Force Date: 28 May 2020

Last Review: 28 May 2020

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