

## COMMENT BY ARCHBISHOP TIMOTHY COSTELLOE SDB ON THE RELEASE OF THE TRUTH JUSTICE HEALING COUNCIL'S ACTIVITY REPORT

Friday, 12 December, 2014

In response to the release of the Truth Justice Healing Council's Activity Report, the Most Rev Timothy Costelloe, Archbishop of Perth, said:

"I believe that as a Church we are finally beginning to come to terms with the terrible failures and betrayals of our past.

"Dealing with the damaging reality of child sexual abuse and its harrowing effects on all those affected is not something on the sidelines but is at the heart of what we in the Church are seeking to do today. For this reason, I am fully supportive of the direction being proposed by the Truth Justice Healing Council in their recent Activity Report.

"It will be necessary to leave no stone unturned as we face this horrendous scourge head on and come to better understand its origins and causes. Only in this way will we be able to move towards the satisfactory resolutions that we urgently need to find.

"My priority remains ensuring that healing and hope might somehow be brought to those who have been so grievously wounded and making sure, as far as humanly possible, that our present and our future are completely different from the horrors of the past."

-ENDS-