

# Diocese of Plymouth

## Office of the Bishop

Right Reverend Christopher Budd



Bishop's House  
31 Wyndham Street West  
PLYMOUTH  
Devon  
PL1 5RZ

Tel: (01752) 224414

Fax: (01752) 223750

e-mail: [bishop@plymouth-diocese.org.uk](mailto:bishop@plymouth-diocese.org.uk)

RC Diocese of Plymouth: a registered charity

---

Cumberlege Commission  
PO Box 54866  
London SW1V 1WL

September 29, 2006

### To Whom it May Concern

Many thanks for the opportunity to suggest areas of review to the Cumberlege Committee.

There are three areas in my view in which I feel the review could focus and examine carefully:

- The central office of COPCA should be scaled down. Now the policies have been refined and circulated may I suggest that we have a COPCA with potential to advise, inspect and arrange conferences in support of the diocesan/order child protection operations. CRB checks could very easily be done directly from the Diocese and Orders.
- What happens to people, especially priests, on administrative leave needs a thorough examination. As was said at the recent National Conference of Priests meeting, there is injustice being perpetrated especially regarding historical material. To illustrate this I have a priest in limbo on administrative leave now for 18 months while the police take a leisurely look at a wider scene!
- Diocesan/Order operations are now up and running and need a supportive COPCA, not one that means a long hard groan every time vast and expensive documents land on desks.

I would hope that the above three points could be scrutinized during the course of the review.

Thank you for all you are doing and for the chance to make such proposals.

With every good wish and blessing

Christopher Budd  
Bishop of Plymouth

*Dictated by Bishop Budd but not signed in his absence.*