

MEDIA RELEASE

TJHC welcomes additional time and money for Child Abuse Royal Commission



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Truth Justice and Healing Council CEO, Francis Sullivan, has welcomed the announcement this afternoon that the Federal Government will provide additional funding and extend the reporting time for the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

“This is an important decision that will ensure the Royal Commission has the time and resources it needs to complete its investigations,” Mr Sullivan said.

The two year extension and the additional funding of up to \$125 million will now see the Commission complete its final report by 15 December 2017.

“I’m sure this will be great news for the many survivors of child sexual abuse who have been so supportive of the Commission,” Mr Sullivan said.

“It is also good news for the institutions which are being investigated, including the Catholic Church, because it is only after the truth is fully exposed and the history fully revealed that we will be able to work towards rebuilding trust and credibility in the community.

“This is a major social issue for our nation and we need the investment of both time and money to give security to the community that institutions have been brought to account and victims have been given adequate time to tell their stories and to access support.

“Governments around Australia must now back the work of the Royal Commission, get behind its recommendations, put aside jurisdictional squabbles and ensure Australia has the world’s safest child protection laws and most effective redress scheme.”

Media contact: Michael Salmon 0417 495 018

The Truth Justice and Healing Council is coordinating the Catholic Church’s engagement with the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

For more information on the Truth Justice and Healing Council go to: www.tjhcouncil.org.au

For more information on the Royal Commission go to: <http://www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au/>