



Anglican Church of Australia

Primate: The Right Reverend Dr Mark Short

15th April 2026

A statement by the Primate of the Anglican Church of Australia

The Episcopal Standards Board of the Anglican Church of Australia, a disciplinary tribunal that considers complaints about serving or former Diocesan Bishops, has determined that Keith Dalby, the Bishop of the Diocese of The Murray, is unfit to remain in Holy Orders. The Board has directed that Bishop Dalby relinquish Holy Orders within 21 days. If he fails to do so, the Board has directed that he be deposed from Holy Orders.

The determination concerned Bishop Dalby's failure to disclose to his Diocesan Council and others a romantic relationship with and subsequent marriage to Ms Alison Dutton (now a priest) at a time when he participated in decisions involving her advancement in the Diocese. The Board found that Bishop Dalby's conduct clearly breached his ordination and consecration vows of honesty, fidelity and integrity and that there had been a fundamental erosion of trust and confidence between the laity and clergy of The Murray and Bishop Dalby.

The Anglican Church of Australia is committed to appropriate professional conduct by those entrusted with ordained and lay ministry and to ensuring that any complaint is taken seriously and dealt with properly.

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