



INFORMATION RELEASE

On 2 December 2022, the Carmelites were notified of an allegation of sexual abuse by Fr Hugh Brown O.Carm, whilst at Whitefriars College in the mid-1990s. Fr Brown has consistently denied the allegation.

In line with Archdiocesan protocols, Fr Brown was immediately stood down from public ministry while police conducted an investigation, which concluded with no charges filed.

A subsequent independent civil investigation found the allegation unsubstantiated.

Based on these external inquiries and all available material, the Provincial Council has determined to return Fr Brown to public ministry.

The Carmelites acknowledge the significant impact of childhood sexual abuse on victim survivors and their families and encourages anyone affected to contact the police.

Fr Bruce Clark O.Carm

Prior Provincial

24 MAY 2024