



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON**

Reference:C08/57296

2 December 2008

Brother P S Cram
Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes in New South Wales
PO Box 259
ROSEBERY NSW 1445

Dear Brother Cram

Thank you for your letter of 26 October 2008 to the Prime Minister regarding paid parental leave. I have been asked to reply on the Prime Minister's behalf.

Earlier this year, the Government made a commitment to consider ways in which it could improve support for parents with newborn children. As part of this commitment, the Government asked the Productivity Commission to undertake an inquiry into paid maternity, paternity and parental leave.

As you are aware, the Productivity Commission provided its interim report in September this year. The Government intends to examine the full range of options available for support to parents with newborn children, including the options developed by the Productivity Commission. It will be looking closely at the Commission's final report which is expected in February 2009.

Thank you for bringing your views to the Prime Minister's attention.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ngaire Hosking".

Ngaire Hosking
Assistant Secretary
Work, Family & Early Childhood