

MEDIA RELEASE

Polding Centre
133 Liverpool Street
Sydney NSW 2000

24 February 2014

STATEMENT BY ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

Cardinal Pell said he was deeply honoured to have been appointed by the Holy Father as the Prefect of the new Secretariat for the Economy.

The Holy Father has announced the new arrangements for economic and administrative affairs after receiving a report on the review conducted by the expert panel he established last year. The review recommendations were endorsed by both the Council of 8 Cardinals established to advise the Holy Father on governance and the Committee of 15 Cardinals which oversee the financial affairs.

The recommendations include changes to existing management structures, improvements in financial planning, reporting and auditing as well as the more formal involvement of senior lay experts in the policy making procedures.

Cardinal Pell said these are important and very significant moves in the right direction.

"If we make better use of the resources entrusted to us we can improve our capacity to support the good works of the Church, particularly our works for the poor and disadvantaged."

"The review has highlighted that much can be achieved through improved financial planning and reporting as well as enhancements in governance, internal controls and various administrative support functions. I am looking forward to implementing these recommendations as requested by the Holy Father.

"I have always recognised the need for the Church to be guided by experts in this area and will be pleased to be working with the members of the new Council for the Economy as we approach these tasks."

"We need to be open to expert advice and aware of any opportunity to improve the way we conduct our financial administration."

"It is an enormous task and it is important we embrace and implement the recommended changes as soon as practicable."

The Cardinal leaves behind an Archdiocese that has extended its work dramatically in recent years. The Archdiocese now has two vibrant seminaries, two Catholic universities, nearly 70,000 students in its schools as well as extensive programs for the support of tertiary students, young people and families. Services to the poor and marginalised have also been expanded with CatholicCare, the welfare arm of Archdiocese now conducting over 140 programs through a network of centres across Sydney

The Archdiocese was on the international stage in 2008 when the Cardinal hosted World Youth Day and welcomed Pope Benedict and the young people of the world to Sydney for the largest gathering in Australia's history. In 2011 Pope Benedict was also welcomed by Cardinal Pell to Domus Australia, the new pilgrim centre in Rome, where he blessed and officially opened the new facility.

Cardinal Pell will shortly return to Sydney and is expected to take up his new position by the end of March.

ENDS

further information:

Katrina Lee

Director of Catholic Communications

Archdiocese of Sydney

Phone: 9390 5304

Mobile: 0403 950652

Email: katrina.lee@sydneycatholic.org



Level 15, 133 Liverpool Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000

Telephone: (02) 9390 5300 Facsimile: (02) 9390 5306 Email: media@sydneycatholic.org

Confidentiality and privilege notice

This email message and any accompanying attachments may contain information that is confidential, legally privileged and/or subject to copyright. If you are not the intended recipient, please do not read, use, disseminate, distribute or copy this message or attachments. If you have received this email message in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete the email message. Confidentiality and legal privilege are not waived or lost by reason of mistaken delivery to you. We do not guarantee that this email and any attachments are free from virus or other errors. We will not be responsible for loss or damage resulting (either directly or indirectly) from any such virus or error. The content of and opinions expressed in non-business emails are not necessarily ours. To contact Catholic Communications please telephone +61 2 9390 5300.