

30 March 2023

Hillsong Church  
1-9 Solent Circuit  
NORWEST NSW 2153

**Confidential**

Dear Members

**Hillsong Church: Comments on public allegations**

The purpose of this letter is to provide comments from this firm about public allegations made in relation to entities that use the name 'Hillsong'.

On your instructions, we engaged the Forensic Consulting team at accounting firm Grant Thornton Australia Limited to consider the factual basis of allegations made in the context of an employment dispute. Some of these allegations were subsequently subject of enquiry by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (the ACNC). Grant Thornton also assisted us in preparing responses to those enquiries. Grant Thornton has recently provided us with a summary report concerning their examination of these matters.

The factual matters established in the summary report do not support allegations that there has been unlawful conduct by entities that use the name Hillsong or its personnel, or that there has been non-compliance with their obligations as registered charities.

The summary report demonstrates that the matters that have been alleged reflect a misunderstanding about the factual circumstances, the detail of transactions, or the arrangements generally.

Since those allegations were published in August 2022, there have been further allegations set out in material tabled in Parliament House. Some of those allegations have cross-over with those made in the employment dispute. Others are new.

Our initial observation is that allegations characterised as unlawful in the tabled material do not relate to unlawful conduct. Most of the allegations appear to relate to a concern about whether historic expenditure was appropriate in a church context. That is a discussion that should sensibly occur in a church context.

We are mindful that the concerns that have been expressed are the subject of a careful and methodical examination by the appropriate regulator, the ACNC. At the right time, once matters have progressed with the ACNC, Hillsong should be in a position to provide a detailed public response.

Yours faithfully  
**Prolegis Lawyers**