



20073-291-030

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER OF HEALTH

WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND

16 July 1987

Ann V Sharplin  
Convenor 1987 Home Birth Conference  
PO Box 355  
THAMES

Dear Ann Sharplin

Thank you for your letter of 19 May 1987 advising me of the remits passed with such strong support from the 150 delegates at the 1987 Home Birth Conference.

I am aware of the controversy surrounding these issues and have received a number of representations recommending the separation of the Midwifery Course from the Advanced Diploma of Nursing course, and also supporting the retention of a midwifery registration.

The options are currently being explored and until a further report is available and decisions are made I am unable to respond more fully to your letter.

I have noted your support for greater opportunities to be provided for medical students and physicians undertaking the Diploma of Obstetrics to observe and train in natural childbirth techniques. Curriculum reformation is not of course a matter for my jurisdiction.

Thank you for taking the trouble to write to me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Bassett', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael Bassett  
Minister of Health