

ARCHDIOCESE OF ARMAGH

Strategic Safeguarding Plan

2014 - 2016



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Introduction and Mission Statement

The Diocesan Safeguarding Policy states “The Archdiocese of Armagh upholds the right of everyone to be treated with dignity and respect and to be safeguarded from harm and the risk of harm”.

This mission statement is reflected in the Strategic Safeguarding Plan outlined below which highlights issues that the Archdiocese will take forward during 2014/16 to enhance and strengthen safeguarding. Issues contained in the Plan have already been discussed and agreed with the Diocesan Safeguarding Committee and the Diocesan Advisory Panel. The Plan is a living document and will be reviewed periodically as and when required but at least on an annual basis by the Diocesan Safeguarding Committee and the Diocesan Advisory Panel.

Strategic Area	Action	Responsibility	Start By	Completed By
1. Training	To develop and deliver a Diocesan Training Plan for all levels of responsibility e.g. Priest Advisers within the Archdiocese. This will encompass:			
	a. Development of a Diocesan Training Needs Analysis (National Board Audit Recommendation 4)	Safeguarding Committee Training Coordinator Information Facilitators	Jun 2014	Mar 2015
	b. Finalise delivery of safeguarding awareness training to clergy, staff and volunteers	Training Coordinator Information Facilitators	Jun 2014	Sep 2015
	c. Raise safeguarding awareness issues in parishes	Safeguarding Committee Training Coordinator	Mar 2015	Mar 2016
	d. Review specific training needs of Diocesan Safeguarding Committee; Diocesan Advisory Panel; Priests; Volunteers	Training Coordinator	Sep 2014	Sep 2015
	e. Twice-yearly meetings with Information Facilitators to exchange good practice, offer support, guidance and highlight problem areas within training	Training Coordinator	Jun 2014	On-going
	f. As part of an on-going audit, write to priests/staff/volunteers who have participated in Diocesan safeguarding training to ascertain their views and on-going needs	Training Coordinator	Mar 2015	Sep 2015
	g. Liaise with training personnel from other Dioceses and Agencies	Training Coordinator	Mar 2015	Sep 2016

	<p>to determine what training events/topics can be jointly hosted</p> <p>h. Discuss development and cascade of Vulnerable Adults training for clergy, relevant staff and volunteers with Volunteer Now</p> <p>i. Deliver Vulnerable Adultstraining to all Diocesan priests and relevant staff/volunteers</p>	<p>Director of Safeguarding</p> <p>Volunteer Now Training Coordinator</p>	<p>Oct 2014</p> <p>Oct 2014</p>	<p>Jan 2015</p> <p>Dec 2016</p>
2. Membership of Diocesan Groups	<p>Membership, agenda and frequency of meetings which will deliver on the Diocesan Mission Statement. This will encompass:</p> <p>a. Facilitation and attendance at regular meetings of the Diocesan Advisory Panel and Diocesan Safeguarding Committee</p> <p>b. Liaison with Diocesan Safeguarding Committee and Diocesan Advisory Panel to review membership of groups</p> <p>c. Review membership of current Priest Advisers and Support staff and consider recruiting additional members including lay support members</p>	<p>Director of Safeguarding</p> <p>Director of Safeguarding Advisory Panel and Safeguarding Committee</p> <p>Director of Safeguarding Training Coordinator</p>	<p>On-going</p> <p>Dec2014</p> <p>Jun2015</p>	<p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p>
3. Communication	<p>To commit to on-going structured communication at all levels including National, Diocesan and Parish. This will encompass:</p> <p>a. Publication of theDiocesan Annual Safeguarding Report</p> <p>b. Include contact telephone numbers of Designated Officers and statutory safeguarding agencies included on an on-going basis in parish bulletins</p> <p>c. Develop child-friendly safeguarding material through discussion with relevant external individuals including representatives of the Diocesan youth sector (National Board Audit Recommendation 3)</p> <p>d. Organisea safeguarding workshop to agree and ratify development</p>	<p>Director of Safeguarding</p> <p>Director of Safeguarding Parish Priests</p> <p>Safeguarding Committee Training Coordinator</p>	<p>Apr 2014 Apr 2015 Apr 2016</p> <p>Mar 2015</p> <p>Jun 2014</p>	<p>Jun 2014 Jun 2015 Jun 2016</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>Jun 2015</p>

	<p>of a Diocesan Strategic Safeguarding Plan (Audit Recommendation 6)</p> <p>e. Deal with safeguarding queries as and when required from clergy, staff and volunteers</p> <p>f. Annual Diocesan Safeguarding Conference with Clergy, Parish Safeguarding Representatives and Information Facilitators to exchange good practice and discuss areas of concern</p> <p>g. Review and update the Safeguarding section of the Diocesan website.</p>	<p>Director of Safeguarding Safeguarding Committee Advisory Panel</p> <p>Director of Safeguarding Designated Officers</p> <p>Cardinal Brady Archbishop Eamon Martin Director of Safeguarding Training Coordinator</p> <p>Director of Safeguarding Administrative Officer</p>	<p>Mar 2014</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>Oct 2014 Oct 2015 Oct 2016</p> <p>On-going</p>	<p>Sep 2014</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>Oct 2014 Oct 2015 Oct 2016</p> <p>On-going</p>
4. Policy Development	<p>To develop, update and disseminate safeguarding policies as appropriate to include the following:</p> <p>a. Work with other Diocesan Directors of Safeguarding to develop agreed Vulnerable Adults guidelines and agree dissemination of guidelines throughout Archdiocese</p> <p>b. Develop guidance outlining a Diocesan approach to responding to the needs of victims/survivors (National Board Audit Recommendation 5)</p>	<p>Directors of Safeguarding of Armagh, Derry, Clogher, Kilmore and Dromore</p> <p>Director of Safeguarding Safeguarding Committee National Board</p>	<p>Mar 2014</p> <p>Mar 2014</p>	<p>Dec 2014</p> <p>Jul 2014</p>
5. Risk Assessment and Management	<p>Risk assessment and management procedures are monitored on an on-going basis and encompass:</p> <p>a. Responding accordingly and in a timely manner to all safeguarding allegations and queries</p> <p>b. Annual review of safeguarding cases</p> <p>c. Completion of annual self-audit of safeguarding practice at parish level and report to National Board</p>	<p>Diocesan Designated Officers</p> <p>Director of Safeguarding Advisory Panel members</p> <p>Director of Safeguarding Parish Priests Parish Safeguarding Reps</p>	<p>On-going</p> <p>Aug 2014 Aug 2015 Aug 2016</p> <p>Apr 2014 Apr 2015 Apr 2016</p>	<p>On-going</p> <p>Sep 2014 Sep 2015 Sep 2016</p> <p>Jun 2014 Jun 2015 Jun 2016</p>

6. Partnership Working	<p>To develop partnership working in relation to all aspects of safeguarding policies and procedures including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Development of a Safeguarding Protocol between the Archdiocese and Religious Orders who have houses within the confines of the Archdiocese (Audit Recommendation 2) b. Rolling visits by Diocesan safeguarding staff to individual parishes to determine safeguarding practice c. Investigate opportunities for joint awareness/training exercises with safeguarding staff from other Dioceses and members from statutory agencies d. Participate as a member of the Western and Southern Statutory Sector Local Adult Safeguarding Partnership e. Apprise Diocesan Safeguarding Committee and Diocesan Advisory Panel of on-going policy and operational matters and developments f. Respond to requests for information from various statutory Inquiries e.g. Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry; Sexual Exploitation of Children etc. 	<p>Director of Safeguarding National Board Religious Orders</p> <p>Safeguarding Committee Director of Safeguarding Training Coordinator</p> <p>Training Coordinator Training staff from other Dioceses and Statutory Agencies</p> <p>Director of Safeguarding</p> <p>Director of Safeguarding</p> <p>Director of Safeguarding</p>	<p>May2014</p> <p>Jun 2014</p> <p>Mar 2015</p> <p>Feb 2014</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>As required</p>	<p>May 2015</p> <p>Sep 2016</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>Dec 2016</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p>
7. Administration	<p>To demonstrate across a wide range of administrative tasks consistency and standardization by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Reviewing safeguarding files to standardise the structure, addressing gaps in records, integrating safeguarding and relevant canonical information and ensuring that all files have summaries and time lines (National Board Audit Recommendation 1) b. Progress update to National Board outlining action taken relating to Audit recommendations 	<p>Director of Safeguarding</p> <p>Director of Safeguarding Advisory Panel Safeguarding Committee</p>	<p>Mar 2014</p> <p>When requested</p>	<p>Jun 2016</p> <p>When requested</p>