



Diocese of Clogher



Complaints and Reporting

How do I report that I or someone known to me was abused by a priest or someone connected to the Church?

If you were abused by a priest or someone connected with the Church in the Diocese of Clogher, or if you know or suspect that someone else was abused, you can report it to the **Diocesan Designated Liaison Personnel (DLP)**, Anne Molloy or Martha Smyth

Anne Molloy, 10 Dunene Avenue, Kesh Road, Irvinestown, Co Fermanagh

Telephone: 028 686 21158 Mobile: 0044 78 7941 3855

Email: dlp2@clogherdiocese.ie

Martha Smyth, Raheen, 12 Hollyhill Road, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh.

Telephone: 028 66324117 Mobile: 00447775507445

Email: dlp1@clogherdiocese.ie

Diocesan Safeguarding Office

Ros Erne House

8 Darling Street

Enniskillen

BT74 7EJ

Phone: 0044 7775507445

Email: safeguardingdirector@clogherdiocese.ie



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MAKING CONTACT WITH THE DESIGNATED LIAISON PERSON

What to do if you have a concern or suspicion or wish to make an allegation of abuse which has occurred against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.

The Diocese of Clogher takes seriously all allegations, suspicions or concerns of abuse – but especially those which relate to the abuse of a child, young person or vulnerable adult which are made against any member of the clergy, staff or volunteers. The Diocese has appointed two Designated Liaison Persons whose role it is to process all allegations of abuse brought to the attention of the Diocese.

As an adult, if you have been abused as a child or you have a concern about a child, young person or vulnerable adult, there are several options where you can seek advice or where your concerns can be addressed. You can contact any or all of the following:

- The Church via the Designated Liaison Persons
- Police – PSNI (Northern Ireland) or An Garda Síochána (Republic of Ireland)
- Health and Social Care Trust (Northern Ireland) or Tusla (Republic of Ireland).

If you choose to contact the **Diocese's Designated Liaison Persons**, he/she will undertake the following steps:

1. Gathering Information:

- Collate the information you wish to share
- Make a written account of this information (this is not a formal statement) and share this with you to ensure accuracy
- Explain that all relevant information must be referred to the relevant police force, and, if appropriate, to the Social Care Trust (Northern Ireland) or Tusla (Republic of Ireland) or both.



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2. Provision of Support:

- Offer you support which can include any or all of the following:
 - i. Counselling – the Church has contracted an independent counselling service, “Towards Healing”, which can be contacted directly by you. This is a totally confidential service.
 - ii. Provide information on how to access other organisations that may be suitable to provide the kind of support you need
 - iii. An identified person, appointed by the Bishop, known as a Support person - this is not the Designated Liaison Person. The role of the Support Person is to assist with communication between you and the Designated Liaison Person; to facilitate you in gaining access to information and help; and to represent your concerns during the inquiry process. The Support Person must not act as your counsellor or therapist but may consider how your therapeutic or spiritual needs may be met whilst being mindful of your on-going vulnerability during this process. The Support Person will consider your wishes regarding disclosure of abuse, in regard to a pastoral response by the Church to your family. He/she should be available to you throughout the course of the inquiry process and thereafter as required. They should ensure that you are kept informed of developments in relation to you and represent your wishes and any therapeutic needs to the Designated Liaison Person as required. If you consider it helpful, the Support Person can arrange a meeting between you and the Bishop. Under no circumstances will the same Support Person be provided for you and for the respondent.

3. What Happens Next?

Once the information has been referred to the relevant Statutory Authority, the Designated Liaison Person will:

- i. Inform the Bishop that an allegation has been received and that a file record has been created



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- ii. Liaise with the relevant Statutory Authority to ensure the appropriate exchange of relevant information. The Designated Liaison Person is not involved in any statutory investigation of the allegation
- iii. Make contact with the person (respondent) against whom the allegation has been made. The timing of this meeting will be determined by the police and will outline the following:
 - a) That an allegation has been made, and if agreed with the relevant police force, who made the allegation; and
 - b) What information can be shared with the respondent – again to be determined by the relevant police force

Given the complexities of some allegations, this process can be lengthy and may take some time to complete

What if you are unhappy with how your concern/allegation has been dealt with?

If you are unhappy with the way in which your concern/suspicion/allegation has been dealt with by staff within the Diocese, the National Safeguarding Office for Children in the Catholic Church has a procedure to address such complaints. This is outlined in the Standards and Guidance document on the National Safeguarding Office for Children in the Catholic Church website at www.safeguarding.ie.



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Contact Details

Anyone seeking the pastoral support of the diocese with regard to an issue of safeguarding may do so through their local clergy or make direct contact with the

Clogher Diocesan Safeguarding Office

Martha Smyth

Ros Erne House

8 Darling Street

Enniskillen

BT74 7EJ

Phone: 0044 7775507445

Email: dlp1@clogherdiocese.ie

Details of Personnel to Contact if you are Concerned about the Welfare and Safety of Children or Adults at Risk of Harm:

Anne Molloy, 10 Dunene Avenue, Kesh Road, Irvinestown, Co Fermanagh

Telephone: 028 686 21158 Mobile: 0044 78 7941 3855

Email: dlp2@clogherdiocese.ie

Martha Smyth, Raheen, 12 Hollyhill Road, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh.

Telephone: 028 66324117 Mobile: 00447775507445

Email: dlp1@clogherdiocese.ie



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Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI)

Tel: 101 or Emergency Number 999

Western PSNI: 028 90650222

Or any Police Station

An Garda Síochána

Tel: 01 663430 or 01 663435 Garda 24 Hour Free Phone Reporting Line: 1800 555 222

Email: gnpsb@garda.ie

Or any station

Northern Ireland

Gateway Services, Western Health and Social Care Trust

Tel: 028 7131 4090 (Children) or 028 7161 1366 (Adults) (Office hours)

Regional Emergency Social Work Service: 028 9504 9999 (Out of hours emergencies)

Republic of Ireland

TUSLA,

Child and Family Agency

Rooskey,

Monaghan

Tel: 049 436 9801



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What will happen if I report abuse?

Reporting abuse is always difficult. We will try to make it as easy as possible for you. Normally we will meet with you to hear your account of abuse. We will discuss and agree with you where the meeting should take place. We can meet you in our offices but if that is inconvenient or otherwise difficult for you we can arrange to meet in a place of your choosing. If you do not want to meet us, we will take your complaint over the phone, by letter or in an e-mail.

Can I report abuse in confidence?

Any information that you share with us will be treated with the utmost respect and only shared with the people who need to know it. We are required to share information about abuse with the civil authorities, that is, the PSNI & Gardai as well as Tusla, the Child and Family Agency, or the relevant Health and Social Care Trust. We also need to share the information with some colleagues in the Diocese. If you tell us that you were abused by a person who is still alive, we will put your complaint to that person in order to get their response to it.

We will explain all of this to you when we hear from you and before you tell us about the abuse so that you can make an informed decision about sharing your information with the us.

What support will I be offered?

We will put you in touch with Towards Healing. This is an organisation that provides a range of services to people who were abused by priests and religious and for their families. One of the services they provide is counselling. The service is free and there is no waiting list.

The Designated Liaison Person (Anne/Martha) will also keep in touch with you to let you know how the Diocese is dealing with your complaint, if that is your wish. Alternatively, you will be offered the assistance of a Support Person to accompany you through the process of dealing with your complaint if that is your preference.



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What if I do not want to report abuse to the Diocese?

You can take your complaint directly to the PSNI/Gardai or to Tulsa, the Child and Family Agency (ROI) or the relevant Health and Social Care Trust (NI). These Telephone Numbers are listed above. If you are unsure who to approach we can assist you with this.

If the allegation relates to church personnel in the Diocese of Clogher, it would be helpful if you let us know that you have reported this matter to the PSNI/Gardai.

What if the person that abused me was not a priest or in any way connected with the Church?

If you are having any difficulty finding out who you should contact, we will be happy to advise you.

Other Contact Details

Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI)

Tel: 101 or Emergency Number 999

Western PSNI: 028 90650222

Or any Police Station

An Garda Siochana

Tel: 01 663430 or 01 663435 Garda 24 Hour Free Phone Reporting Line: 1800 555 222

Email: gnpsb@garda.ie

Email: gnpsb@garda.ie

Or any station



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(Northern Ireland)

Gateway Services, Western Health and Social Care Trust

Tel: 028 7131 4090 (Children) or 028 7161 1366 (Adults) (Office hours)

Regional Emergency Social Work Service: 028 9504 9999 (Out of hours emergencies)

(Republic of Ireland)

TUSLA,

Child and Family Agency

Rooskey,

Monaghan

Tel: 047 30475



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Support Services

Towards Healing

Towards Healing is an independent organisation providing professional support for people who have experienced institutional, clerical or religious abuse in Ireland

www.towardshealing.ie



Towards Peace

Towards Peace offers spiritual support for survivors of abuse by Catholic Church personnel in Ireland. The vision of Towards Peace is to provide a safe supportive space, where people who have been affected by abuse in a Church context can be accompanied as they seek their own experience of spiritual peace. www.towardspeace.ie

