



Diocese of Clogher



Roles of Safeguarding Personnel:

The Church Authority has a key governance responsibility to embed a culture of safeguarding by putting in place a system of governance that identifies clear procedures, accountability structures and quality assurance, in which roles and responsibilities are explicit.

The Church Authority is responsible for:

- appointing a Diocesan Safeguarding Committee, and, along with that committee, ensuring that parish safeguarding representatives are in place across the Church body
- ensuring, with parish priests or local superiors, that all those who are recruited as Church personnel are suitable and appropriate for their role
- ensuring compliance with civil law and policy in creating and maintaining safe environments, and regarding areas such as vetting, safe recruitment, adult-to-child ratios, codes of conduct and risk assessment
- ensuring that those who work with or minister to children are competent and supported in their role

The Director of Safeguarding is responsible for the co-ordination of all safeguarding practices by:

- directing and implementing the child safeguarding policy
- chairing, supporting and attending meetings of the Diocesan Safeguarding Committee, which is responsible for ensuring adequate training for parish Safeguarding Representatives
- liaising with parishes and communities to advise and support thus ensuring implementation of policies and procedures at local level
- liaising with the Diocesan Professional Conduct advisory panel
- ensuring that all child safeguarding personnel are kept up to date with practice, as communicated from the NBSCCCI
- reporting directly to the Church authority on all child safeguarding issues.
- contributing to upholding the three standards in practice and behaviour



Designated Liaison Person (DLP)

The role of the Designated Liaison Person is to promote safeguarding by:

- hearing child safeguarding concerns
- passing on child safeguarding concerns to the statutory authorities
- managing cases and all associated documents
- liaising with the support person, advisor and the Church authority
- passing on child safeguarding concerns to the NBSCCCI
- conducting internal inquiries
- contributing to upholding the three standards in practice and behaviour
- completing an annual report regarding compliance with Standards 3
- monitoring respondents or, with the Church authority, appointing a suitable person to carry out this role.

Diocesan Safeguarding Committee

A Diocesan Safeguarding Committee was first established in the Diocese of Clogher in 2004. Its role is primarily focused on creating, maintaining, and monitoring a safe environment for all aspects of church life and activity and for advising on the human resources required for implementing best Safeguarding Practice across services. Its role is supportive and developmental. It is not related in any way to the management of individual cases of suspected or alleged abuse. The Diocesan Safeguarding Committee has responsibility for:

- the provision of training
- the safe recruitment of volunteers and staff within the Diocese
- regular review of the Diocesan Policy and Procedures for Safeguarding as and when required
- communication and promotion of all aspects and developments in relation to Safeguarding in the diocese
- producing a three-year strategic plan for how to implement and maintain, 'A Safe and Welcoming Church, Safeguarding children policy and standards for the Catholic Church in Ireland, 2024' across the Church body

- liaising with the parish safeguarding representatives to identify areas where guidance and support on policy or practice is needed so that safe environments are maintained



- ensuring that records for activities related to child safeguarding are produced and stored appropriately
- communication and promotion of all aspects and developments in relation to safeguarding in the diocese

Current members of the Diocesan Safeguarding Committee (January 2025)

Deirdre Boyle: Director of Safeguarding and Chairperson

Anne Hoogerboord: Secretary

Martha Smyth: Designated Liaison Person

Anne Molloy: Designated Liaison Person

Geraldine McKenna: Vetting Co-ordinator R.O.I.

Vacant: Adult Safeguarding Champion and Trainer

Rt Rev Monsignor Peter O'Reilly PP,

Rt Rev Monsignor Shane McCaughey PP,

Rev. Kevin Duffy PP

Rev. John Chester PP

James McLoughlin: Youth Director and Registered Trainer

Enda McCabe: Registered Trainer

Adrian Fitzgerald: Registered Trainer

Grace McNally

Patricia O'Connor



Diocese of Clogher



Support person

To promote safeguarding by:

- keeping the complainant informed of the process of the case
- helping direct the complainant to counselling and support
- recording any meetings or contact they have with the complainant, and reporting to the DLP as appropriate
- contributing to upholding the three standards in practice and behaviour

Advisor

To promote safeguarding by:

- keeping the respondent informed of the process of the case
- helping direct the respondent to counselling and support
- recording any meetings or contact they have with the respondent, and reporting to the DLP as appropriate
- contributing to upholding the three standards in practice and behaviour

Safeguarding Trainers

To promote child safeguarding by

- working with the safeguarding committee to identify training needs
- delivering full-day and information-session safeguarding training to those identified by the safeguarding committee in the Church body
- keeping records of all of those who have been trained
- contributing to upholding the three standards in practice and behaviour.