

Review of Safeguarding Practice

Diocese: SMA

Recommendation	Action- Progress
<p>Given that the SMA intends to review and revise its 2012 Policy Standards and Procedures in 2015, the SMA Irish Provincial Leader and his child safeguarding personnel should liaise with HSE South to ensure that its practices are consistent with the 2011 revised Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children and with the 2011 HSE Child Welfare and Practice Handbook, and these documents should be referenced in the SMA policy document</p>	<p>Our <i>2012 SMA Policy Standards and Procedures on Safeguarding Children</i> has been revised and updated in the light of the most recent HSE guidelines and sent to the HSE for its observations and comments. An A5 version will be given to all members of the Province, both in Ireland and outside Ireland.</p>
<p>That the SMA Irish Provincial Leader ensures that written guidance be developed on how an SMA member who is deemed to pose a risk to children is managed; and that each person who is out of ministry has an individual management plan that is reviewed annually.</p>	<p>Individual Management Plans have been written up and are being implemented for each member who might pose a risk to children</p>
<p>That the Irish Provincial Leader and his safeguarding personnel develop a written Complaints Procedure as part of their revision of Policies and Procedures and ensure that this is made operational in all SMA Irish Province houses and activities.</p>	<p>A written <i>Complaints and Whistle-Blowing Policy and Procedure</i> has been elaborated and reviewed by the SMA Safeguarding Committee. When approved by the Provincial Council, it will be disseminated to all SMA Houses.</p>
<p>That the Camp Dromantine Child Protection Policy Draft Guidelines are reviewed and amended as required, are formally adopted and endorsed by the Society Leader, and are published on the SMA Irish Province web pages that deal with the Dromantine Retreat and Conference Centre. In amending these guidelines, the priest manager of the centre needs to ensure that the requirements of 3.12 above on the use of information technology are fully addressed.</p>	<p>The Camp Dromantine Child Protection Policy guidelines have been reviewed and amended. The requirements on the use of information technology have been addressed. A <i>Social Networking Policy</i> has been elaborated and is being implemented by the Priest in charge of the Camp.</p>

<p>That the Society Leader and Child Safeguarding personnel develop and publish a Communications Policy, which sets out how safeguarding information will be disseminated throughout the Irish Province and to the lay faithful.</p>	<p><i>A Communications' Policy on Child Protection</i> has been elaborated. It was studied and amended at the last Meeting of the SMA Safeguarding Committee (5th November) and approved by the Provincial Council. It will soon be published.</p>
<p>That the Society Irish Provincial requests the Safeguarding Committee with the assistance of the Designated Person to rewrite the Society's Child Safeguarding Policy, procedures and plan to be endorsed by the Provincial Leadership Team and to be adopted and published by the Society.</p>	<p>The SMA Safeguarding Committee with the assistance of the Designated Person has re-written our Child Safeguarding Policy Procedures and Plan. When finalized it is planned to print this document in a hard cover A4 binder type folder so that future amendments and updates can be added. An A5 version will be sent to all members in Ireland and outside Ireland</p>