

CSAS

Safeguarding Matters

SAFEGUARDING RESTRUCTURING—Keeping you informed

Welcome! This is the first of what will be a series of regular updates on the progress of and plans for the restructuring of safeguarding in England and Wales. These updates will be produced by the members of the “Communication and Consultation” Task and Finish Group set up as part of the Project Plan for the reorganisation of safeguarding structures. It may be helpful at this point to remind readers that the aim of the project, which has the explicit backing of the Conference of Bishops and the Conference of Religious, is “to safeguard those people involved in all aspects of ministry, whether with Religious Congregations or with the Dioceses, including those affected by ill-treatment or abuse”. We hope it goes without saying that the members of the Communication and Consultation group, and the members of the other five task and finish groups, are committed to making sure that this aim is achieved, and are working to develop and implement a structure which supports the safeguarding responsibilities of Dioceses and Religious.

When the group first met, we began by discussing what information we might usefully provide, and by what means, or put more succinctly, what and how. We decided that “what” should quite simply consist of information about the progress of the restructuring project; “how” will consist of using Safeguarding Matters, plus editions of the Mailings sent out to members of CoR. We propose also organising a series of meetings for those interested or involved in safeguarding whether in the Dioceses or the Religious. The plan is to arrange meetings on four separate days, two in the first quarter of 2012 and two in the second quarter. While there is as yet no formal agenda for the meetings, we see the first two as addressing and responding to ongoing concerns about the restructuring, and the second two as dealing more with issues relating to how the restructuring plans might be implemented. Of course, both sets of meetings will also be intended to provide further information about the progress of the project.

As a task and finish group we need to be sure that the information we pass on is timely and relevant, that our communication and consultation is effective. We therefore need feedback to help us decide whether we are communicating the right things in the right way to the right people. A list of the names of members of the Communication and Consultation Task and Finish Group, together with our email addresses, is set out below. If anyone, either from a diocese or from a religious congregation, has a question, concern or comment about the restructuring and alignment of safeguarding practices, or about the work of this task and finish group we invite you to contact us. We will undertake to record your comments and respond to you. Please feel free to get in touch with us.

Lastly, since not many people carry a copy of the project plan around with them (do they?), it may be possible to pre-empt one of the likely questions by mentioning that the timescale set down in the plan is for the draft report on the shape of the new structure to be published in January 2012, and for this to be approved by CoR, NCSC and CBCEW by April or May 2012.

The members of the Communication and Consultation Task and Finish Group are:

Sr Philomena McLuskey FMSJ philomenafmsj@hotmail.co.uk ; Rob Morland, robmorland@smafathers.org.uk
Chris Barwise (Lancaster Diocese) dpolancaster@btconnect.com ; Adrian Child adrian.child@csas.uk.net ;
and Mike Denton, safeguarding@corew.org.

We hope to hear from you.

“RESEARCH MEETS EXPERIENCE: THE IMPACT OF ABUSE”

THE NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING CONFERENCE
FOR THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN ENGLAND & WALES
15TH-17TH FEBRUARY 2012
AT THE HAYES CONFERENCE CENTRE, SWANWICK, DERBYSHIRE

Places are now available for the next National Safeguarding Conference which is taking place in February 2012.



Confirmed speakers so far are:

- ◆ Towards Healing: a focus on survivors day including Sr Jane McGinlay, Christiane Sanderson (One in Four) & Sally Mulready (Irish Women Survivors Network)
- ◆ Geese Theatre Company performance on social networking
- ◆ Daniel Blake, Deputy Director of Operations, POHWER (Vulnerable Adults)

The cost for a 3 day residential place is only £240.00.

This event would be relevant for anyone working or volunteering within the Catholic Church in the area of safeguarding or pastoral ministry. This would include Safeguarding Co-ordinators, Commission members, Congregation Leaders, Parish Reps, Religious Safeguarding Reps, Priests or Religious.

If you have not already received a flyer & booking form and would like to book a place please email Claire Saltmarshe at CSAS on claire.saltmarshe@csas.uk.net or tel. 0121 237 3740

This Newsletter is released by CSAS to all those within the Church with some responsibility for safe-guarding vulnerable groups. Should you have any comments—please email Sally Robinson (sally.robinson@csas.uk.net)

The next issue of “Safeguarding Matters” is due out November 2011