



SAFEGUARDING NEWS

Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh



In God's Image v2

The revised edition of In God's Image is now available online. It is the National Scottish Catholic Safeguarding manual for the Catholic Church in Scotland. You can read, download and

see training dates on the safeguarding section of the Archdiocesan website www.archedinburgh.org or on the Bishops' Conference of Scotland website at bcos.org.uk

YOUR SAFEGUARDING TEAM

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'BOUNDARIES' WEBINAR NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

Thanks to everyone who joined us for the safeguarding training event *Boundaries: The Personal and the Pastoral* with Sr Marie Bernadette RSM (above). A recording is available at bit.ly/BoundariesWebinar21. The slides and script can be requested from emma.boothroyd@staned.org.uk

Arranging a supply priest for your parish

Six weeks' notice of supply should be given to Chancery (chancery.administrator@staned.org.uk) who will need the priest's name and contact details along with a testimonial and copy Celebret. Once these documents have been checked, Chancery will advise whether supply can go ahead.

Safeguarding will contact the supply priest to confirm what is needed: **PVG Membership** and **Safeguarding Training** will be required depending on the length of stay.

Identification should be brought to the Archdiocese to enable the PVG Application to be processed; **Passport, Driving Licence and National Insurance number**. Other items which may be needed are a National Identity Card and DBS certificate.

When applying for a PVG, **details of address history** going back 5 years may also be requested. There is a fee of £59 for a new PVG and £18 for an update to a PVG (required every five years in Scotland). This can be agreed with the host parish priest.

Any questions? Please contact Margaret.McCluskey@staned.org.uk | Tel 0131 623 8943

NEED TO KNOW

DIOCESAN RISK ASSESSMENT MANAGEMENT TEAM (DRAMT)

WHAT IS THE DRAMT?

The Diocesan Risk Assessment Management Team (or DRAMT) deals with safeguarding allegations or complaints made within the Archdiocese.

DRAMT TEAM

Mgr Allan Chambers, Sheila Ritchie (Chair), Emma Boothroyd (Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor), Angela Hughes, Fr James Tracey and Scott Mackenzie.

DRAMT MEETINGS

The DRAMT meet six times a year, and additionally as indicated. The schedule is prepared by the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor Emma Boothroyd. Security of data is assured by password protection. Confidentiality is key.

WHAT IS REFERRED TO THE DRAMT TEAM?

All Safeguarding matters come to the DRAMT. Discussion centres on necessary risk evaluations and assessments. Allegations may be current or non-recent (previously termed "historic").

MEET THE CHAIR: SHEILA RITCHIE



"I have been involved in safeguarding for over 25 years. For 10 years I have worked as Sex and Violent Offender Liaison Officer for City of Edinburgh Council. I am the lead for developing links with faith communities to aid prevention of abuse and also support

congregations and groups to manage those who pose a risk. I have been a member of the DRAMT for four years. For the last year I have been the Independent Chair of the DRAMT. I am an Elder in the Church of Scotland and part of my homr

congregation's leadership team and I am responsible for safeguarding. I am member of NOTA, the National Organisation for the Treatment of Abuse, and I regularly provide training and consultancy to faith groups, organisations and agencies."

CONCERN OR ALLEGATION?

The DRAMT will debate if a matter raised constitutes a safeguarding concern or a safeguarding allegation (*In God's Image v2*, 3.2.2, page 35) as it is not always clear cut. If a referral does not meet the definition of a Safeguarding concern it will be referred elsewhere (*In God's Image v2*, section 3.2.4, page 36). Complaints can be made in respect of clergy (current/retired/deceased) or volunteers and employees.

MANDATORY REPORTING POLICY

There is a mandatory reporting policy in the Catholic Church in Scotland and has been for some years. Anything that may indicate possible criminal conduct must be referred on to the Police for investigation (*In God's Image v2*, 3.1.4 page 34 & 5.1.1, page 54). **Police undertake their own enquiries and investigations and it is only after this and any legal processes are concluded, that the DSA/DRAMT follow up directly. The Safeguarding Team will keep in contact with the priest in terms of other matters such as ministry, support, and accommodation.** This is a stressful time for the accused so every support is given, following procedures in *In God's Image v2*.

HOW DRAMT DEALS WITH COMPLAINTS/ALLEGATIONS

How the complaint arrives to Safeguarding may vary but as to how it is then dealt with must be consistent and follow the procedures outlined in *In God's Image*. It is impossible to create a flow chart of the referral stages and progress of a Safeguarding Complaint due to the variety in the nature of complaints and allegations. Safeguarding complaints can be made in many ways, eg. directly to the Police, a GP, a family friend, priest or teacher.

WHAT DRAMT DOESN'T DO

Often enquiries about Safeguarding are not the DRAMT's responsibility to investigate. This may be where a parishioner has confided about domestic abuse or someone who is concerned about a vulnerable adult/child's home circumstances. These can be complex areas and can lead to a phone conversation to clarify the situation. It is important at times like this, not to promise confidentiality as there could be an ongoing risk to a vulnerable adult or child. **Consent to share information:** This applies to adults. However where there is a child or adult at risk there is a duty to refer the matter on if there are concerns of abuse. Contact Emma Boothroyd, DSA if in doubt to discuss.