



Missionary Society of St. Columban

Region of Ireland

Annual Report Safeguarding 2020



Missionary Society of St. Columban, Dalgan Park



**SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE REPORT
2020
REGION OF IRELAND
MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST. COLUMBAN**



Meetings

The safeguarding committee met physically in February but due to the Covid-19 pandemic the remaining meetings were held via Microsoft teams in May, September and December. A report was generated from each meeting and signed by Sandra Neville (Chairperson).

Areas of work addressed by the committee were:

➤ **Annual Report:**

An annual report for 2019 was developed, signed off by the committee. The report was forwarded to Fr Raymond Husband (Regional Director), Fr Tim Mulroy (Superior General), NBSCCCI Office and TUSLA, Navan. The report was also displayed on the website.

➤ **Training and support:**

A report on training and support activities was delivered and discussed at each meeting. Annual training plan and report form part of this annual report.

➤ **Communication of the safeguarding message:**

A Safeguarding Newsletter was developed and distributed to all members, staff and volunteers in July 2020.

➤ **Auditing and review:**

Annual report 2020 prepared, following the completion of the self-audits, the NBSCCCI will not be requesting confirmation that the Annual report was completed for this year.



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Ongoing and future work or tasks of the Safeguarding Committee during 2021:

The Safeguarding Committee has identified several tasks to be undertaken during 2021 as follows:

- a) Continue to update the Safeguarding element of the Missionary Society of St. Columban official website.
- b) Comply with GDPR regulations in all aspects of safeguarding
- c) Work on guidance for those personnel working/ministering in external organisation
- d) Consider a review of the Safeguarding Children Policy & Procedures and also updating the Vulnerable Adults Guidance document
- e) Prepare for the development of the strategic plan 2021-2024

➤ **Membership:**

Sandra Neville (Chairperson), Michael O'Sullivan (Secretary), Fr Donal Hogan & Fr Pdraig O'Donovan.



**TRAINING REPORT 2020
REGION OF IRELAND
MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST. COLUMBAN**



Green: Safeguarding Training Blue: NBSCCCI Training Red: Safeguarding Conference Orange: Other

TRAINING	DELIVERED BY	DATE	ATTENDANCE	
Annual Trainers Update	NBSCCCI	21/05/20	Sandra Neville Via Microsoft Teams	

2020 All proposed training events were suspended due to the Covid-19 pandemic, unable to deliver training in a Covid-19 safe way and in compliance with the government restrictions.

Safeguarding Audit 2019

Region of Ireland, Missionary Society of St. Columban

No	Standard 1: Creating & Maintaining Safe Environments	In Place	Evidence	Proposed	Not in Place
1.	The Region follows effective practice guidelines and legislative requirements in the recruitment of all Church personnel and in assessing their suitability to work with children	Yes	Section 1; Developing a Culture of Safeguarding, Appendix 2, Page 17 of Policy & Procedures document		
2.	The Region implements effective practice on the expected standards of adult's behaviour towards children.	Yes	Section 1; Developing a Culture of Safeguarding, Appendix 3, Page 25 of Policy & Procedures document		
3.	The Region implements effective practice in encouraging children's positive behaviour	Yes	N/A as there are no activities with children/young people		
4.	The Region implements effective practice in safe care for all children, including those with specific needs.	Yes	N/A as there are no activities with children/young people See Appendix 4, page 29		
5.	The Region ensures that the safe use of Region Property by external groups complies with effective child safeguarding practice.	Yes	Section 1; Developing a Culture of Safeguarding, Appendix 10, page 41 of Policy & Procedures document		
6.	The Region has in place clearly written whistle-blowing procedures to support and assist Church personnel to raise concerns about possible dangerous or unethical conduct by others towards children involved in Church activities.	Yes	Section 1; Developing a Culture of Safeguarding, Appendix 5, page 30 of Policy & Procedures document		
7.	The Region has a clearly written complaints procedure regarding safeguarding concerns that are not allegations of abuse.	Yes	Section 1; Developing a Culture of Safeguarding, Appendix 6, page 32 of Policy & Procedures document		
8.	The Region implements effective practice for Church personnel on assessment of hazards when working with children.	Yes	Section 1, Developing a Culture of Safeguarding, Appendix 8, page 38 of Policy & Procedures document		

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Region of Ireland, Missionary Society of St. Columban

No	Standard 1; Creating & Maintaining Safe environments	In Place	Evidence	Proposed	Not in Place
9.	The Region implements effective practice for appropriate use of information technology, including social media by Church personnel and by children.	Yes	Section 1; Developing a Culture of Safeguarding, Appendix 7, page 33 of Policy & Procedures document		
10.	The Region has responsibility for ensuring that all clerics/religious, who are members of the Church body and are ministering with children in an external organization/Church body, agree to follow effective safeguarding practice.	Yes	Priests Agreement, see Forms page 100 of Policy & Procedures Document		

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No	Standard 2: Procedures for Responding to Child Protection Suspicions, Concerns, Knowledge or Allegations	In Place	Evidence	Proposed	Not in Place
1.	<p>The Region has clearly written child safeguarding procedures and access to personnel to implement them if susoicions, concerns, knowledge or allegations are received about the abuse of a child. These procedures specify that all suspicions, concerns, knowledge or allegations that met the threshold for reporting to the statutory authorities (apart from those received in the Sacrament of Reconciliation) will be reported. In addition to reporting to the statutory authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the allegation relates to the Regional Director, the National board also needs to be notified withholding the names unless consent is obtained to share names. • If the allegation relates to a cleric or religious, the National Board and the Regional Director must also be informed as above. • If the allegation relates to a lay member of Church personnel, the Regional Leader must be informed. 	Yes	Section 2; Responding to Concerns, Appendix 14, page 39 of Policy & Procedures document		
2.	The Region records all suspicions, concerns, knowledge or allegations and action taken that complies with relevant data protection legislation, statutory guidance on confidentiality and storage of information.	Yes	Section 2; Responding to Concerns, Appendix 14, page 65 of Policy & Procedures document Section 3; Quality Assurance, Appendix 18 page 84 of Policy & Procedures document		
3.	The Regional Leader shares information about child protection suspicions, concerns, knowledge or allegations with those who need to know, in order to keep children safe.	Yes	Section 2; Responding to Concerns, Appendix 14, page 63 of Policy & Procedures document		

Safeguarding Audit 2019

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No	Standard 3: Care & Support for the Complainant	In Place	Evidence	Proposed	Not in Place
1.	The Regional Director offers appropriate pastoral care to complainants, which recognises their unique needs. This should include an offer from the Director to meet the complainant in person	Yes	Section 2; Responding to Concerns, Care of the Complainant, Appendix 15 page 69 of the Policy & procedures document		
2.	The Regional Director has access to appropriately trained personnel – lay, religious or clergy – whose clearly defined roles are to listen to and represent the pastoral needs of the complainant. This is done in consultation with the complainant.	Yes		If applicable the Regional Director will appoint appropriate persons to carry out this role	
3.	The Region works in cooperation with relevant organisations and seeks specialist advice from the statutory child protection services when necessary.	Yes	Annual meeting with Principal Social Worker. Liaise with Garda Unit when necessary		

Safeguarding Audit 2019

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No	Standard 4: Care & Management of the Respondent	In Place	Evidence	Proposed	Not in Place
1.	The Regional Director has access to appropriately trained personnel – lay, religious or clergy – whose clearly defined roles are to listen to and represent the pastoral needs of the respondent. This is done in consultation with the respondent.	Yes	Yes, an advisor has been appointed and has attended training with the NBSCCCI		
2.	The Regional Director has arrangements in place to inform the respondent that an allegation has been received about them, and has a procedure for deciding whether an interim management plan needs to be put in place for the respondent.	Yes	Section 2; Care & Management of Respondent, Appendix 16, page 72 of Policy & Procedures document		
3.	When statutory authority investigations and assessments have been completed, the Regional Director resumes the preliminary investigation/collecting the proofs as provided for in Canon 1717 (1)-(3)	Yes	The Regional Leadership team together with the DLP will ensure that when necessary preliminary investigations will be carried out. See Section 2; Care & Management of the Respondent, Appendix 16, page 76 of Policy & Procedures document.		
4.	The Regional Director has suitable arrangements in place for monitoring of a respondent, where there is a case to answer until (and if) the Regional Director no longer has responsibility for monitoring the respondent.	Yes	Section 2; Care & Management of Respondent, Appendix 16, page 80 of Policy & Procedures document.		

Safeguarding Audit 2019

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No	Standard 5: Training & Support for Keeping Children Safe.	In Place	Evidence	Proposed	Not in Place
1.	The Regional Director ensures that the induction of Church Personnel includes training in the Church's child safeguarding policy and procedures.	Yes	Section 1; Developing a Culture of Safeguarding, Appendix 11, page 43 of Policy & Procedures document.		
2.	The Region conducts an annual training needs analysis that identifies all Church personnel who require training and develops a training plan based on this.	Yes	Training Plan 2021		
3.	The Region ensures delivery at a local level of basic training programmes that are identified and approved by the National Board, as outlined in the National Board's Training Strategy, where this has been identified as necessary through the annual training needs analysis.	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Training Report 2020 ➤ Training Plan 2021 	Due to Covid-19 all proposed training was suspended to ensure compliance with the health restrictions.	
4.	The Region ensures that Church Personnel who have specific child safeguarding responsibilities have appropriate, role-specific training that is identified and approved by the National Board, as outlined in the National board's Training Strategy.	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Training Plan 2021 		
5.	The Region provides children who access Church-related activities and their parents/guardians with information, advice and support on keeping children safe, and involves them in Church child safeguarding training initiatives wherever possible.	N/A	Safeguarding Posters on display.		
6.	The Region facilitates the provision of an appropriate level of support to all involved with the Church in relation to their responsibilities to safeguard children.	Yes	Section 1; Creating A Culture of Safeguarding, Appendix 12, page 45 of Policy & Procedures document		

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No	Standard 6: Communicating the Church's Safeguarding Message.	In Place	Evidence	Proposed	Not in Place
1.	The Region has a written plan that details how the Church's child safeguarding message will be communicated.	Yes	➤ Communication Plan 2021		
2.	The Region makes information regarding how to safeguard children available to all.	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Policy & Procedures Document ➤ Safeguarding Section on Website ➤ Safeguarding Newsletter ➤ Safeguarding Poster 		
3.	The Region ensures that it communicates the Church's child safeguarding message to people whose first language is not English, as well as to people who have specific needs.	N/A			
4.	The Region establishes links with other local organisations in order to promote a safe and caring community for children and to share best child safeguarding practice.	N/A			
5.	Appropriate support provided to those who have perpetrated abuse.	Yes	Provision of Advisor, access to counseling, canon lawyer and civil lawyer		

Safeguarding Audit 2019

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No	Standard 7: Quality Assuring Compliance with the Standards.	In Place	Evidence	Proposed	Not in Place
1.	<p>The Regional Director:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Puts in place arrangements to ensure and evaluate its compliance with the safeguarding standards at local level; • Produces a report on the level of compliance established through this audit exercise; • Notifies the National Board in writing of the completion of this annual audit report. 	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Safeguarding Audit for Region ➤ Annual Report 2020 ➤ Letter to NBSCCCI to confirm the above 		
2.	<p>The Region produces a three-year child safeguarding plan that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlines the actions that will be taken to keep children safe; • Identifies who is responsible for implementing these actions; • Specifies the timeframe within which actions are completed; • Identifies the resources to ensure that the plan's objectives are realized. 	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Action Plan 2018 -2021 		
3.	<p>The Regional Director invites the National Board to carry out an independent review of its safeguarding practice in relation to the applicable indicators of the seven safeguarding standards, in accordance with standard terms of reference at a frequency agreed with the National Board.</p>	When Applicable			



Safeguarding Annual Training Plan-2021

Region Of Ireland Missionary Society of St. Columban

Region of Ireland Safeguarding - Annual Training Plan - 2021

The Region ensures the delivery, at a local level, of appropriate training programmes, including 'role specific' training and general training/information sessions as approved by the National Board and outlined in the National Board's Training Strategy.

These training programmes will be informed by a training needs analysis, conducted on an annual basis, within the Region. The training at local level will be delivered by a registered trainer approved by the National Board of Safeguarding Children Catholic Church Ireland (NBSCCCI).

All planned delivery of training will be dependent on the Covid-19 pandemic and the need to comply with health restrictions.

Target Group	Training required	Delivery by District Registered Trainers	Delivery by NBSCCCI	When	Location	Cost
Members	Refresher training (every three years) or annual information update.	Yes	No	Dates to be arranged Spring 2021	Dalgan Park	
Members returning from overseas to the District	Safeguarding refresher	Yes	No	As required	Dalgan Park	
Staff	Information Session every three years	Yes	No	Dates to be arranged Spring 2021	Dalgan Park	
New Staff	Information Session	Yes	No	As required	As part of induction when staff commence work	
Leadership Team						
	National Safeguarding Conference		Yes	TBA	TBA	
Safeguarding Committee	National Safeguarding Conference		Yes	TBA	TBA	
Safeguarding Officer						
	National Safeguarding Conference		Yes	TBA	TBA	
Safeguarding Trainer	Annual Update for Trainers		Yes	TBA		

Target Group	Training required	Delivery by District Registered Trainers	Delivery by NBSCCCI	When	Location	Cost
Support Personnel						
Priests Advisers						
Designated Liaison Person						
Liaison Person for Vetting	As Required	No	No	Dates to be provided by National Vetting Bureau		



**COMMUNICATION PLAN 2021
REGION OF IRELAND
MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF
ST. COLUMBAN.**



WHO	WHAT	HOW	WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?	WHEN	REVIEW
<i>Members Staff & Volunteers</i>	Safeguarding Policy	Printed Copies	Hard copies are printed in the office. Safeguarding Officer ensures that the policy documents are distributed.	Annually	Annually
		Website: www.columbans.ie	Website Manager with assistance from the Safeguarding Officer	Annually or when necessary	Annually
	How to Report a concern	Information Sessions	Safeguarding Trainer	As necessary	
		Safeguarding Policy	Safeguarding Officer and Local Safeguarding Representatives LSR		
		Website: www.columbans.ie	Website Manager with assistance from the Safeguarding Officer	Annually	Annually
		Safeguarding Posters on display.	Safeguarding Officer & LSR	Weekly	Annually
	Name & Contact Details of DLP	Safeguarding Posters.	Safeguarding Officer & LSR	Weekly	Annually
		Website: www.columbans.ie	Website Manager	Annually	Annually
		Safeguarding Newsletter	Safeguarding Committee	Annually	Annually
<i>Members Staff & Volunteers</i>	Name & Contact Details of DLP	NBSCCCI website: www.safeguarding.ie	Safeguarding Officer informs the NBSCCCI of new or updated information re the DLP	As Necessary	Annually
		Internal Mailing to Members	Regional Leadership	Quarterly	Annually



**COMMUNICATION PLAN 2021
REGION OF IRELAND
MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF
ST. COLUMBAN.**



WHO	WHAT	HOW	WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?	WHEN	REVIEW
<i>Leadership & Members</i>	Annual Report & Strategic Plan	Printed copy by mail to Hong Kong (C.A.). Copy to TUSLA Copy to Regional Director Website: www.columbans.ie Newsletter 2021	Safeguarding Officer. Safeguarding Committee	Annually	Annually
<i>External Groups using facilities</i>	Guidance on use of Property. Safeguarding Policy	Printed Copies	Hard copies printed in office. Safeguarding Officer ensures the documents are available for the groups.	As Necessary	Annually.
<i>Visiting Groups/Schools</i>	Guidance on Visiting Groups	Printed Copies/Electronic Version	Hard copies in Mission Education Office. Mission Education personnel with assistance from Safeguarding Officer	As Necessary	Annually