

Review of Safeguarding Practice

Diocese/Order: Religious Sisters of Charity

<u>Recommendation</u>	Action- Progress
<p>1. The Provincial Leader should liaise with NSBCCCI about the development of clear detailed child safeguarding policy and procedures which covers all aspects of the NBSCCCI's standards. The Congregations policy and procedure document needs to be formatted in line with NSBCCCI standards. The current policy document must reflect the application of all seven standards in a much clearer and more concise way. Given that the NBSCCCI is currently revising its own guidance document the reviewer would suggest that the Congregation wait until the publication of the new NSBCCCI standards before redrafting their own policy and procedure document.</p> <p>All active Sisters should receive training on any revised policy.</p>	<p>We are meeting as a committee next week to discuss the best way of implementing these changes. It will take a bit of work and it will be completed as soon as we can but we do not envisage that this work will be done by the 7th of May.</p> <p>All active Sisters will receive training when the revised policy is complete.</p>

2. The Provincial Leader must consider the establishment of a panel to offer advice on case management issues or join the NBSCCCI's National Case Management Reference Group (NCMRG).

We already have a Safeguarding Committee – this consists of the Provincial Leader, 2 Designated Liaison Persons, and a representative of the General Leadership Team.

The Role of the Safeguarding Committee is primarily focused on ensuring that all communities are aware of the Safeguarding Procedures and Policies so that there is a safe environment for children in all our ministries and communities wherever this is relevant – i.e. where there is contact with children. The Safeguarding Committee advises and makes recommendations to the Provincial Leader and her Team on safeguarding across the Province.

An Advisory Panel has been set up and includes:

The Sister who receives the complaints/maintains the case files and reports directly to the Provincial

An Adviser to represent the needs of anyone against whom an allegation of abuse has been made.

A Support Person who will be available to assist the person making the disclosure.
The services of a counsellor are also made available.

Legal Advice is sought when necessary.