



# Safeguarding Development Newsletter

(Oct. 2022 – Issue 20)



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*“Wild is the music of the autumnal winds  
amongst the faded woods.”*

William Wordsworth

## Appointment of new Safeguarding Officer & Trainer

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Avril Halley as the new Safeguarding Officer and Trainer. Having worked with the Waterford & Lismore Diocese between 2007-2022, Avril brings a wealth of experience in the co-



ordination and delivery of training to volunteers, clerics and religious.

A registered trainer with the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland, she also works as a tutor to other trainers in guiding, mentoring and offering advice.

Over the past 30 years Avril has been a Samaritans Volunteer. Her commitment and organisational skill are well reflected in a variety of roles held during this period, each for a 3-year term: Director of the Waterford & South-East Branch, Regional Publicity Officer and Outreach Officer.

Married with four adult children and living in Tramore, Co. Waterford, Avril has been a member of the local Lions Club for many years and was elected President in 2011.

One of the highlights of Avril's year is to travel to Lourdes with the Diocesan Pilgrimages. She has served as Chief Handmaid and holds the post of Safeguarding Officer up to the present day.

Regarding her new role Avril says, *"I very much look forward to working with the friars and Safeguarding Reps. both at local and Provincial levels in meeting the challenges that lie ahead."*



As part of Avril's induction two Zoom meetings have taken place with Local Safeguarding Groups to-date namely, Drogheda (16 Sept.) and Dungarvan (27 Sept.). Others will follow in due course.

Both Avril and Tony Murphy (who has been with us since Aug. 2013) will overlap in their roles up to the end of October. Thereafter, Tony will continue to support the Augustinians solely as our Designated Liaison Person. We wish them both well in their new and continuing roles respectively.

## Safeguarding Development Group (SDG)

With one year left to go in the current *3 Yr. Safeguarding Development Plan*, the SDG held its first meeting following the summer on 20<sup>th</sup> September last.

The membership currently consists of: Lorraine Collins (Drogheda), Mary Byrne (ex-Finglas South), Fr. Michael Collender (Chaplain to Good Counsel College, New Ross & Provincial Counsel member), Nuala Fahey (Dungarvan) & Debbie Callanan (Cork). Mary Healy (Fethard) will join the group shortly on a 'taste & see' basis for 6 months. As this was the first meeting for Avril Hally to attend 'introductions' were all important, while the news that Mary Healy would attend the next SDG meeting was warmly welcomed.

A 'Workplan' for the year was agreed (see below), arrangements for the Safeguarding W/End (24/25 Sept.) finalised and the forthcoming cycle of local training discussed.



With the departure of three former SDG members last June, current members were asked to consider who might take-up the role of 'Chairperson' and possibly, 'Minutes Secretary'. Key roles to be hopefully filled shortly. The next two meeting dates are Oct. 18 & Nov. 15 via Zoom between 3:00 – 4:30pm.

### Safeguarding Training Dates

Safeguarding Information Awareness Sessions & full-day training for those working with children will resume this October. Avril Halley will deliver the training starting with Drogheda (20 October), Galway (week commencing 24 Oct. to include full-day training for novices) and Dungarvan (10 November). Dates for other church locations have yet to be agreed in consultation with the Prior/PP and LSG members.

### Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment Workshop (Sat. 15 Oct. 10:30am – 12:15)

When ministry with children and/or young people resumes and/or is introduced for the first time in various church settings across the Province, it will be necessary to undertake a *Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment* for each activity, and for this to be reviewed annually. This short workshop prepares LSG members for being able to assist other volunteers and friars, when the need arises, to have the 'house' in order so that good things can happen.



## SDG Workplan Sept. 2022 – July 2023

SDG Workplan Sept. 2022 – July 2023 <sup>1</sup>	2022				2023						
	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July
<b>Standard 1 - Creating &amp; Maintaining Safe Environments</b>											
1.1(i). SDG Meetings held 4/5 times.	→	→	→		→		→			→	
Appoint 3/4 New Members.		→				→					
Members Evaluation completed & reviewed.										→	
1.2. Adult Code of Behaviour compliance levels 90+%.				→				→			
1.9. Review IT & Social Media Guidelines.	→	→									
<b>Standard 5 – Training &amp; Support</b>											
5.1. Delivery training.		→	→			→	→				
'Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment Workshop'.		→									
Friars training database.		→	→			→	→				
5.6. Visit LSGs annually.		→	→			→	→	→			
<b>Standard 6 – Communicating the Safeguarding Message</b>											
6.1(4). 3/4 Newsletters.		→				→		→	→		
6.1(7). Safeguarding W/End resources.							→	→	→	→	
6.2(ii). Annual Network.					→	→	→	→	→		
<b>Standard 7 – Quality Assurance &amp; Compliance</b>											
7.1(ii). Review Progress Reports '21 - '22.	→	→									
Annual Report 2022.			→	→	→						
7.2 (i). & (ii). Draft <i>Child Safeguarding Dev. Plan '23 – '26</i> .							→	→	→	→	
7.3. NBSCCCI Review (Oct. 2022): Follow-up.			→	→							

**End.**

<sup>1</sup> Some tasks will be completed in a specific month (→), while others will be planned for & completed over a longer period (→→→).