



Review of Safeguarding Practice

Congregation/Order: Augustinians (281015)

Recommendations	Compliance Status	Explanatory Notes
1. 2009 OSA Policy revision to be completed without delay.	Complete.	Policy revised and update as 'Interim OSA Safeguarding Policy (Jan. 2015)'.
2. Revised Policy signed by Provincial, endorsed by his Council & implemented by all Friars.	Complete.	Provincial & Council Members individually sign OSA Safeguarding Policy (22 January 2015). All Friars provided with an individual copy, requested to read it and then complete & return an 'Implementation Agreement' to the Provincial and/or DLP.
3. Revised Policy explicitly references requirements for Priests in Transit to provide Celebrets.	Complete.	Individual letters based on policy extract (p.36) and copy of policy issued to overseas Friars. Two visiting Friars requested and participated in Safeguarding Information Session in Provincial Office (July 2015).
4. Revised Policy to explicitly profile the Application of Canonical Procedures.	Complete.	See Interim OSA Safeguarding Policy (pp. 22-3 & 35).



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5. Provincial to develop procedure for management of general complaints against Friars.	Complete.	See Interim OSA Safeguarding Policy (p. 18). .
6. Provincial to ensure prompt reporting of all new allegations to the civil authorities.	Complete	All post-review publication (Feb. 2015) allegations have been reported to TUSLA, Gardaí & NBSCCCI.
7. Role & function of Case Management & Safeguarding Advisory Panel kept under review & that it evolves into separate & distinct functions.	Partly Complete & in progress.	Terms of Reference for a separate ‘Safeguarding Development Group’ (SDG) approved by the Provincial Council (18 Aug.) with first meeting schedule Mar./April 2016. While Local Safeguarding Representatives have existed in all church settings since 2003 (approx.) work is now underway to formally establish a Local Safeguarding Group (LSG) in each location comprising the Prior, a Friar & LSReps. meeting 3/4 times annually, guided by a Chairperson & Secretary who collectively draft a ‘Local Action Plan’ that will feed into the SDG when established. It is hoped that SDG membership will comprise approximately 2/3rds local personnel & 1/3rd Provincial nominees.



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8. Centralised ¹ Vetting Database to be created with oversight manager.	In planning stage.	Local data is currently being gathered within revised Safeguarding Audit Template (Capturing & Developing Good Practice). Provincial secretarial support already identified. Note: Safeguarding Plan '15 –'16 target date of Sept. 2015 has been revised to April 2016.
9. Revised Policy to fully address (a) Whistle-blowing, (b) Anti-Bullying, (c) Guidance on dealing with unacceptable behaviour from Children & (d) Anti-Discriminatory Practices.	Complete.	. See Interim OSA Safeguarding Policy (Jan. 2015): (a) Whistle-blowing (p.37); (b) & (d) Anti-Bullying & Anti-Discriminatory Practices (pp. 47-9); (c) Guidance on dealing with unacceptable behaviour from Children (p.50).
10. Revised Policy to explicitly address Guidelines on the Use of Information Technology.	Complete.	See Interim OSA Safeguarding Policy (Jan. 2015) – (pp.43-46). We note that further work will be needed to more fully address the issue of access to pornography.

¹ As a centralised Provincial Database (and not a 'Centralise Provincial Vetting Hub') this may need clarification from a Data Protection perspective, tm .



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11. Provincial to ensure a Planned & Needs Led Approach to Training is developed.	In progress.	<p>The Safeguarding Audit Template currently being completed locally for return to the DLP on or before mid-November 2015 will identify who has and who needs to be (re)/trained in what areas. This information will help to inform a Training Plan for adoption by the CM&SAP and/or its 'Safeguarding' successor in due course.</p> <p>Attendance Records for Safeguarding Information Sessions and Training Days delivered to-date in 2015 have been submitted to the NBSC Training Manager.</p>
12. Provincial to ensure a Communications Plan is developed, including Dedicated Materials for Children & Young People.	In progress.	<p>Since 2013 the final w/end in Aug. has been dedicated as 'Safeguarding Sunday' when the Provincial issues a letter/leaflet for reading at and distribution after all masses. The current Safeguarding Audit Template specifically asks: <i>'How can the Safeguarding message be better communicated in your church?'</i> as a way of stimulating and supporting local initiatives that can form part of an overall Provincial Communications Safeguarding Plan.</p> <p>The production of suitable materials for children and young people remains a target within the OSA Safeguarding Plan '15 – '16 (i.e. Dec. 2015).</p>



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<p>13. Provincial to develop a Policy for Engaging with Survivors & relevant Communications Material, as well as a Pool of Lay Support Persons.</p>	<p>Partly Complete.</p>	<p>A relevant 'policy statement' will be considered by the CM&SAP at its Dec. 2015 meeting.</p> <p>On-going pastoral contact with some survivors continues, new contacts have been established and it has been communicated to others that the Provincial is open to establishing such contact with them, where appropriate, particularly when civil/legal developments have been completed and where each person expresses a desire to have such contact.</p> <p>Concrete discussions are taking place with our legal representatives to investigate possibilities of pastoral support even when civil/legal developments are underway.</p> <p>A Support Person and an Advisor were formally appointed (July 2015). Both will be profiled on the OSA website.</p>



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<p>14. Provincial to a) Clarify the role of the Case Management and Safeguarding Advisory Panel (and its successor) in monitoring work with all the men under supervision; b) Develop protocols for recording work in individual case files; c) Review the training needs of supervisors; d) Provide guidance on the threshold for using the National Case Management Reference Group. e) The process for individual case management needs to be stated in the revised Child Safeguarding policy.</p>	<p>a), b), & e) Complete. c) & d) in progress.</p>	<p>a) Each Friar under supervision is reported upon and discussed at CM&SAP meetings with the Provincial and DLP leading; b) All events/actions are dated, recorded and authored within each active file. The NBSC Recording Template acts as a guide in completing same. c) A specific 'Job Description' is currently being drafted for consideration by the CM&SAP leading then to consultations with ex- and current Supervisors regarding training needs. d) The Provincial and DLP, finding themselves with more questions than answers in any particular case, have and will choose to seek the advice of the NCRC. Where our experience does not meet the challenges of a case. This could be expanded into a specific protocol to be approved by the CM&SAP. e) See role of DLP (pp. 20-1).</p>



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15. Provincial to sign-off on a 3 Yr. Child Safeguarding Plan.	Partly complete.	Interim 2 year Safeguarding Plan ('15 –'16) approved January 2015 and progress updates provided to the Case Management & Safeguarding Advisory Panel in April & Oct. 2015. With the appointment of the proposed Safeguarding Development Group (Mar./April 2016) it will be responsible for drafting the OSA Safeguarding Plan 2017 – 2019.
16. Provincial to require the production of an Annual Safeguarding Activity Report.	Complete - First Target Date: Dec. 2015.	Report to be presented to Provincial Council Meeting (Dec. 2015).