

Bishops' Conference of Scotland

Diocesan Safeguarding Audit 2021

DIOCESE

Diocese of Paisley

This audit form is being submitted by

Role in Diocese

DSA

Email address for your receipt

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GDPR Note:

Names and identifying details have been redacted.

Numbers lower than 5 redacted where these could lead to individuals being identified.

Standard 1: Creating and maintaining safe Church environments

1.1 Number of Parishes in the Diocese

33

1.2 Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinators

	Number
Parishes with own PSC	32
Parishes with shared PSC	1
Parishes with NO PSC	0

1.3a Were any Diocesan premises used for activities involving children or vulnerable groups? (NB NOT Parish premises)

No

1.3b With regard to the above activities, which of these details does the Diocese include in its records?

1.4 Number of High Risk Offender Contracts/Safe Worship Plans across the Diocese

Number lower than 5

1.5 Are there any particular challenges in managing Safe Worship Plans?

No

Standard 2: Safely recruiting clergy, religious, lay employees and volunteers

2.1 Number of EMPLOYEES involved in regulated activities across the Diocese

0

2.2 VOLUNTEERS involved in regulated activities across the Diocese

	Number
Total no of VOLUNTEERS	442
with PVGs	442

2.3a) How many PERMANENT DEACONS were in active ministry in the Diocese?

7

2.3b) How many of these PERMANENT DEACONS did not hold current PVG membership?

0

2.4a) How many SECULAR PRIESTS were in active ministry in the Diocese?

30

2.4b) How many of these SECULAR PRIESTS did not hold current PVG membership?

0

2.5a) How many RELIGIOUS PRIESTS were in active ministry in the Diocese?

0

2.5b) How many of these RELIGIOUS PRIESTS did not hold current PVG membership?

0

2.6 Total number of VISITING CLERGY who supplied ministry in parishes.

5

2.7 How did the Diocese manage to ensure that VISITING CLERGY were adequately briefed in or trained for Safeguarding during the COVID-19 restrictions?

There were 5 visiting clergy to the diocese during 2021. Three of them were living with a priest friend of the diocese and not responsible for the care of a parish. At no point were they saying Mass on their own nor working with any children or vulnerable adults.

The other two individually covered the same parish on two separate occasions to cover for the parish priest who was having a break. Both these visiting priests are members of a missionary order and live locally and both have received safeguarding training with their own order. The parish where they were supplying has excellent PSCs as well as a PP who are all well-versed in safeguarding protocols. Also, both visiting priests have covered this parish before and are known and well versed in safeguarding protocols.

Standard 3: Responding to safeguarding concerns and allegations of abuse

3.1 Number of ALLEGATIONS received by the Diocese last year

	abuse of children	abuse of vulnerable adults
Total No.	Numbers all lower than 5	
Referred to authorities		
Referred to DRAMT		
Bishop informed		
Insurers notified		

3.2 Actions resulting from allegations received last year

	Number
Authorities still investigating	Numbers all lower than 5
Criminal charges	
Canonical process suspended	
Canonical process concluded	

3.3 Outcomes of investigations, if known

	Number
Process ongoing	
Restricted ministry	
Removed from ministry	
Dismissed from clerical state	
Volunteers removed from post	
Employees suspended	
Employees dismissed	
Alleged abusers now deceased	

3.4 Number of safeguarding CONCERNS received (not meeting Allegation threshold)

Number lower than 5

3.5 How did you respond to any particular challenges faced in responding to concerns and allegations during the COVID-19 restrictions?

Standard 4: Providing care and support for those who have experienced abuse

4.1 How many survivors disclosed, or were made known, to the Diocese last year?

Numbers all lower than 5

4.2 How many of these disclosures were. . . :

	Number
emergencies requiring immediate intervention	
allegations of non-recent abuse	
allegations of abuse ongoing at that time	
disclosed by survivors	
reported by others	

4.3 In how many of these disclosures were the following actions taken by the Diocese?

	Number
DSA met with survivor	
Survivors were accompanied to meeting	
Survivors were advised that Diocese will report to Police	
Key points covered in meeting were agreed with survivor	

4.4 In how many cases did a survivor accept the offer of a meeting with the Bishop?

4.5 In how many cases were the following forms of support offered to those who disclosed abuse?

Information about external support agencies

Referral to Raphael Counselling service

Support from another Counselling service

4.6 In how many cases was support arranged for the family of a survivor?

4.7 What information/advice for survivors of abuse do you provide on the Diocesan website?

	We provide
Details about who to contact in the Church	✓
Descriptions of available support services	✓
Details of external agencies offering support	✓
Description of Church procedure when an allegation is disclosed	✓
Church's mandatory reporting policy	✓
Advice to report directly to the Police	✓
Statement of apology for any abuse carried out by Church personnel	✓

4.8 During the COVID-19 restrictions, how did you respond to any particular challenges faced in providing care and support to those who have experienced abuse?

redacted

Standard 5: Managing and providing care for respondents to allegations of abuse

5.1 CLERGY respondents to allegations of abuse:

How many CLERGY were named as respondents?

How many were invited to meet the Bishop?

How many accepted the offer of a Support priest/layperson?

5.2 RELIGIOUS CLERGY respondents to allegations of abuse:

Number

How many RELIGIOUS CLERGY were identified to the Diocese as being respondents to allegations?

How many of these RELIGIOUS CLERGY were managed/supported by the Diocese?

5.3 EMPLOYEE respondents to allegations of abuse:

Number

How many EMPLOYEES were named as respondents?

How many were invited to meet the Bishop?

How many accepted the offer of a Support Person?

How many accepted the offer of support from an external agency?

5.4 Respondents to allegations of abuse against DIOCESAN VOLUNTEERS (not Parish Volunteers):

Total number

How many accepted the offer of a Support priest/layperson?

How many accepted the offer of support from an external agency?

5.5 In HOW MANY of all these allegations, did the Diocese instigate procedures to monitor:

	Number
the well-being of the respondent?	
restriction on the respondent's contact with the parish	
alternative accommodation for the respondent	
arrangements for spiritual direction	
other support	

5.6 In how many cases of allegations against a member of the CLERGY:

	Number
did the Bishop (or delegate) inform the parish speedily of the process?	
did the Diocese provide guidance, support and training to the support priest / layperson?	
did the Diocese offer support/advice to the Parish Administrator?	

5.7 How many people in the Diocese were active in the role of Support Person last year?

5.8 During the COVID-19 restrictions, how did you respond to any particular challenges faced in managing and providing care for respondents?

This did not arise.

Standard 6: Working together to develop a culture of care

6.1 Members of the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Group (DSAG).

	Title and Name	Safeguarding Role/Experience	Years on DSAG
1	Names redacted	PSC and Criminal Justice Social Worker	10+
2			6
3		Safeguarding Trainer and Retired Head Teacher	6
4		DSA and lawyer	6
5		Retired Police Officer and DRAMT member	10+
6		Vicar General for Safeguarding and Canon Lawyer	10+
7		Clergy Representative and Parish Priest	4
8		Youth for Lourdes and Parish Priest	4
9		SPRED representative	6+
10		SSVP representative	1
11		Diocesan Pilgrimage representative	1
12		Our Lady of the Wayside representative	new member
13		Legion of Mary representative	new member

6.2 On how many occasions in the past year did the DSAG meet (in person and online)?

4

6.3 What kinds of Safeguarding issues were discussed by the DSAG?

Draft DSAG Terms of Reference;

Vatican McCarrick Report – Paper by Mary D;

Safeguarding Action Plan 2021.

Grief to Grace/ Survivor Outreach/ IRG Outreach Event;

Diocesan email addresses for DRAMT, DSAG and PSCs;

Safeguarding Policies and protocols following Adviser Toolkit Meetings;

PVG overview and 5 yearly updates;

Training Plan for 2021;

Individual up-dates:

6.4 Members of the DRAMT.

	Name	Relevant expertise in Risk Management
1	Names redacted	Criminal Justice Social Worker
2		Retired Head Teacher and Director of Education
3		Retired Police Officer
4		DSA
5		VG for Safeguarding and Canon Lawyer
6		Retired GP
7		GP

6.5 On how many occasions in the past year did the DRAMT meet?

2

6.6 How did the Diocese promote the annual Day of Prayer for those who have experienced abuse?

We publicised it via Diocesan social media.

The Bishop referred to it in an Ad Clerum letter.

The Bishop participated in a service where this was highlighted.

6.7 During the COVID-19 restrictions, how did you respond to any particular challenges faced in working together to develop a culture of care?

We moved all our meetings online as far as possible and anonymised and password protected any essential papers. For data protection reasons MS Teams was used for online DRAMT meetings in order to comply with GDPR.

Standard 7: Training and support for all responsible for safeguarding

7.1 What steps did the Diocese take to promote engagement with 'In God's Image v2', following its publication in September 2021?

- ☒ We promoted the national Safeguarding webinar (01/10/21).
- ☒ We offered awareness-raising sessions on IGIv2.
- ☒ We have raised awareness of the IGIv2 video.
- ☒ We publicised issues of the Safeguarding Matters newsletter.
- ☒ We devised and delivered training on the new manual for Clergy and PSCs

7.2 What is your estimation of the extent to which the following groups are now familiar with 'In God's Image v2'?

	Very familiar	Good awareness	Some awareness	Not aware
DSAG	✓			
DRAMT	✓			
Diocesan Trainers	✓			
Clergy		✓		
PSCs		✓		

7.3 What PLANS does the Diocese have to improve awareness of 'In God's Image v2' among clergy and PSCs?

The DSA has updated all the diocesan policies, protocols and templates so they are consistent with IGI v2 and refer to it. These are being made available to Clergy and PSCs through their diocesan email addresses and access to Microsoft Teams. Training in IGI v2 was delivered by the DSA to clergy and PSCs in September 2021. We plan to continue training on it and to work it into our volunteer training with assistance from the new National Head of Training once appointed. In the meantime the DSA and trainers are working with colleagues in other dioceses to update the existing volunteer training programmes so they are consistent with IGI v2.

7.4 Details of any NEW SAFEGUARDING TRAINERS.

	Full Name	Providing which courses?
1	Names redacted	Safeguarding Part 1; Safeguarding Part 2; PSC Induction and ongoing training. PSC training
2		Safeguarding Part 1; Safeguarding Part 2; PSC Induction and ongoing training. PSC training
3		Safeguarding Part 1; Safeguarding Part 2; PSC Induction and ongoing training. PSC training

7.5 Details of Safeguarding training sessions offered for CLERGY.

	Date	Course Title/Topic(s)	Trainer's Name	Online?
1	21-Sep-21	IGI V2	Name redacted	

7.6 ATTENDANCE at Safeguarding Training courses last year

	Number who participated
Priests	28
Deacons	4
Seminarians	3
Propaedeutic	1
New PSCs	6
Existing PSCs	27
Volunteers	26

7.7 Can the Diocese identify any safeguarding Training needs that the SCSSA should address as a priority?

	Safeguarding Topic(s)
Bishop	
DSA	
DSAG / DRAMT	the new PVG rules for vulnerable adults
Diocesan Trainers	IGI v2 national training and the new PVG rules for vulnerable adults
Clergy	understanding trauma
PSCs	the new PVG rules for vulnerable adults

7.8 During the COVID-19 restrictions, how did you respond to any particular challenges faced in proving training and support?

Standard 8: Planning for continuous improvement in safeguarding

8.1 On what date did the Bishop last communicate with all parishes in the Diocese on some aspect of Safeguarding?

Saturday, October 2, 2021

8.2 How many parishes did NOT submit a completed Parish Audit this year?

0

8.3 What actions have been taken to address any NIL or incomplete returns by Parishes?

8.4 From your analysis of last year's Parish Audit returns, what have you identified as the "critical issues" to be addressed by the Diocese?

Possible need for refresher safeguarding training for some volunteers who have been out of their volunteering roles for the duration of the pandemic.

Training for PSCs in how to do a safeguarding risk assessment.

Making the annual safeguarding announcement shorter.

8.5 Who was involved in developing, reviewing and approving the strategic planning that will determine the final version of the Diocesan Safeguarding Action Plan?

	Created	Discussed	Approved	Reviewed progress
Bishop		✓	✓	✓
DSAG		✓	✓	✓
VG/VE		✓	✓	✓
DSA	✓	✓	✓	✓
Others		✓	✓	✓

8.6 How does the Diocese communicate its Safeguarding Action Plan to others?

	Copies distributed	Posted on website	Referenced in Diocesan communications
To Clergy			✓
To Parishes			✓
To Employees			
To general public			

8.7 During the COVID-19 restrictions, how did you respond to any particular challenges faced in planning for continuous improvement in safeguarding?

By meeting virtually/remotely online when necessary.

9.1 Please note here any other information, either relating to any of the above questions, or to other matters that are relevant to Safeguarding.