



THE NATIONAL BOARD FOR  
**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN**  
IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

# Annual Report

## 2011



# The National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland

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IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH



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# STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIRMAN

## John B. Morgan

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Good progress describes the analysis of Board activities in the last year. That same analysis shows that day-to-day demands for the services of the Board and its National Office have continued to grow steadily. A resulting feature has been the need to address the sufficiency of our resources – used in stewardship for the work we are given for the whole Catholic community. Because issues of utilisation and precedence in seeking to satisfy needs have arisen, we have engaged in helpful and positive discussion with the Sponsoring Bodies concerning resources. Conscious as we are of the current need to apply careful financial scrutiny to every aspect of Church life and activity we nonetheless expect that our essential requirements will be met quickly.

The undertaking of Reviews of dioceses and religious congregations has been a key Board objective in this reporting period. The completed reports on six dioceses, published by the respective bishops in November last, generated positive reaction from the Faithful in the dioceses involved. A further number of Reviews will be available for publication shortly. The Board and the Sponsoring Bodies are in agreement that acceleration of this process is necessary. Early completion of comprehensive Reviews, fully evaluating the management of all current risk, augmented by detailed assessments of the quality of personnel, structures and programmes delivering implementation of child safeguarding practices and procedures, is owed to all the Faithful.

The range of skills required to undertake this work of Review is difficult to obtain but is necessary so that the level of quality and consistency achieved to date is rigorously maintained. However, we are confident

that we can increase our audit strength appropriately. We have a current target of completing Reviews in all remaining dioceses by summer of next year and, in addition, achieving some inroads in this work with major religious orders. It should also be reported that our work in undertaking Reviews and in proffering advice has been helped, in collaboration with the Sponsoring Bodies, by devising Data Protection solutions as comprehensive as has been possible to devise, in the context of the legislation as it currently stands in both jurisdictions on the island of Ireland. We recognise, however, that these solutions still have defects and shortcomings.

After extensive pilot programming, the vision for training in child safeguarding across the Church community has now been supported by the development of detailed and comprehensive training materials and the appointment of tutors, as more fully reported in the body of the report. Resources have been identified to implement this training strategy in a timely fashion and to develop programmes, as new or revised standards and guidance norms are adopted.

Policy development, in all its aspects, is another key area of Board activity. A close examination of the *Summary of the Findings of the Apostolic Visitation in Ireland*, released in March of this year, reveals additional needs in this area. This will involve Board engagement both in periodic re-examination of guidelines generally, to ensure their increasing effectiveness, and also in specific areas, such as expanding policy guidelines and protocols concerning those currently out of ministry, or those accused of abuse allegations where no civil proceedings have been pursued.

### **Board and National Office**

At the Annual General Meeting in 2011, Fr Paul McCafferty retired from the Board, having served as a director since 2006. I wish to thank him on behalf of the Board for the consistent wisdom of his contribution to our work, not at all confined to the Canon Law brief he undertook on our behalf. We welcomed Fr Edward Grimes CSSp in his place. Monsignor Eamon Martin of the Diocese of Derry also joined the Board at the 2011 General Meeting, providing us with further expertise and valuable in-depth experience. Professor David Smith retired from the Board in July 2011. In thanking him warmly for his dedication to the work of the Board, we will miss the incisive insights he invariably shared, garnered through his considerable experience. I take this opportunity to thank all the other directors for their dedication and support throughout the year.

We are particularly indebted to the consistently superb contribution made by the Chief Executive and his team for their continuing efforts to constantly seek to improve the service standards and performance of the National Office, often under testing conditions. To all we offer our most sincere thanks.

### **Outlook**

Clearly the quite extensive referencing of the role of the Board in the *Summary of the Findings of the Apostolic Visitation in Ireland* and its directional indications of the collaborative role we can play within the whole Church community, in ensuring ‘that the tragedy of abuse of minors will not be repeated’, will set the Board’s agenda. In this work the value of

the resource provided by so many child safeguarding volunteers throughout our Christian community cannot be underestimated. They assist the work of the Board, most directly within their local Church communities. They create a better future every day though the establishment and maintenance of safer and more child-centred environments for Church activity. In this they demonstrate that what the logic of our Faith imparts is service. Further, they give impressive witness to that strong papal statement in 1990 – that in the Christian view, our treatment of children becomes the measure of our fidelity to the Lord himself. In assisting, within our own sphere, the work of renewal in the Church and the ‘new vision’ called for by Pope Benedict XVI in his papal letter of 2010, we, as a Board, re-echo the sentiment that fidelity in action to the Church’s mission is ultimately our most effective safeguard for children.



JOHN B. MORGAN  
Chairman  
30 April 2012



## Report of the Chief Executive Officer

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It is gratifying to report that steady progress has been made over the past year. Demand for the services of the National Board continues to increase and we have struggled to keep abreast of all of the work. Yet there is a real sense of achievement when we look back over the past twelve months.

From the outset, I want to pay tribute to the many thousands of volunteers who give of their time so generously to help to make children and young people as safe as they can be whilst involved in Church activities. Their contribution is evidence of the sincere commitment that the Church has to ensuring the safeguarding of children. I also want to thank the Members, representing the Sponsoring Bodies, and Directors of the Board for their hard work throughout the last year. Without their efforts we would not have been able to advance the agenda or achieve any of our agreed objectives.

As Chief Executive Officer of the Board, I am privileged to have a small but very hard working and dedicated staff team totally committed to achieving our objectives. I want to thank them for their efforts and to say how much I appreciate their willingness to get the job done, despite any setbacks.

In November last year, the first tranche of Review Reports was released by the six dioceses that were audited. Each bishop/diocesan administrator took the lead for launching their Review Report and responding to the many media requests they faced. The National Board also supported their efforts and provided an overview to the media.

Prior to the launch, a degree of anticipatory anxiety was expressed by those involved. Their concern was that media would be hostile. In the event, this proved not to be the case. The Reports were received well and many positive comments were made by those within and outside the Church welcoming the transparency of the process. This represented important learning for all those in the Church. It would be the firm belief of the Board that the

process of independent review and monitoring with the findings being published has a great deal to offer with regard to regaining trust and credibility for the Church apropos the safeguarding of children.

The second tranche of Reviews is well underway, which will involve a further four dioceses along with three religious orders. It is our hope that the Review Reports will then be released following the example of the six dioceses within the first tranche. We would anticipate that twice a year all the Church authorities that have been reviewed will together publish their Reports.

The National Board welcomed the publication of the summary of the findings of the Apostolic Visitation's report. We had been provided with an opportunity to contribute our thoughts on the situation to the Visitors when they were here and our work was recognised and referenced within the summary report.

A matter of concern to us has been the level of resources available to the National Board to enable us to fulfil our remit successfully. This has been recognised by the Members, representing the Sponsoring Bodies, who have confirmed to the Directors that they would be anxious to try to continue to support the Board in its work. We appreciate this support and will look to ensure that the best possible use is made of whatever resources are made available to the Board in the coming months.

It is important to note that the overall level of investment in safeguarding within the Church has increased steadily. Appointments have been made at the level of the individual Church authority. We now have a number of experienced and qualified lay people who are employed by dioceses and religious congregations occupying safeguarding roles in the Church. We welcome this development and see it as further evidence of the commitment to achieving best safeguarding practice.

Ironically, despite this level of investment, the workload for the National Office has increased over the course of the last year. Requests for advice and guidance have risen as has the demand for training specifically geared to the needs of the Church. This area of work is growing steadily and we have struggled to keep up with it.

The launch of the Church's own safeguarding training pack has now taken place. It is the product of an active collaboration between those involved in training in the Church authorities and the National Office. Positive comments have been received to date with regard to the pack. It represents a significant achievement for all those involved who indeed deserve great praise.

An important initiative launched during this year is the National Case Management Reference Group (NCMRG). This body was created to provide a source of expert advice and guidance to Church authorities who have questions about particular cases. The details of the NCMRG operation will be discussed elsewhere in the Report but I wish to note it as it has proved to be very successful. The demand for its services has exceeded what was anticipated and considerable positive feedback has been received from those who have used it to date. More than twenty Church authorities have joined the initiative so far.

Policy development is ongoing for the National Board. Following a period of extensive consultation, the interim guidance of leave from sacred ministry and apostolate was issued by the three sponsoring bodies. It was adopted by them for a period of a year with a view to monitoring its implementation and use across the Church. If refinement is needed to the interim guidance, this will be recommended at the end of the year based on the experience of following the guidance.

Over the course of the next year, we anticipate that we bring a number of draft policies to the Members for their consideration and adoption. These will include the management of allegations concerning vulnerable adults within the Church. Policy concerning the formal referencing of visiting clergy, building upon the work already undertaken by the Episcopal Conference in this area will also be included. In addition we will continue to develop the additional standards we proposed last year to address gaps identified in the safeguarding policy framework.

A critical part of effective safeguarding of children within the Church is the development of a sound working relationship with the statutory agencies involved in delivering child protection services. From the perspective of the National Office, working relationships are steadily improving and developing. There is a much better understanding on both sides of the important contribution that each makes and a greater willingness to engage. As part of the Review process, we specifically look at these relationships and offer comment on their quality. It is very gratifying to be able to report that this has been constantly improving and in some cases is excellent. I would also thank our colleagues in the statutory agencies for their willingness to offer support and guidance to those involved in safeguarding in the Church. Their professionalism is much appreciated.

Over the course of the next year, we will look to provide the Sponsoring Bodies with guidance for their adoption in respect of the safeguarding of vulnerable adults in the Church. Legislation in Northern Ireland makes this a necessity and we will look to provide policy proposals that can be applied on a Church-wide basis throughout the island of Ireland.

As we go to press, Government has just published its awaited Children First Bill 2012 and the Criminal Justice (Withholding of Information on Offences against Children and Vulnerable Persons) Bill, 2012. These require and will receive close examination. However, we have engaged with state authorities and have already expressed our initial concern around the proposed and currently inadequately qualified defence of 'reasonable excuse' in failing to disclose information around defined offences against children and vulnerable persons in the specifically proposed Criminal Justice Bill. In the absence of amendment, it is foreseeable that our existing Church policy, designed to safeguard children, might be materially weakened by the very legislation that has been promoted by Government as a means to strengthen it. The introduction of a legislative framework to protect vulnerable persons is to be welcomed. However, there is a danger that this legislation will not achieve what it intends unless it is amended.



IAN A. ELLIOTT  
Chief Executive Officer  
National Board for Safeguarding Children  
Catholic Church in Ireland



## Notifications of new cases received by the National Office – 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012

Under the reporting procedures contained in ‘Safeguarding Children: Standards and Guidance’ each Church authority is expected to report any new safeguarding case that they become aware of to the relevant statutory child protection agencies, namely the Gardaí or the PSNI, the HSE or the HSC. We also ask that the National Office receive notification of the case and confirmation that it has been passed on in line with the Guidance. The expectation is that the reports will be made comprehensively and in a timely fashion. This aspect of the safeguarding practice of the Church authorities represents a key indicator within the Safeguarding Review process being progressed by the National Board.

Two hundred and thirty-seven notifications were received by the National Office over the course of the last year. These involved 196 priests/religious and originate predominantly from adults who complained of abuse which occurred in their childhood. A number of notifications that had previously been reported to either of the statutory child protection agencies by the Church authority involved had not been communicated to the other in the belief that reports made to one agency would automatically be

given to the other through the existence of a joint protocol between the statutory child protection agencies. However, through the review and audit processes within the Church, it became clear that this protocol had not always been operating, and as a result some reports were only known to one of the child protection agencies. The practice of the Church today is to report to both child protection agencies, both verbally and in writing, to ensure that all child safeguarding matters that come to our attention are shared with the appropriate statutory bodies. We can confirm that each Church authority that notified us of a new case over the last year also reported that they had communicated the details to the relevant statutory agencies.

From a review of the notifications received, only six relate to alleged abuse that occurred since the year 2000. In our view, the response made to those complaining of clerical abuse is improving. Reports are being made quickly and comprehensively to the appropriate statutory authorities. Contact with these agencies is good, with a shared recognition of the value of having an open, collaborative working relationship in place.

	PRIESTS/ RELIGIOUS	NUMBER OF ALLEGATIONS	IN MINISTRY	OUT OF MINISTRY	DECEASED	OTHER*
DIOCESAN	75	95	6	22	26	21
RELIGIOUS/ MISSIONARY SOCIETY	121	142	5	35	36	45
TOTAL	196	237	11	57	62	66

\*‘Other’ includes, for example, those who are elderly and infirm, laicised, or dismissed from the clerical state.

Safeguarding practice today within the Church places great emphasis on creating and maintaining a safe environment for children within which they can be nurtured and cared for. This necessarily involves everyone accepting responsibility in looking out for children and ensuring that their needs are prioritised.

Within the Church, an increasing number of volunteers are offering to play their part in doing this. The National Board commends the many thousands of volunteers who are helping to ensure that the Church is a safe place for their children.



# Safeguarding Support and Advice provided by the National Office in response to requests from Church authorities



There has been an increasing demand for support and advice in the management of safeguarding matters from across the Church authorities throughout the year. We welcome this development and would wish to encourage others to seek advice not only from the National Office but also from the statutory child protection agencies with whom they work.

## **CASE MANAGEMENT**

The largest, both numerically and in terms of time spent, number of requests is for advice to help tease out notifications of concern and allegations of abuse, prior to referring these on to the statutory authorities. The threshold applied is that there are reasonable grounds for concern. The information that has come to the attention of the Church authority may not be clear. It would not be uncommon for a letter to be received which states that an unnamed person was abused by an unidentified priest or religious. The nature of the abuse may be unspecified and there is no other identifying information. There have been many other examples over the last twelve months where information is shared with a Diocese or Religious Congregation which does not constitute adequate grounds for accepting that abuse has occurred, and where further enquiries are necessary. In these circumstances, the help of the National Office is often sought to try to clarify what response should be made. It is important to note that we have not encountered any reluctance on the part of those seeking our help to report to the civil authorities.

As a central advisory body, the National Office is gaining greater insight into the differing approaches being taken by the statutory child protection agencies across the two jurisdictions. Some differences occur which give rise to difficulties for us as an all-island body seeking to establish a uniform and consistent practice irrespective of location. These disparities in practice are unhelpful to the Church organisations. Within the context of greatly improved working relationships, these issues have been brought to the attention of the relevant senior managers in the statutory child protection agencies so that they can be resolved.

An increasing number of Dioceses and Religious Orders are recruiting safeguarding staff. These are lay people who have relevant professional expertise gained from working within child protection organisations. Support has been sought in developing job descriptions, staffing interview panels, assisting with creating structures, assigning roles and developing local policies and procedures.

The last year of operation has seen a growing emphasis on scrutiny by external agencies. There have been further requests by the HSE for information on policies and practices, and subsequent requests to the National Office to offer advice in reviewing policies and ensuring adherence to the Church's standards of practice, as responses are sought by external agencies.

In total, the National Office responded to 156 requests for advice and support across the Church, with 89 requests coming from 26 Dioceses and 67 requests from 30 Religious Orders. This amounts to a significant increase in requests for advice from last year, which totalled 104, which was itself an increase from 99 requests received the previous year. We welcome these requests and believe that in providing a centralised response that this will lead to greater consistency in practice across the whole island of Ireland.

## **NATIONAL CASE MANAGEMENT REFERENCE GROUP**

In January 2012, as an extension to the advisory element of the National Office, a National Case Management Reference Group (NCMRG) has been established on a pilot basis for one year. We became convinced that there was a need for such a centralised advisory body from a review of advice offered by some existing Diocesan and Congregational Advisory panels. It was our view that access to specialist advice would be beneficial to the decision making undertaken by Bishops or Congregational Leaders. Therefore, following extensive consultation, the NCMRG was established. This service is available to Dioceses and Religious Orders who have opted to become members of the initiative. Experience to date has shown that its value is greatly appreciated

with an increasing number of Church authorities seeking to avail of its service.

The aim of the NCMRG is to provide high-quality advice to Bishops, Religious Superiors/Provincials when they are called upon to respond to safeguarding cases. The advice is provided in writing and focuses on the management of the investigation and assessment processes and may comment on the 'fitness for ministry' of a priest. The NCMRG will offer advice on:

- The management of current risk
- Help to be provided to a complainant or their family
- Engagement with the statutory authorities
- The appropriateness of the respondent continuing in his or her present pastoral assignment
- Whether a specialist risk assessment of the respondent should be sought
- The needs of a parish or other community in which the respondent has served
- The needs of the wider community, including the appropriateness and timing of any public statement.

The NCMRG will be evaluated after its first year of operation and its role confirmed or refined in the light of experience gained from its operation.

## Training and Training Support delivered by the National Office – 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012



The aim of all our training is to develop knowledge and skills amongst Church personnel so they can respond more effectively to complainants and survivors of abuse, manage allegations and perpetrators of abuse, and create safer environments for children.

The last year has seen huge developments in Training and Support for Dioceses and Religious Congregations in relation to safeguarding children. In previous years, there was a demand for central training provided by the National Office and delivered locally in Dioceses and Congregations. This demand quickly outstripped the capacity of the National Office staff to deliver such direct training. As part of a more strategic approach to training and in an effort to ensure a more 'One Church' approach to the implementation of 'Safeguarding Children Standards and Guidance', it was recognised that standardised training materials would be required.

At the same time, a number of trainers across the country began working with National Office staff on Catholic Church-specific training materials. The plan was to develop a network of trained and Board-registered trainers who would deliver the recognised training programmes at local level. We are delighted to be able to state that all the hard work has now come to fruition, and that the process of training is underway. Eight tutors have been appointed, two in each metropolitan area, whose job it is to train and assess the trainers and then recommend them to be registered with the Board.

The tutors are:

**Dublin Metropolitan Area:**

Father Paddy Boyle and Sister Helen O'Riordan

**Armagh Metropolitan Area:**

Sandra Neville and Tom Maguire

**Tuam Metropolitan Area:**

Father Tod Nolan and Frank McGuinness

**Munster Metropolitan Area:**

Avril Halley and Aoife Walsh

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Phil Mortell, Louise Monaghan and all trainers for their hard work and support in writing, piloting and editing the training materials. The manual, which is available for registered trainers only, contains a programme for safeguarding representatives, priests and Church personnel involved in safeguarding; an information session for parishes; and a short awareness-raising session for those providing children's liturgies. In addition, the manual has support materials including case scenarios, leaflets, forms and handouts. The new training became operational at the end of February 2012.

Given the work involved in writing, piloting and editing the training materials and the limited resources available within the National Office, the number of training events hosted and/or delivered by the National Office staff decreased this year. That said, there were a significant number of useful events (detailed on the next page).

## Record of Training Events April 2011 – end March 2012

DATE	DELIVERED TO	EVENT
11.04.11	ARDAGH AND CLONMACNOIS	SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
19.04.11	ARDAGH AND CLONMACNOIS	SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
3.05.11	DOMINICAN MALES	SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
3.05.11	KILDARE AND LEIGHLIN	SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
12.05.11	DIOCESES AND RELIGIOUS ORDERS	VETTING
18.05.11	OSSORY PRIESTS	SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
20.05.11	SISTERS OF MERCY, NORTHERN PROVINCE	ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
25.05.11	ROSMINIANS	SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
26.05.11	DESIGNATED OFFICERS (DO) AND SUPPORT PEOPLE	DEALING WITH TRAUMA
22.06.11	HOLY FAMILY OF BORDEAUX	SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
27.06.11	SISTERS OF MERCY, NORTHERN PROVINCE	SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
28.06.11	SISTERS OF NAZARETH	ROLES AND RESPONDING TO ALLEGATIONS
7.07.11	SMA FATHERS	COPING WITH PERPETRATORS OF ABUSE
12.09.11	SEMINARIANS	SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
13.09.11	SEMINARIANS	SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
19.09.11	BISHOPS AND DESIGNATED PERSONS	SAFETY ON THE INTERNET
20.09.11	BISHOPS, DOS AND SUPPORT PEOPLE	THE IMPACT OF ABUSE
8.10.11	SISTERS OF MERCY, WESTERN PROVINCE	SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
22.10.11	WATERFORD DIOCESE	WORKING WITH CHILDREN
25.10.11	DESIGNATED PERSONS	INDUCTION
21.11.11	SISTERS OF MERCY, NORTHERN PROVINCE	SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
21.2.12	CLONFERT SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE	ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Of particular note this past year, in seeking to achieve the aims above, was external training provided by Father Ken Schmidt and Ms Sharon Froom from Trauma Recovery Associates in Michigan who focussed on meeting the needs of those who have suffered trauma as a result of clergy abuse in childhood. There were 65 attendees at this course and they found it useful and enlightening.

We were also delighted to host Father Hugh Lagan, SMA, who has just completed his studies while working as an intern at St Luke's Institute in Washington. Father Hugh delivered two days

on 'child pornography on the Internet' and the 'impact of abuse', attended by 156 people over the two days. All the participants found these days very enlightening and helpful.

In addition to directly providing training over the last year, National Office staff also provided a number of consultations on structures, policies and procedures.

## Members of the Board and other Corporate Information

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### **CHAIRMAN JOHN MORGAN**

Has had a career in business primarily as a Corporate Lawyer. Served as chairperson of the Bishops' Committee on Child Protection from 2002–2006. Prior to that he had been a member of the committees established by the Bishops dealing with Child Protection since the first formal Bishops' Committee on Child Abuse, appointed in 1999. Joined the Board in 2006.

### **SR MARTINA BARRETT**

A psychotherapist and family therapist with many years' experience of working with survivors of abuse. Has undertaken specialised training for work with communities affected by sexual abuse. Currently a member of the leadership team of the Sisters of Mercy, Western Province. Joined the Board in 2006.

### **MARTINA DUGGAN**

Has extensive front-line experience in crisis intervention and in assisting the most marginalised in society. Currently involved in support group work and after-care service in the areas of substance and alcohol misuse. Joined the Board in 2008.

### **DR KATHLEEN GANTER**

A Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist with extensive experience of treating children and adolescents who have suffered abuse. Currently involved in mental health tribunal work for the Mental Health Commission. Chair of the European Division of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. Joined the Board in 2009.

### **FR EDWARD GRIMES CSSP**

A Spiritan Canon Lawyer, with experience of assistance to Religious Congregations and Dioceses in safeguarding children. Has served on the Spiritan Leadership Team. Has also served as National Director of Pontifical Mission Societies in Ireland, Director of Gambia Pastoral Institute and Secretary General of the interterritorial Bishops Conference in West Africa. Joined the Board in 2011.

### **DR KEITH HOLMES**

A Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist. Currently Chairperson of the Medical Board in Lucena Clinic in Dublin and Chair of the Faculty of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry within the College of Psychiatry of Ireland. Also represents the faculty on the Medical/Legal/Human Rights/Ethics Committee within the College of Psychiatry of Ireland. Joined the Board in 2009.

### **MARIE KENNEDY**

Has a background in social work and has extensive experience in child protection and welfare with a post-graduate diploma in child protection and an MSc in Health Services Management. Through a range of important assignments, provides significant and extensive experience in all aspects of child care management. Joined the Board in 2008.

### **MGR EAMON MARTIN**

Ordained in 1987, is a priest of the diocese of Derry. Has served for many years on the Council of priests of the diocese. As a former teacher and school principal, has extensive experience of pastoral care, leadership and management in education at second level. Was Executive Secretary of the Irish Episcopal Conference from 2008–2010, was appointed Vicar General of the diocese of Derry in 2010 and Diocesan Administrator in 2011. Joined the Board in 2011.

### **MICHAEL RINGROSE**

Formerly Chief Executive People with Disabilities in Ireland, the National Representative Organisation of all people with disabilities, their parents, carers, families and advocates. Prior to that, served as a Chief Superintendent with An Garda Síochána. Joined the Board in 2006.

## MANAGEMENT OF NATIONAL OFFICE

### **IAN ELLIOTT, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

A graduate of Trinity College and the University of Ulster, with a Master of Business Administration from the Open University Business School, he has qualifications in social work and certification in advanced social work. He was appointed director of NSPCC in June 2001, with a brief to lead services, influence and campaigning within Northern Ireland. In September 2005 he was seconded to the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Services to a government role of lead child protection advisor. This role was further expanded by the Minister for Health to include designing and implementing a major reform programme for child protection services within the region. He was appointed Chief Executive Officer to the National Board in July 2007.

### **SR COLETTE STEVENSON, DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS**

A Presentation Sister. She has been involved in child protection work within the Church since 1995, when she became Director of the CORI child protection office. Previously she worked as a teacher and later in retreat work. She is a qualified marriage and family therapist.

### **TERESA DEVLIN, DIRECTOR OF SAFEGUARDING**

A background in social science, social studies and psychology, and an advanced diploma in child protection, she has extensive experience in child protection management and family support at the levels of senior management and in the specific areas of risk assessment and care planning.

**ANN DOYLE ADMINISTRATOR**

**IMELDA ASHE ADMINISTRATOR**

**PHILIP MORTELL TRAINING ASSOCIATE**

**LOUISE MONAGHAN TRAINING ASSOCIATE**

## OTHER CORPORATE INFORMATION

The Members of the Board comprise the directors of Coimirce, a company limited by guarantee without a share capital (Co. Number 465899). The Members of Coimirce comprise nominees of each of the Episcopal Conference of Irish bishops, CORI (Conference of Religious of Ireland) and the IMU (Irish Missionary Union).

The registered office and address of Coimirce is New House, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.

**COMPANY SECRETARY ANNE YOUNG**

**WEBSITE ADDRESS WWW.SAGEFUARDING.IE**



## Objectives for 2012

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The three primary objectives of the Board for 2012 are:

1. To continue, in as timely a fashion as possible, the Review programme of Dioceses and Religious Congregations in response to the request of the Sponsoring Bodies. The emphasis will be to complete the Review process in the dioceses before undertaking the process throughout the religious congregations and missionary societies.
2. To continue the development of additional and supplementary Standards and Guidance such that, on adoption, the safeguarding framework across the Church will be enhanced to the extent that best international practice in range and extent of policies and procedures will be achieved.
3. To continue the implementation of the National Training Strategy and Support Programme as further developed in the last year with the introduction of a new Training Manual and the associated new training. This new work is being undertaken by trainers appropriately trained by specifically appointed tutors, thus qualifying as recognised Board-registered trainers.

In the light of the references to the work of the Board, as contained in the *Summary of the Findings of the Apostolic Visitation in Ireland*, released in March of this year, a more targeted approach is now being adopted concerning the Board's primary objectives for this year. This will include acceleration in the Review programme, affecting dioceses particularly. In connection with 'Standards and Guidance', work in a number of specific areas will be given priority. Additionally, it is hoped that increased resources will be secured to increase and improve the delivery of key training objectives.



## APPENDICES

### APPENDIX 1

Figures for Parishes, Catholic Population and Churches in Ireland, 2011

	PARISHES	CATHOLIC POPULATION	CHURCHES
ARMAGH	61	237,141	150
DUBLIN	199	1,199,000	247
CASHEL	46	82,275	84
TUAM <sup>1</sup>	56	122,134	131
ACHONRY	23	34,826	47
ARDAGH <sup>1</sup>	41	71,806	80
CLOGHER	37	86,047	85
CLONFERT <sup>1</sup>	24	36,000	47
CLOYNE	46	160,370	107
CORK AND ROSS <sup>1</sup>	68	220,000	124
DERRY	50	243,362	104
DOWN AND CONNOR	87	338,059	150
DROMORE <sup>1</sup>	23	63,400	48
ELPHIN <sup>1</sup>	37	70,500	90
FERNS <sup>1</sup>	49	99,796	101
GALWAY	39	112,253	71
KERRY	53	127,850	110
KILDARE AND LEIGHLIN <sup>1</sup>	56	219,817	117
KILLALA	22	40,137	48
KILLALOE <sup>1</sup>	58	118,240	133
KILMORE	36	62,438	95
LIMERICK <sup>1</sup>	60	184,340	94
MEATH	69	242,000	149
OSSORY	42	89,394	89
RAPHOE	33	81,300	71
WATERFORD AND LISMORE	45	148,267	85
TOTALS <sup>2</sup>	1,360	4,449,752	2,657

#### NOTES:

1. Data unchanged from 2011
2. Totals estimates only

Source: Diocesan returns, *Irish Catholic Directory 2012*, Veritas Publications, 2012.

APPENDIX 2  
Number of Priests and Religious, 2011

	ACTIVE IN DIOCESE <sup>1</sup>	OTHERS <sup>2</sup>	RELIGIOUS ORDERS		
			CLERICAL	BROTHERS	SISTERS
ARMAGH	99	28	52	22	315
DUBLIN	284	147	849	300	2,305
CASHEL	83	9	48	12	139
TUAM <sup>1</sup>	77	35	9	14	172
ACHONRY	36	9	1	0	48
ARDAGH <sup>3</sup>	59	13	5	9	190
CLOGHER <sup>3</sup>	73	10	5	2	134
CLONFERT	37	5	18	0	93
CLOYNE	95	37	0	3	200
CORK AND ROSS <sup>3</sup>	119	30	141	36	580
DERRY	82	31	7	6	96
DOWN AND CONNOR	138	36	58	28	216
DROMORE	32	19	7	3	134
ELPHIN	48	12	7	0	110
FERNS	84	29	17	6	150
GALWAY	50	22	38	16	235
KERRY <sup>3</sup>	78	25	10	5	292
KILDARE AND LEIGHLIN <sup>1</sup>	95	20	93	54	380
KILLALA <sup>3</sup>	47	18	4	3	54
KILLALOE <sup>3</sup>	93	26	16	21	191
KILMORE	64	16	7	1	50
LIMERICK <sup>3</sup>	89	31	52	15	305
MEATH <sup>3</sup>	109	19	102	20	163
OSSORY	59	18	20	36	210
RAPHOE	64	20	10	3	46
WATERFORD AND LISMORE	66	22	52	36	305
TOTALS <sup>4</sup>	2,160	687	1,628	651	7,113

NOTES:

1. Diocesan priests only
2. Priests of the diocese retired, sick, on study leave, or working in other dioceses in Ireland and abroad
3. Details are listed under the diocese
4. Totals estimates only

Source: Diocesan Returns, *Irish Catholic Directory 2012*, Veritas Publications, 2012.

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