

NATIONAL CATHOLIC SAFEGUARDING COMMISSION
Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 3rd September 2018 11.00-16.00
At: Hinsley Hall, 62, Headingley Lane, Leeds, LS56 2BS

Present: Chris Pearson (Chair) CP
Marcus Stock MS
Rachel O'Driscoll RO'D
Lyndsay Spendelow LS
Brendan Killeen BK
Peter Houghton PH
Lindsay Voss LV
Elizabeth Manero EM
Stephen Spear SS

In attendance: Colette Limbrick, CSAS
Bernadette Speakman, Secretary NCSC

Apologies for absence were received from: Dave Marshall, Mark Davies, Paul Mason, James Boner, Philomena McClusky, Mick Walker and Kathy Perrin.

1 Introduction and welcome.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting today and thanked them for their attendance.

2 The Opening Prayer This was led by Marcus Stock

3 Members declaration of Interests and statement of Confidentiality

There were no declarations made. Confidentiality was agreed.

4 Minutes of the meeting held 4th June 2018.

These were agreed

6 Matters arising from the minutes of 4th June 2018

6a Action list update

The action list was projected onto the screen to enable live updating and agreement as progressed.

- KP is to undertake a session on liability tomorrow on the development day.
- Theology of safeguarding-CP has discussed with Fr Chris Thomas, and this item is to go to Bishops' Standing Committee for approval.
- CSAS web design-will launch tomorrow. Procedures website will close after a period of overlap once the new site is successful.
- NCSC website-further meeting with provider to be arranged before December
- CSAS annual conference- member attendance by prior approval of Chair and Vice Chairs.
- Skills audit. In consideration of our independent status, it was suggested that there is a need to review the Constitution to check the balance of members between clergy and lay. It was recommended that a lay member working group be developed as part of a staged approach, led by an independent body as a scoping exercise to look at function. Additional funding for this

would be required from Bishops. EM and RO'D to get together initially and additional support would be delivered by CSAS.

ACTION- (RO'D, EM, PH, CL, SS, CP to form a task group and report back to Dec meeting)

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Items to be noted CSAS

7a Regarding alignment issues, CL is attending COR meeting and will report back in December.

7ai CSAS report to the NCSC.

7bi Feedback to be sought regarding Safeguarding Co-ordinators access to named Police contacts within their Diocese as a result of meetings with them. It was suggested that CSAS will scope evidence/areas, as this is not the issue in all Dioceses. CL will send the information to CP and Vice Chairs.

(ACTION CL)

7bii Audit of Diocesan Commission members will be reported in the December meeting when all responses have been received.

7biii Safer recruitment and follow up of references by telephone. This was agreed as a mandatory requirement, as it is written in policy.

7biv Referring concerns to CSAS/NCSC. Neither body investigate concerns. This item will not be on the November Plenary, but needs to go to Diocesan Chairs meetings for discussion. Diocesan employees are required to work to employment policies and the Chair of Commission reports to the Bishop. CL will send further detail to Chairs and Vice Chairs for a decision to refer to Bishops.

(ACTION CL)

7bvi Leaflets. Agreed by members, however, some require agreement from SAP, as they had been involved earlier this year.

Recommended they also be referred to KP, Joint Management Board and the Church of England.

(ACTION CL)

7bvii Proposed changes to existing policies, procedures and related documents. CL suggested that we need a separate policy on images of child abuse, and that this should be written by experts as a commissioned piece of work. Safeguarding Today was suggested as a possible source. CP suggested he speak to them at tomorrow's development day where they are delivering a session on digital abuse.

(ACTION CP)

7bviii Proposed new guidance. CL gave an overview, and will send EM the draft Constitution.

(ACTION CL)

Lourdes and children at the baths. There is a need to ensure that children are aware and understand what will happen at the baths. MS agreed to raise with Bishops that pilgrims under the age of 18 do not access the baths.

(ACTION MS)

7bix Review of National Training Modules. This item will be updated in December

7bxi Commissioning Independent Quality Assurance. SCIE and the NPCC have been approached for costings. The work would be expected to take up to two years. For further discussion in December.

7c **NCSC**

7ci Budget report. Half year.

Attention was drawn to the half year report from 1st January to the 30th June, which showed a slight variance at this point of the financial year. The third quarter report will be presented at the December meeting, and the final cumulative result at the March 2019 meeting.
(ACTION BS)

7cii Website report.

This report covered data regarding contacts from the full years 2012 to 2017, in order to assess possible increases in contact due to the IICSA. Total **website views** had gradually increased from 8,350 for the year 2012 to 47,588 for the year 2017. However, **contacts** to the service had only increased marginally. The full year end for 2018 will be presented in the December report.

(ACTION BS)

7ciii Update on progress of the Pastoral Support Service.

CP reported on the following progress:

- The collaboration with the Church of England is progressing, and is to be known now as “Safe Spaces”, as defined by their Survivor contacts.
- The Church of England had already received funding for their service prior to the decision to implement a joint approach as we were already moving in the same direction. It had been felt therefore to adopt an ecumenical model as this being the best way forward.
- They have already appointed a project manager-Maureen McGrath, who is also meeting with our SAP members. There is an aim to appoint an independent provider by January 2019, and this is to go to the next management board shortly.
- There is a hub and spoke approach as a potential model, however, some Dioceses may already have systems in place and these will be supported in the future.
- Meetings continue and it is felt that real progress is being made.

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Items for Discussion/Agreement

8a Model Constitution

- This draft document has been presented at two Diocesan Chairs meeting, and is to be circulated to Bishops with a recommendation that the final document implementation becomes mandatory.
- Some Dioceses have strong processes in place already, and the final outcome should be that the Bishop adopts it and then the Diocese complies. It was suggested that the draft be circulated to Safeguarding Co-Ordinators as a consultation document.
- MS suggested that Bishops may decide that this becomes mandatory. However individual orders need to agree therefore confirming the “one church approach”.
- Item 10 of the draft document relates to local arrangements of line management, which will be different in different Dioceses, and therefore can be adapted to conform with these arrangements.
- EM confirmed that she had met with Commission Chairs in August. However COR, Trustees and SAP still require input/consultation.

8b SAP Report

The update submitted by Dave Marshall, Chair of the SAP, and previously circulated with the meeting papers was highlighted by CP. Additional to the detail, it was noted that the PCPM had written to the SAP thanking them for attending the meeting in Rome in June. They were very impressed with the work and input from the SAP, and wish to continue to engage. There is a realization that there is no going back, but the challenge is to do this internationally. It was highlighted that as far as is understood, this NCSC SAP is the only known such group operating in this way.

8b Members terms of office

- it was identified that the NCSC needs to recruit two more Diocesan Commission Chairs. CL agreed to circulate information to Diocesan Chairs. It was recommended that PH stay on for a further term, and this was agreed.

(ACTION CL)

- There were a number of members due to complete by the end of this year- LS has requested that COR nominate an extra person to replace her. PMcC is willing to stand for another year if required. The Chair of the Canon Law Society has been contacted for a nomination for BK, and a response is awaited.

9 **Any other business**

There was no other business to report.

10 **Date of next meeting-**

4th December 2018 Lower Library, Archbishops House, London.

Dates of meetings 2019

6th March 2019 Hinsley Hall, Leeds

4th June 2019 Lower Library, Archbishops House, London

2nd September Hinsley Hall, Leeds

3rd September Hinsley Hall, Leeds. NCSC Development day (to be confirmed)

3rd December Lower Library, Archbishops House, London