

# SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

Diocese of Kerry

October, 2017

Issue 1

## Message from our Chairperson

*Without the active involvement of young people in the life of the Church there would be no need for a Safeguarding Committee. I would like to acknowledge the co-operation of young people, parents and guardians in our efforts to implement safeguarding policy. Lack of involvement by children in the church would be detrimental both to young people and to the Church. I appreciate the efforts that are being made by Safeguarding Representatives in all of our parishes. Without the involvement of parishioners on Safeguarding Committees it would not be possible to have children involved in the life of the church. Rosarii O' Connor.*

## eVetting

Since the switch to eVetting in November 2016,

the turnaround for vetting approval has significantly improved.



When comparing the same time period (Jan to Sept), there were 92 applications processed in 2016 vs 335 applications in 2017. Once applicants complete the email link that they receive from the Vetting Office a turnaround of 3-5 days can be expected.

We would like to thank everyone who has taken the time to complete their application through the new eVetting system.

Information and instructions for eVetting can be found on the diocesan website:

<http://www.dioceseofkerry.ie/safeguarding/gardavetting/>

## National Safeguarding Training

Safeguarding Training schedule is now available for 2017:

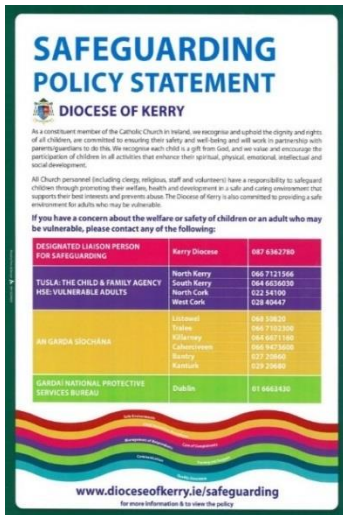
- **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October, Kenmare**
- **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November, Tralee (Fully Booked)**

Please complete [Application Form](#) for training and return via email to [jacklynmccarthy@dioceseofkerry.org](mailto:jacklynmccarthy@dioceseofkerry.org)

It is a priority for all **Priests, Parish Safeguarding Representatives, Sacristans and Leaders who co-ordinate groups of children** to attend the full-day safeguarding training programme every three years. New training dates will be added in the New Year.

Queries regarding training please contact: Jacklyn McCarthy | Safeguarding Co-ordinator | Tel: 064-6631168 | Email: [jacklynmccarthy@dioceseofkerry.org](mailto:jacklynmccarthy@dioceseofkerry.org)





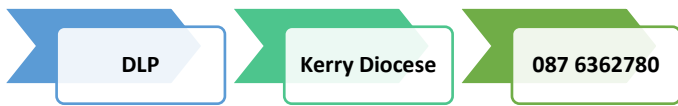
## New Safeguarding Policy Statement

*Ensure that your parish is displaying the correct poster*

**Why?** New Safeguarding Posters have been distributed to all churches in the Diocese. It is important that the older versions of the posters are taken down as contact details have been updated.

For parishes that requested **Irish** and **Polish** versions of the posters these are now available. Please contact the Diocesan Office for copies.

## Designated Liaison Person



In the Diocese there is one central number for all safeguarding concerns relating to children and vulnerable adults.

**The Designated Liaison Person (DLP), Jim Sheehy is the main point of contact for all safeguarding concerns.**

Local Safeguarding Representatives numbers should be replaced with the number for the DLP in relation to reporting. For this reason, new posters have been distributed throughout the Diocese.

To support this important change, please ensure that the correct number is displayed in the following places: the church, the parish office, the sacristy and the parish newsletter.

Important contact numbers:

<http://www.dioceseofkerry.ie/safeguarding/personnel/>

## New Safeguarding Handbook

The new Safeguarding Handbook is now available in all parishes.

This handbook is designed as a **practical tool** and a quick guide to all aspects of safeguarding.

All sections of the annual parish audit are also covered in the handbook.

In addition, individual roles within the parish are detailed separately, **find your role and find your checklist for safeguarding!**

To download a copy please go to the Diocesan website:

<http://www.dioceseofkerry.ie/safeguarding/safeguardinghandbook/>

