

Safeguarding Together

Safeguarding Policy for the Salvatorians

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE PERSONS 2024

British Pro-Province

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Safeguarding Together

1. POLICY STATEMENT

The Salvatorians of the British Pro-vince are committed to safeguarding all children and adults at risk. The Salvatorians believe that we are all made in the image of God and in the preciousness, dignity and uniqueness of every human life. We start from the principle that each person has a right to expect the highest level of protection, love, encouragement and respect.

The Salvatorians are committed to a One Church Approach to safeguarding – we will abide by the Safeguarding Standards of the Catholic Church in England and Wales and the Standards set by the Catholic Church in Ireland. We commit to implementing any changes needed for the safety and good of all and we will respond to all complaints and allegations promptly and compassionately.

2. SCOPE OF THE POLICY

This policy applies to all Salvatorians and their employees and volunteers regardless of their role or the activities they undertake for it is the responsibility of all Salvatorians and all staff and volunteers to ensure a safe environment for everyone, to prevent, and respond effectively to abuse whether by action or omission.

3. REPORTING COMPLAINTS AND ALLEGATIONS

It is the policy of the Salvatorians to report all allegations and concerns of abuse against confreres and co-workers to the relevant statutory authorities in a timely and efficient manner following the guidelines of CSSA in England and Wales and NBSCCCI in Ireland.

4. CARE FOR THE COMPLAINANT AND FOR THE RESPONDENT

The Salvatorians recognise how difficult it is for a complainant to come forward and share their experience. Every complaint will be treated seriously and every complainant will be offered the pastoral support that they need. The Salvatorians also recognise their duty of care for the respondent; the Salvatorians will provide a just and fair process and support and care for the individual depending upon their needs.

5. TRAINING

All Salvatorians will take part in the Safeguarding Training that is offered by the Diocese in which they minister and additional Safeguarding Training will be provided annually by the Salvatorian Safeguarding Officer based on Salvatorian needs in relation to both safeguarding of children and adults relevant to their role. Volunteers and employees will be offered training that is relevant to their roles.

6. CONSCIENTIOUS DISCLOSURE

The Salvatorians will do all in their power to assist anyone with a concern to raise that issue without fear of victimisation, or disadvantage. If that concern is regarding malpractice, illegal acts, or omissions, by Salvatorians, their co-workers or another religious institution relating to safeguarding, then the Safeguarding office will be informed by the person designated in the Conscientious Disclosure procedures to receive these concerns.

7. SAFE RECRUITMENT

The Provincial leader will ensure that all Salvatorians and their co-workers are subject to the appropriate Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks and Garda Vetting in line with both statutory and Catholic Church requirements.

8. RECORDING AND STORAGE OF SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS AND CASE FILES

Safeguarding concerns and case files will be recorded in an accurate, auditable, and secure fashion. All records will be stored in locked cabinets with restricted access limited to authorised personnel.

9. VISITING SALVATORIANS AND OTHER CLERICS

Salvatorian and visiting clerics who wish to minister in England, Wales or Ireland during their visit of under 6 months must have a testimonial letter from their Major Superior, and if ordained, have a valid celebret.

10. DISSATISFACTION WITH HOW AN ALLEGATION IS DEALT WITH

If a complainant or respondent is dissatisfied with how their allegation of abuse has been handled by the Salvatorians, an open and transparent system will deal with their stated dissatisfaction (See Complaints Procedure)

11. COMMUNICATION OF THE MESSAGE OF SAFEGUARDING

All Salvatorians will communicate the Church's message of safeguarding through their lifestyle and their manner of engaging with people. The Provincial Leadership Council will use the Salvatorian website and Salvatorian newsletter to share the good news of safeguarding.

12. MINISTRY IN A DIOCESE OR OTHER INSTITUTION

Salvatorians will adhere to the safeguarding policies and procedures of the Diocese or institution in which they are ministering.

13. QUALITY ASSURANCE

The Salvatorians will fully assist in the CSSA audit process and will annually maintain arrangements that will evaluate compliance with the agreed safeguarding standards in all its various activities.

14. POLICY REVIEW

This policy has been approved by the Salvatorian Trustees and will be subject to an annual review or sooner, where there is a significant change to the organisational infrastructure, processes or to relevant legislation or in response to a safeguarding concern arising.

Safeguarding Standards England and Wales

The eight standards of the Catholic Church outline what is expected in terms of level of safeguarding practice in all church bodies.



Safeguarding Standards Ireland

There are three core standards in the Irish Church's Safeguarding Children Policy - the three standards are linked, and no standard is more important than another.

