

REPORTING A CONCERN ABOUT SAFEGUARDING

Any person who has a suspicion, concern, knowledge or allegation that a child or an adult at risk has suffered or is likely to suffer significant harm, must report the matter to the authorities.

The duty to report applies to all – clergy and lay persons – who work with children or adults at risk. There are no exceptions to the duty to report.

Concerns about safeguarding are not investigated by the parish, or by any committee or person in the parish. Investigations must be independent and carried out only by those with the legal authority and expertise to do so.

The report should be made to the PSNI or to the Social Services. Contact details are as follows:

<p>PSNI: Phone 101. For an immediate emergency phone 999. Ask for The Public Protection Team, Child Protection.</p>

<p>SOCIAL SERVICES: Phone 028 9050 7000. Out of Hours phone 028 9504 9999. Ask for The Duty Social Worker.</p>

<p>A report may also be made to the Church authority. Contact details are as follows:</p>

<p>THE DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING OFFICE: Ask for the Designated Liaison Officer, Philip O'Hara during office hours at 028 9049 2798 or mobile 07534 992 124.</p>
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