



House of Lords
London SW1A 0PW
DPA

11th August, 2020

Dear Mr Carlyon

As you know I was asked by the National Catholic Safeguarding Commission to do an external review of the Survivor Advisory Panel. I invited **RC-A15**, himself a survivor of clerical abuse, to design and conduct the review with me.

On 10th January this year, we discussed our draft review at a SAP meeting in London. It was well received by members, and their feedback suggested a growing confidence in their own potential contributions.

In the final version of our written report submitted to the NCSC at the end of January, we said that SAP had fulfilled, and, with respect to its training role, gone over and above its terms of reference in ways that have received wide acclamation.

The recommendations we made were intended to build on the strengths within the existing SAP model of engaging survivors and others who work closely with victims and survivors as advisors. **RC-A15** and I concluded that in setting up SAP, the NCSC had created a change maker.

We had a productive discussion with NCSC members at their virtual meeting on 2nd June – unfortunately neither **RC-A15** nor I had been available to attend their February meeting. Pending the meeting on 2nd June, NCSC initiated their own enquiries with SAP to think further about how our recommendations might be implemented.

We understand that the implementation plan is expected to be finalised during a joint development day in October, and that the key proposals being considered include:

1. To involve SAP in helping to develop the core NCSC strategic plan and standards
2. To begin NCSC meetings with a report from SAP (already implemented)
3. To ensure opportunities for members of the advisory SAP and executive NCSC committees to meet each other regularly, both through an annual joint development day and by inviting one or more SAP members to attend NCSC meetings with the SAP chair in rotation.
4. To establish an independent speaker's panel.

We expect that the outcomes of the development day will lead to changes to the Terms of Reference for SAP and the SAP Chair's Terms of Reference.

I trust that this summary will suffice.

With best wishes

DPA

Professor the Baroness Hollins