

use IT. We will also have to train the DBS leads in the other 25 umbrella organisations which use the service.

GB Group will provide one session of basic training to the Safeguarding Office and has said they will charge the diocese for any additional training at £150 per session. If we say for arguments sake that GB Group train up the SRP's and this training is delivered in small groups (as they suggest) of 10. It will cost the diocese £3,800 to train only the SRP's in Ebulk. If it a member of the team provides this training to SPR's and others, this will need to be planned and provided out of hours which will have a resource impact in terms of adding the training to a team members already stretched work load. At present we do not have a team member with capacity to deliver this training which would incidentally need to be provided out of hours and attract TOIL. Or alternatively we could recruit an additional member of staff to undertake the Ebulk training which again will have costs implications.

7) Victims of Abuse

Whilst there is no national policy, The Safeguarding Co-ordinator is meant to support those who have raised a complaint of abuse within the Catholic Church setting. This support includes; speaking directly with the victim, writing to them setting out the churches commitment to support them, sign posting them to sources of support, making referrals to the statutory agencies and meeting with them face to face to explore issues. It is presently impossible to provide this level of support due to resource issues and therefore victims are only getting assistance in an ad hoc manner. This is inappropriate and contradicts the messages which are coming from senior members of the church in terms of the church providing a holistic safeguarding service.

The Role of the Safeguarding Co-ordinator

The Safeguarding Co-ordinator until August 2014 was expected to provide the aforementioned safeguarding services with the assistance of only a part time PA/Administrator and a part time DBS Administrator. In addition I as Co-ordinator have other responsibilities to deliver on strategic matters. For instance I am responsible for reviewing, devising and implementing a new safeguarding IT system. I also report on a regular basis to the Safeguarding Commission on all cases and aspects of the work of the office. Further, I have to put into action the recommendations of the Commission which includes providing the necessary support in complex preliminary enquiry matters. So you are aware, the Commission is in a period of transition, it is increasing its membership and expanding its role. This will inevitably lead to more demands on the safeguarding office who have to support the commission and work collaboratively with them.

It became apparent very quickly after I started in May 2014 that it was impossible for one person to carry out the role of the Safeguarding Co-ordinator or provide the essential services. In summer 2014 The Archbishops Council approved on-going funding for an Assistant Safeguarding Co-ordinator post (part time). The current post holder is here on a temporary basis until November 2014 by which time I have been asked to report back to the