

Child and adult protection in the Catholic Church in Scotland

Request to abuse survivors for help with an independent review of

RC Diocese of Paisley

The Social Care Institute for Excellence is **conducting an external, independent review of a diocese of the Catholic Church in Scotland.**

The focus

The independent team want to hear from people with first-hand experience of how people in diocesan roles have responded, or failed to respond to disclosures of abuse or sharing of concerns.

They want to understand what is working well and what has gone wrong in the past.

They are looking at the responses of people in diocesan roles to knowledge of abuse by clergy or risks posed by clergy and others in Church-related roles, paid or voluntary.

At this stage, they are only focusing on responses by people in the Diocese of Paisley.

An independent, confidential process

The diocese will have no role in this except to help to publicise that the audit is taking place and that the external team want to hear from abuse survivors.

We recommend that you speak to SCIE staff directly.

Nobody at any level in the Church will be told that you are taking part.

What you tell SCIE will be confidential and will not be shared with the diocese except as part of an overall report which will absolutely not identify you.

SCIE expect the diocese to publish the report. Copies of the report will be made available to survivors.

Contact details

If you feel able to contribute, please contact SCIE directly:

By email on **learningtogether@scie.org.uk**

By phone on 07921 251614

SCIE will then get in touch to arrange a time at your convenience to meet with the auditors.

Thank you

Taking part is likely to have an emotional cost for you. Please draw on all the support you need. SCIE and the diocese thank you sincerely in advance for your help. We are anxious to ensure that lessons are learnt and injustices of the past are put right and not repeated in the future.

We would again emphasise that this is an external independent audit. If you have any questions about the review or taking part, please get in touch, using the contact details above.



social care
institute for excellence

SCIE Learning Together

Letter to individuals

Child and adult protection in the Catholic Church in Scotland

Request to abuse survivors for help with an independent review of

RC Diocese of Paisley

Dear colleagues,

I am from the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE). We are conducting an external, independent review of a diocese of the Catholic Church in Scotland. We are looking at the responses of people in diocesan roles to knowledge of abuse by clergy or risks posed by clergy and others in Church-related roles, paid or voluntary. We want to understand what is working well and where there are problems.

We want to hear from people with first-hand experience of how people in diocesan roles have responded to disclosures of abuse or sharing of concerns.

The diocese has no role in this except to help to publicise that the audit is taking part and that the external team want to hear from abuse survivors.

You can speak to SCIE staff directly.

Nobody at any level in the Church will be told who that you are taking part.

What you tell SCIE will be confidential and will not be shared with the diocese except as part of an overall report which will absolutely not identify you.

If you feel able to contribute, please contact SCIE directly on learningtogether@scie.org.uk

We will then get in touch to arrange a time at your convenience to meet with the auditors.

Taking part is likely to have an emotional cost for you. We thank you sincerely in advance.

Dr Sheila Fish

SCIE Head of Audit & Review.

Self-care

Please think about self-care now, during and after the process of contributing and what support you might need from family, friends and professionals.

Support is available from numerous survivors' organisations and specialist charities. The Survivors Trust is the largest umbrella agency for specialist rape and sexual abuse

services in the UK and has 124 member agencies based in the UK and Ireland providing advice, support and therapy. Information in your local area can be found at:
<https://www.thesurvivorstrust.org/find-support>

Background

The independent audits are part of the work of the Independent Review Group (IRG). The IRG work to ensure the RC Church in Scotland implements the recommendations of the McClelland Report to improve safeguarding process, practice and trust within the Church.

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