24 September 2020

The following text was added to Child and Adult Safeguarding Policies for ROI and NI:

*Best safeguarding practice by the Church in respect of convicted child sex offenders requires that they should not hold representational roles as this can be perceived to convey a position of authority by other members of the Church, both children and adults. This can be particularly sensitive and potentially hurtful for anyone who has been harmed by a sex offender.*

*An individual who has been the victim of a sexual offence may have to manage lifelong consequences arising from that harm and their needs should be prioritised. It is therefore regarded as inappropriate that someone with a conviction for a sexual offence would hold any role on a decision making body in the Diocese or in Church leadership of any sort, even when that role does not involve contact with children.*

The policy updates can be found at these links -

**ROI:** [Adult Safeguarding](#) / [Child Safeguarding](#)

**NI:** [Adult Safeguarding](#) / [Child Safeguarding](#)