



3.1D GUIDANCE ON SAFEGUARDING HANDOVER

The Constitution sets out that implementation of child safeguarding is the responsibility of the Bishop and Diocesan Council. However it is important that those involved in safeguarding at every level (parish and diocesan) must ensure continuity as far as possible.

It is therefore essential that the Bishop, and Incumbents upon coming into office, familiarise themselves with their Child Safeguarding Policy and procedures, the child safeguarding structure, personnel, and relevant records.

Where possible, incoming Bishops, Incumbents, Diocesan Support Team members, Diocesan Panel members, and Parish Panel members should meet with their outgoing equivalent in person to share all relevant issues and familiarise themselves with the processes that are in place relevant to their role. This may include the following:

Bishops:

- Should receive a briefing from the Diocesan Child Safeguarding Panel on all cases against church personnel relevant to their Diocese, which includes the status of reporting to the statutory authorities, management plans and responses to complainants and respondents.
- Should receive a briefing from the Diocesan Support Team on the current safeguarding plan and any issues around non-compliance.

Incumbents:

- Should receive a briefing from the Parish Panel relating to:
 - Current activity with children and steps taken to mitigate risk
 - Any procedures in place to manage Persons of Concern
 - All allegations shared with them by the Diocesan Safeguarding Panel.