



3.2A GUIDANCE ON DEVELOPING A SAFEGUARDING PLAN

Alongside the action plan from triennial audits the Diocesan Support Team must develop a child safeguarding plan to assess the effectiveness of the steps it is taking to keep children safe.

The purpose of this internal child safeguarding plan is to set out **what, how, who and in what time frame** key elements of child safeguarding practices and procedures are going to be met. A child safeguarding plan should include the following:

- **Specific objectives linked to each of the safeguarding standards.** It is important that specific objectives are set in line with the child safeguarding standards and any previous annual audit recommendations. These objectives can be broken down into set actions.
- **Resources.** The achievement of this child safeguarding plan is fully dependent on the availability of sufficient resources. In order to successfully implement the plan it is important to set specific and realistic objectives linked to identified allocated resources.
- **Implementation.** The Diocesan Support Team should identify clear time frames for implementation, which should take account of the completion of the local annual returns and triennial audits.
- **Review and evaluation.** It is important that this plan sets clear dates for review of each specific objective outlined in the plan. These review dates should be achieved on an annual basis, and reviews should take account of the outcomes of the annual returns.