

Establishment of a National Safeguarding Advisory Committee.

Introduction.

Safeguarding Ireland was established to promote safeguarding of adults who may be vulnerable, protect them from all forms of abuse by persons, organisations and institutions and develop a national plan for promoting their welfare. This will be achieved by promoting inter-sectoral collaboration, developing public and professional awareness and education, and undertaking research to inform policy, practice and legislation in the Republic of Ireland.

Safeguarding Ireland has now been established (through a company limited by guarantee – National Safeguarding Ireland), with the support of its main funder the HSE, to provide a strong governance base and oversight structure for all future inter-sectoral work relating to safeguarding of vulnerable adults pending the envisaged introduction of adult safeguarding legislation by 2025. It also has responsibility for developing a new Strategic Plan to build on the Strategic Plan first developed through the loosely based National Safeguarding Committee (2015-2019).

Terms of Reference.

To assist the Board of Safeguarding Ireland in its work, a National Safeguarding Advisory Committee is being established by the Board with the following Terms of Reference.

- 1. Assist with a review the first Strategic Plan (2017 2021) of the National Safeguarding Committee.
- 2. Assist in the development of a second Strategic Plan (2021-2025) and advise on priorities, as required.
- 3. Contribute to the provision of high-quality, well researched and considered advice to the Board of Safeguarding Ireland in the fulfillment of its objectives
- 4. Contribute expert guidance on and experiential insight into specific issues in line with key work streams which the Board requires addressed.
- 5. Advise on the most effective means of promoting and monitoring progress towards interprofessional and inter-sectoral collaboration in furtherance of the safeguarding of vulnerable adults.

Modus Operandi.

The Committee will be answerable to the Board of Safeguarding Ireland and will be chaired by a member of the Board. It will draw on skills and expertise from the following sectors:

- Health Service Executive (planning + operations)
- State's health and social care service regulators to include the Decision Support Service
- NGO service providers (Sect 38 & 39)
- Advocacy services
- Policing
- Banking and financial services
- Relevant health and social care professional bodies
- Government departments of Health, Employment Affairs & Social Protection, Justice and Equality
- National Union of Journalists
- Economic and social research sector
- Farming and rural organisations
- Area based development companies linked to local authorities
- Legal professions' representation

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