

The main object for which the Company is established is 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.

Subsidiary Objects

As objects incidental and ancillary to the attainment of the Main Object, the Company shall have the following subsidiary objects: -

To do the following for the benefit of adults in the Republic of Ireland who may be vulnerable:

- (a) To raise public understanding of attitudes, behaviours, circumstances and systems that create vulnerability that may result in abuse and that may require a safeguarding response.*
- (b) To promote the protection and rights of people who may be vulnerable by encouraging organisations and services to recognise, prevent and deal with exploitation and abuse effectively*
- (c) To inform and influence Government policy and legislation to safeguard the rights of people who may be vulnerable.*

Safeguarding Ireland

Board Meeting

By VideoConference – Zoom

On

23rd May, 2022.

NAME	PRESENT	APOLOGIES	INITIALS
Patricia Rickard Clarke.	X		PRTC
David Byrne.	X		DB
Colm Nolan	X		CN
Annmarie O'Connor	X		AMOC
Louise O'Mahony	X		LOM
Nora Owen.	X		NO
Amanda Phelan.	X		AP
Phelim Quinn.		X	PQ
Mervyn Taylor.	X		MT

IN ATTENDANCE:

NAME	POSITION	PRESENT	APOLOGIES	INITIALS
Tim Hanly.	GM, HSE NSO	X		TH
Ronan Cavanagh	Cavanagh Communications.	X		RC
Paschal Moynihan.	Safeguarding Ireland.	X		PM

ISSUED IN ADVANCE:

- **Board Documents.**
 - Agenda.
 - Draft Minutes of meeting 26th April, 2022.
 - Final approved Minutes Board Meeting 8th March, 2022.
 - Activities 2022 to date.
 - S.I. Financial Report to Board 22nd April to 20th May.
 - Charities Governance Code.
 - Trustee Handbook.
 - Risk Register Feb., 2022

Actions from meeting 26th April.

No.	Action	Status.	Resp.
1	Finalise Workplan for 2022.	Awaiting finalisation of planning and funding.	PTRC, PM, CN, RC
2.	File approved Board minutes of March 8 th .	Completed.	PM
3.	Commission RedC poll on safeguarding awareness as comparator to poll conducted in 2016.	TBC	RC.
4.	Circulate Trustee Handbook to Board members.	Completed.	PM.
5.	Letter to HSE from S.I. re status of new safeguarding policy	Ongoing discussion with JP Nolan.	PTRC & PM
6.	Finalise Adult safeguarding Charter arrangements.	Completed.	PM
7.	Commence preparations for National Adult Safeguarding Day.	Ongoing.	RC.
8.	Organise and prepare for AGM.	Completed.	PTRC & PM
9.	Arrange and plan meeting with Minister for Justice	Completed.	PTRC, NO, PM, RC.
10.	Write to Dr. Browne in acknowledgement of completion of research.	Completed.	PTRC & PM.

1. Welcome.

- The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and noted apologies as above.

2. Conflicts of Interest.

- The Chair asked if Board members had any conflicts of interest to declare. There were no declared conflicts of interest.

3. Draft Minutes of Meeting of April 26th.

- There were no suggested amendments to the draft minutes and they were adopted and signed off by Chair.

4. Actions from previous meeting.

- The Chair updated the meeting on the status of actions from the previous meeting as per the table above.
- In relation to finalisation of the Workplan for 2022, this will be completed following consultation with the Public Awareness Reference Group and NSO, and submission of proposal to JP Nolan in HSE.
- In relation to writing to the HSE on its safeguarding policy, S.I. received an update at its recent meeting with JP Nolan of the HSE. The HSE is awaiting the publication of the DoH Adult Safeguarding Policy.
- On the issue of conducting a Red C poll on safeguarding awareness, this is likely to be carried out as part of SI plans for public awareness campaigns this year.
- Preparations for National Adult Safeguarding Day will be finalised following discussions with the Public Awareness Reference Group and the HSE NSO.

5. Activities.

- The Chair referred to the Activities Report and highlighted some specific matters.
- The voluntary Adult Safeguarding Charter is now live on the S.I. website. There had been significant media interest and some local radio interviews conducted in relation to it.
- The SI lobbying returns had been completed for the first four months of this year.
- SI had given a presentation at the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland at its National Conference on 12th May. Though the focus was on child safeguarding, the National Board is proposing to develop a national standardised adult safeguarding policy across Ireland.
- The Chair said the members of SI had met with the Minister for Justice and there would be further detail on this later on in the meeting.

6. Finance Update.

- The Chair invited CN to update the meeting on the financial position.
- CN referred to the Financial Report issued to the Board in advance of today's meeting, covering the period April 22nd to May 20th.

7. Annual Report and Financial Statement for Year Ended 31/12/2021.

- The Chair invited CN to update the Board members on S.I.'s audited accounts for Year Ended 31/12/2021.
- CN noted that the audited accounts had been circulated to Board members on 29th April.
- CN said that FMB Advisory Limited had carried out the audit and, when and if these are signed off, they will be in the public domain.
- CN said that the auditors had found no issues, errors or mis-statements

National Safeguarding Ireland (trading as Safeguarding Ireland) (a company limited by guarantee) CRO #612163.

RCN #20204851 Contact: paschal@safeguardingireland.org

Directors: David Byrne, Colm Nolan, Louise O'Mahony, Annmarie O'Connor, Nora Owen, Amanda Phelan, Phelim Quinn, Patricia T Rickard-Clarke (Chair), Mervyn Taylor.

with the accounts.

- CN then took the Board members through the accounts and invited any questions.
- NO queried the date on the accounts and CN confirmed that when the accounts have been formally adopted and signed, they will be returned to FMB for signing and the date will be corrected at that stage.
- CN said that the final accounts, when signed off, would be sent to HSE.
- PM asked if FMB will post the audited accounts to the Companies Registration Office website and CN confirmed that they would.
- The Chair asked if there was a proposer for adoption of the accounts. Adoption was proposed by NO and seconded by AP.
- CN thanked MT in particular for his availability in the management of payments. He also thanked the Chair, RC and PM for their assistance.
- The Chair thanked CN, on behalf of the Board, for his work throughout the year.

8. Public Awareness.

- The Chair invited RC to update the meeting.
- RC said that the main upcoming issue was the launch of the research document. There will be two parts. The first part will be a virtual launch for the 31st May. This will include a website and media launch, with the key points being a need for the establishment of an independent National Adult Safeguarding Authority, the need for the introduction of adult safeguarding legislation, a need for data sharing where there are concerns of abuse and increased awareness raising.
- He said he will follow this up with further engagement with specific journalists.
- The second engagement is a meeting with elected representatives in the AV House in early June which will then generate further publicity. He said that 9th June is the indicative date for meeting with members of the Oireachtas. The report will be posted out to TD's, SI board members, members of the National Safeguarding Advisory Committee, members of the State Payments Group and the main/appropriate Oireachtas Committees. It will be also available on the SI website.
- DB said he had conversations in the last few weeks in relation to difficulties that older people were having in relation to digital banking. He said that the Bank of Ireland had a telephone number for vulnerable people which was very helpful.
- LOM said this is a live issue and the BPFi continue to look at the whole area of bank closures and how vulnerable customers can be facilitated.
- AMOC said that SI had made a submission on the Consumer Outlook Report published by the Central Bank of Ireland and the need for assistance for people to use digital products. She said this is not just an

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issue in relation to bank closures but an ongoing issue for financial services.

- TH said that, in relation to public awareness, the HSE NSO, in collaboration with TCD, was planning a conference to coincide with World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 15th.
- RC said that he understood that the full implementation of the ADMCA may be delayed and this will make the timing of some of the SI public awareness events a little uncertain at this time.
- AP said she had met with the Director of the DSS who felt that full implementation would not happen before July.
- The Chair confirmed that the Amending Bill is likely to go to the Oireachtas on 31st May and the Schedules to be completed by mid-June. The High Court has recommenced hearing Wardship applications. She said it's likely that it will be July before the ADMCA is fully commenced. She said there are some issues, including those relating to the Fair Deal Scheme and Deprivation of Liberty that need to be resolved. In relation to timing of public awareness, SI will need to be flexible.

9. Five Nations Conference Series Update.

- The Chair informed the meeting that the HSE and SI were now organising the administrative component of the Five Nations Conference Series. She said the first of these to take place this year took place on May 13th with the title of the conference - ***Safeguarding Vulnerable Dependent Drinkers: A review of law, policy and practice***. The presentation was given by Mike Ward, Senior Consultant, Alcohol Change, UK.

10. Update/launch of research document – ‘Identifying Risks – Sharing Responsibilities: The Case for a Comprehensive Approach to Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults’.

- The Chair said that this item had largely been covered under the Public Awareness update above. However, she did confirm that SI had recently met with the Minister for Justice in relation to the launch of the research paper and also issues relating to the extension of the Domestic Violence Act (coercive control) and the need for data sharing regulations. She confirmed that it was a good meeting and that the Minister for Justice invited SI to stay in touch.

11. State Payments Group.

- The Chair invited AMOC to update the meeting on the State Payments Group.
- AMOC and that the Group had not met since the last SI Board meeting and there was nothing further to report at this time.

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12. AOB

- PM advised Board members that the Risk Register would be a standing item on the Board meeting agenda in the future and encouraged all Board members to familiarise themselves with the Risk Register. He further advised Board members that if there were any amendments needed to the Risk Register to let him or the Chair know.
- PM confirmed that he would arrange for Board members' passwords to the SI member section on the website to be changed in the coming weeks.
- PM drew Board members' attention to the Charities Governance Code. He said that this had been circulated previously but it was important that all Board members are aware of the contents of the Charities Governance Code and be familiar with requirements of Charity Trustees. In this respect, he also drew Board members' attention to the recently circulated SI Trustee Handbook.

Actions from meeting.

No.	Action	Timeframe	Resp.
1	File adopted Minutes of Board Meeting April 26 th .	End June.	PM.
2.	Submit Proposal to HSE on National Adult Safeguarding Day.	End June.	PTRC, CN, RC, PM.
3.	Finalise SI Workplan 2022.	Mid July.	PTRC, CN, RC, PM.
4.	Commission RedC Poll on adult Safeguarding Awareness.	TBC	RC.
5.	Explore ways to distribute Research Document to Oireachtas members.	Mid-June.	NO.
6.	Send final audited accounts to HSE if adopted by membership.	End May.	CN & PM.
7.	Media Launch of Research Document.	End May.	RC.
8.	Meet with Oireachtas members re Research Document.	TBC.	PTRC, NO, RC & PM.
9.	Post Research Doc to various parties as above	Mid-June.	RC.
10.	Post Research Document on SI website.	Mid-June.	RC.
11.	Risk Register to be standing item on Board meeting agenda.	Ongoing.	PM.
12.	Board members to read the Charities Governance Code and the Trustee Handbook.	End June.	All.
13.	Passwords for members' section of website to be updated.	End June.	PM

Meeting Concluded at 17.15

Next Meeting: 26th July.

Note meeting dates for 2022.

18 January

08 March

26 April

23 May

26 July

13 September

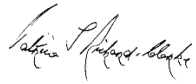
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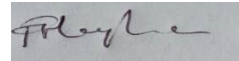
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Signed: Patricia Rickard-Clarke.



Chair.

Paschal Moynihan.



Secretary.