DIOCESAN Safeguarding Self-Evaluation 2023

All entries should relate to the period from 1st January 2023 to 31st December 2023. Your self-evaluation questionnaire must be submitted by 28th June 2024.

N.B. The numbering of each question corresponds with the paragraph numbering used within 'In God's Image'. This is intended to provide you with a reference point to the relevant safeguarding standard that you are evaluating.

DIOCESE

Please Select ▾

This audit form is being submitted by

Role in Diocese

Please Select ▾

Email address for your receipt

Introduction

How many parishes are in your diocese?

| ex: 23 |

Number only

How many parishes contain more than one Church?

| ex: 23 |

Number only

How many parishes have a dedicated PSC?

| ex: 23 |

Number only

How many parish PSCs have responsibility for more than one Church?

| ex: 23 |

Number only

How many parishes do not have a dedicated PSC?

| ex: 23 |

Number only

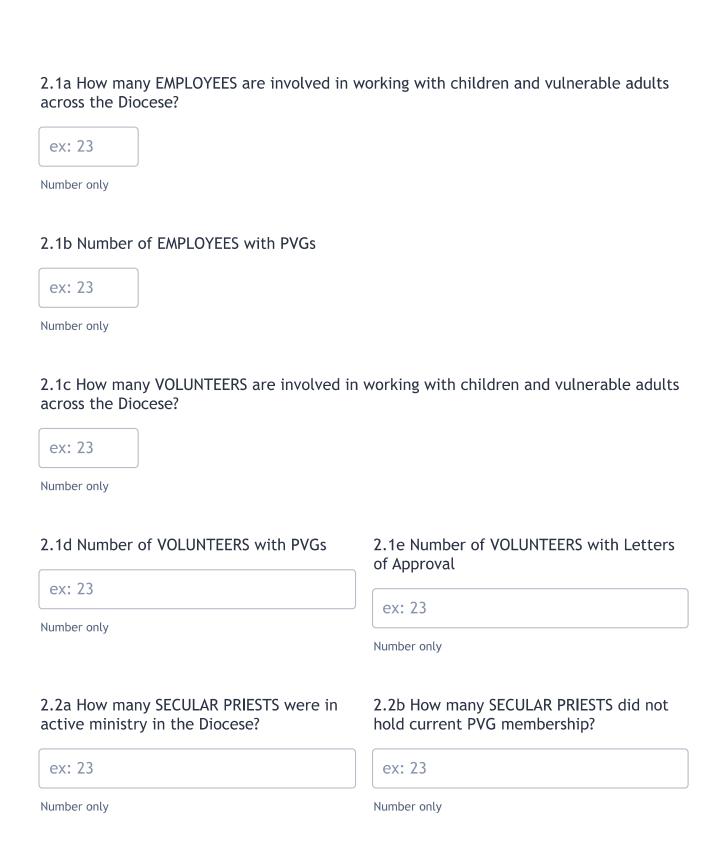# Standard 1: Creating and maintaining safe Church environments

1.1a Were your diocesan premises used by any Church groups for activities involving children or vulnerable adults? (NB NOT Parish premises)

○ Yes   ○ No

1.1b Do you keep a record of each time the premises is used by a Church group?

○ Yes   ○ No

1.1c Please provide number of times diocesan premises have been used.

ex: 23

Number only

1.1d Have any non-Church groups made use of diocesan premises?

○ Yes   ○ No

1.1e How many non-Church groups have used diocesan premises?

ex: 23

Number only

1.1f If answered yes to 1.1b, which of these details does the diocese include in its records?

- [ ] Group/activity name
- [ ] Date & time of event(s)
- [ ] Group leader's contact details
- [ ] Which Safeguarding policy is followed
- [ ] Date of most recent Safeguarding Risk Assessment

1.2a Do you maintain records of Safeguarding Risk Assessments for the activities taking place on diocesan premises?

○ Yes   ○ No

1.2b Does each group have a separate Safeguarding Risk Assessment for its activities?

○ Yes   ○ No

1.2c Do you retain a copy of those Safeguarding Risk Assessments?

○ Yes   ○ No

1.2d Have you provided/received training in completing Safeguarding Risk Assessments?

○ Yes   ○ No

1.4a Does the diocese promote the BCoS Guidance on the Safe Use of Social Media?

○ Yes   ○ No

1.4b Do you provide internet access to the public in any diocesan premises?

○ Yes   ○ No

1.4c Do you have adequate security measures applied to your internet network?

○ Yes   ○ No

1.4d Do you livestream services any events from diocesan premises?

○ Yes   ○ No

1.4e If so, do you display notices to advise those attending of this?

○ Yes   ○ No

1.5a Do you have any Safe Worship Plans in place in your diocese?

○ Yes   ○ No

1.5b How many Safe Worship Plans are currently in place across the Diocese?

ex: 23

number only

1.5c Has any awareness training been provided across the diocese in relation to how Safe Worship Plans operate?

○ Yes   ○ No

1.5d Were there any particular challenges in managing Safe Worship Plans?

Type here...

1.5e Do you have formal engagement arrangements with any statutory bodies?

○ Yes   ○ No

1.5f Did any diocesan representative attend any formal meetings with statutory bodies in respect of the management of high risk offenders?

○ Yes   ○ No

Standard 2: Safely recruiting clergy, religious, lay employees and volunteers

2.1a How many EMPLOYEES are involved in working with children and vulnerable adults across the Diocese?

> ex: 23

Number only

2.1b Number of EMPLOYEES with PVGs

> ex: 23

Number only

2.1c How many VOLUNTEERS are involved in working with children and vulnerable adults across the Diocese?

> ex: 23

Number only

2.1d Number of VOLUNTEERS with PVGs

> ex: 23

Number only

2.1e Number of VOLUNTEERS with Letters of Approval

> ex: 23

Number only

2.2a How many SECULAR PRIESTS were in active ministry in the Diocese?

> ex: 23

Number only

2.2b How many SECULAR PRIESTS did not hold current PVG membership?

> ex: 23

Number only

2.2c How many PERMANENT DEACONS were in active ministry in the Diocese?

ex: 23

Number only

2.2d How many PERMANENT DEACONS did not hold current PVG membership?

ex: 23

Number only

2.2e How many RELIGIOUS PRIESTS were in active ministry in the Diocese?

ex: 23

Number only

2.2f How many RELIGIOUS PRIESTS did not hold current PVG membership?

ex: 23

Number only

2.3a Total number of VISITING CLERGY and RELIGIOUS who supplied ministry in parishes.

ex: 23

Number only

2.3b Does the Diocese retain a record of the details of VISITING CLERGY and RELIGIOUS who supplied ministry in parishes?

○ Yes   ○ No

2.3c Does the Diocese retain a record of the training delivered to VISITING CLERGY and RELIGIOUS who supplied ministry in parishes?

○ Yes   ○ No

2.4a Total number of those who participated in PASTORAL PLACEMENTS within the parishes of the diocese. (This relates to seminarians, diaconate candidates and religious in formation.)

ex: 23

Number only

2.4b Does the Diocese retain a record of those who participated in PASTORAL PLACEMENTS within the parishes of the diocese.

○ Yes   ○ No

2.4c Does the Diocese retain a record of any training delivered to those who participated in PASTORAL PLACEMENTS within the parishes of the diocese.

○ Yes   ○ No

2.5a Did the diocese receive any complaints relating to the behaviour of the clergy, employees or volunteers that breached the Standards of Conduct as set out in paragraphs 2.2.3, 2.4.5 and 2.5.1 of In God's Image?

○ Yes   ○ No

2.5b Does the diocese maintain a record of sanctions imposed for any breaches of conduct?

○ Yes   ○ No

Standard 3: Responding to safeguarding concerns and allegations of abuse

Safeguarding CONCERNS - Please refer to the guidance contained within paragraphs 3.2.2 and 3.2.4 of In God's Image.

3.2a Did the diocese receive any reports of a Safeguarding CONCERN (not meeting Allegation threshold) as defined in paragraph 3.2.2 of In God's Image?

○ Yes   ○ No

3.2b Total number of Safeguarding CONCERNS received.

[ex: 23]

Number only

3.2c Does the diocese retain a record of the Safeguarding CONCERNS received?

○ Yes   ○ No

3.2d Does the diocese retain a record of the action taken to the Safeguarding CONCERNS received?

○ Yes   ○ No

3.2e How confident is the diocese that the Safeguarding CONCERNS received fall within the definition described in paragraph 3.2.2 of In God's Image?

○ Very Confident

○ Confident

○ Unsure

○ Not confident

Please enter below the numbers of ALLEGATIONS reported to the Diocese and how these were referred. (Please refer to the guidance contained within paragraph 3.2.3 of In God's Image)

3.2.1a Did the diocese receive any ALLEGATIONS during the reporting period?

○ Yes

○ No

3.2.1b Total Number of ALLEGATIONS reported to the Diocese

| e.g., 23 |

3.2.1c Number of ALLEGATIONS received that related to children

| ex: 23 |

Number only

3.2.1d Number of Child ALLEGATIONS referred to Police

| ex: 23 |

Number only

3.2.1e Number of Child ALLEGATIONS referred to DRAMT

| ex: 23 |

Number only

3.2.1f Number of ALLEGATIONS received that related to Vulnerable Adults

| ex: 23 |

Number only

3.2.1g Number of Vulnerable Adult ALLEGATIONS referred to Police

3.2.1h Number of Vulnerable Adult ALLEGATIONS referred to DRAMT

ex: 23	ex: 23
Number only	Number only

Please provide details below on how the above ALLEGATIONS were reported.

3.3a Number of ALLEGATIONS reported directly by victims/survivors

ex: 23

Number only

3.3b Number of ALLEGATIONS reported by friends/family of victims/survivors

ex: 23

Number only

3.3c Number of ALLEGATIONS reported by advocate for victims/survivors

ex: 23

Number only

3.3d Number of ALLEGATIONS reported by solicitors acting for victims/survivors

ex: 23

Number only

3.4a Does the diocese retain a written record of the decisions taken by the DRAMT, and the rationale for those decisions?

○ Yes   ○ No

3.4b Does the diocese retain a record of reflections by DRAMT on how ALLEGATIONS have been managed?

○ Yes   ○ No

3.4c Does the diocese retain a written record of the referrals made to the statutory authorities?

○ Yes   ○ No

3.4d Does the diocese retain a record of media releases made in relation to any ALLEGATIONS received?

○ Yes   ○ No

Please enter below the numbers of cases where you know the result of ACTIONS taken as a result of the ALLEGATIONS made.

3.4e Total number of CLERGY/RELIGIOUS restricted from ministry

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ex: 23
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Number only

3.4f Total number of EMPLOYEES/VOLUNTEERS restricted from duties

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ex: 23
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Number only

3.4g Number of ALLEGATIONS authorities are still investigating

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ex: 23
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Number only

3.4h Number of ALLEGATIONS where criminal charges were brought

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ex: 23
```
Number only

3.4i Number of ALLEGATIONS resulting in Canonical Investigation proceeding.

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ex: 23
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Number only

3.4j Number of ALLEGATIONS where Canonical Investigation has concluded.

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ex: 23
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Number only

Please enter below numbers of cases where you know of OUTCOMES of Church investigations.

3.4k Restricted Ministry

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ex: 23
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3.4l Dismissed from clerical state

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ex: 23
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Number only

Number only

3.4m Employee suspended

ex: 23

Number only

3.4n Employee dismissed

ex: 23

Number only

3.4o Volunteers removed from duty

ex: 23

Number only

3.4p Alleged abuser deceased

ex: 23

Number only

Standard 4: Providing care and support for those who have experienced abuse

4.1a Were any victims/survivors made known to the diocese during the reporting period?

○ Yes   ○ No

4.1b How many victims/survivors disclosed, or were made known, to the Diocese during the reporting period?

| ex: 23 |

Number only

4.1c How many of these disclosures were. . .

	Number
emergencies requiring immediate intervention	
allegations of non-recent abuse	
allegations of ongoing abuse	
disclosed by survivors	
reported by others	

4.1d Has the diocese provided any specific training to personnel in how to respond to a disclosure of abuse (i.e. Trauma Informed Listening)?

○ Yes   ○ No

4.1e Please provide details of this training.

| |

4.2a In how many of these disclosures were the following actions taken by the Diocese?

	Number
DSA met with survivor	
Survivors were accompanied to meeting	
Survivors were advised that Diocese will report to Police	
Key points covered in meeting were agreed with survivor	
Member of clergy met with survivor	

4.2b In how many cases did a survivor accept the offer of meeting with the DSA?

ex: 23

Number only

4.2c In how many cases did a survivor accept the offer of meeting with the Bishop?

ex: 23

Number only

4.3a In how many cases was support requested to be provided to the family of a survivor?

ex: 23

Number only

4.3b In how many cases was support provided to the family of a survivor?

ex: 23

Number only

4.4a In how many cases was support arranged for others who may have been affected by disclosures of abuse.

4.5a What support is made available by the diocese to victims/survivors of abuse?

- ☐ Signposted to relevant counselling/support services
- ☐ Referral to Raphael Counselling service
- ☐ Referral to other counselling/support service with agreement of victim/survivor
- ☐ Direct support to victim/survivor from DSA
- ☐ Referral to a service that provides spiritual/psychological healing (e.g. Grief to Grace)

4.5b In how many cases were the following forms of support offered to those who disclosed abuse?

	Number
Signposted to relevant counselling/support services	
Referral to Raphael Counselling service	
Referral to other counselling/support service with agreement of victim/survivor	
Direct support to victim/survivor from DSA	
Referral to a service that provides spiritual/psychological healing (e.g. Grief to Grace)	

4.5c What information/advice for survivors of abuse do you provide on the Diocesan website?

	We provide
Details about who to contact in the Church	☐
Descriptions of available support services	☐
Details of external agencies offering support	☐
Description of Church procedure when an allegation is disclosed	☐

Church's mandatory reporting policy	☐
Advice to report directly to the Police	☐
Statement of apology for any abuse carried out by Church personnel	☐

4.6a Does the diocese have an agreement with a specialised provider of counselling/support service for victims/survivors?

○ Yes   ○ No

4.6b Please provide details of this provider.

[   ]

4.6c Has the diocese produced any information or material designed to support victims/survivors?

○ Yes   ○ No

4.7a Does the diocese or DSAG have any formal engagement with survivor groups in the development of safeguarding practice?

○ Yes   ○ No

4.7b Please provide details of those groups.

[   ]

4.7c Does the diocese or DSAG retain a record of meetings with those groups?

○ Yes   ○ No

4.7d Does the diocese or DSAG evaluate or seek feedback from survivors to inform the development or identification of good practice?

○ Yes   ○ No

4.7e How is this evaluation or feedback process conducted?

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Standard 5: Managing and providing care for respondents to allegations of abuse

5.1a CLERGY subject to allegations of abuse:

	Number
How many CLERGY were subject to allegations of abuse?	
How many were invited to meet the Bishop?	
How many accepted the offer of a Support priest/layperson?	

5.1b RELIGIOUS CLERGY subject to allegations of abuse:

	Number
How many RELIGIOUS CLERGY were identified to the Diocese as being respondents to allegations?	
How many of these RELIGIOUS CLERGY were managed/supported by the Diocese?	

5.1c EMPLOYEES subject to allegations of abuse:

	Number
How many EMPLOYEES were subject to allegations of abuse?	
How many were invited to meet the Bishop?	
How many accepted the offer of a Support Person?	
How many accepted the offer of support from an external agency?	

5.1d DIOCESAN VOLUNTEERS subject to allegations of abuse (not Parish Volunteers):

	Number
How many DIOCESAN VOLUNTEERS were subject to allegations of abuse?	
How many accepted the offer of a Support priest/layperson?	
How many accepted the offer of support from an external agency?	
How many were invited to meet the Bishop?	

5.2a In HOW MANY of all these allegations, did the Diocese instigate procedures to:

	Number
develop a Welfare Monitoring Plan in respect of the respondent?	
restrict the respondent's contact with the parish	
arrange alternative accommodation for the respondent	
provide arrangements for spiritual direction	
provide appropriate financial support	
appoint a trained support person	
arrange clinical supervision	
regularly review monitoring arrangements	

5.2b Does the diocese retain a detailed record of the welfare management procedures put in place for respondents?

○ Yes ○ No

5.2c Does the diocese evaluate the welfare management experience of those respondents provided with support?

○ Yes ○ No

5.2d Did the diocese receive any complaints in respect of how the welfare of respondents was managed?

○ Yes   ○ No

5.2e Was it necessary for the diocese to seek additional information from a statutory authority?

○ Yes   ○ No

5.2f Did you encounter any issues when seeking additional information from a statutory authority? If so, please explain below.

○ Yes   ○ No

5.2g Please provide details of issues encountered:

5.3a Was the diocese engaged in providing any support or welfare management to respondents during the reporting period?

○ Yes   ○ No

5.3b How many of the following categories were provided support in the reporting period?

	Number
Priests	
Deacons	
Seminarians	

Propaedeutic	
Employees	
Volunteers	

5.3c How many people in the Diocese were active in the role of Support Person during the reporting period?

> ex: 23

Number only

5.3d Did the diocese provide any training to those appointed as a Support Person?

○ Yes   ○ No

5.3e How important is it to the diocese that Support Person Training is developed and delivered?

○ Very important

○ Important

○ Neutral

○ Not important

5.4a In how many cases where an allegation was made against a member of the CLERGY:

	Number
did the Bishop (or delegate) inform the parish congregation speedily of the process?	
did the Diocese provide support to the respondent's family?	
did the Diocese offer support/advice to the Parish Administrator?	
did the diocese provide updates to the parish congregation?	
did the Diocese provide guidance, support and training to the support priest / layperson?	

5.4b In how many other cases:

	Number
did the Bishop (or delegate) inform the parish congregation speedily of the process?	
did the diocese provide updates to the parish congregation?	
did the Diocese provide support to the respondent's family?	

Standard 6: Working together to develop a culture of care

6.2a On how many occasions in the past year did the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Group (DSAG) meet?

ex: 23

Number only

6.2b Does the DSAG meet under an agreed Terms of Reference?

○ Yes   ○ No

6.2c Do you securely retain minutes of all DSAG meetings?

○ Yes   ○ No

6.2d Do you make available to the public your Diocesan Safeguarding Action plan?

○ Yes   ○ No

6.2e What Safeguarding issues are discussed within the DSAG? Select all that apply.

- [ ] Overseeing the work of the DSA
- [ ] Compliance with national safeguarding standards
- [ ] Analysis of Safeguarding audits
- [ ] Development and oversight of Safeguarding Action Plans
- [ ] Training plans for clergy, employees and volunteers
- [ ] Engagement and communication with SCSSA
- [ ] Engagement and communication with statutory authorities
- [ ] Safe recruitment issues, including PVG administration
- [ ] Support/counselling services provided to survivors
- [ ] Communication of Safeguarding matters to diocese
- [ ] Other - please describe below

6.2f Please describe what other Safeguarding issues were discussed by the DSAG?

Type here...

6.2g On how many occasions in the past year did the DRAMT meet?

ex: 23

Number only

6.2h Does the DRAMT meet under an agreed Terms of Reference?

○ Yes   ○ No

6.2i Do you securely retain minutes of all DRAMT meetings?

○ Yes   ○ No

6.2j What Safeguarding issues are discussed within the DRAMT? Select all that apply.

- [ ] Overseeing the Safeguarding cases being managed by the DSA
- [ ] Risks attached to reports of allegations of abuse
- [ ] Risks attached to reports of relevant Safeguarding concerns
- [ ] Action to be taken in response to allegations and Safeguarding concerns
- [ ] Issues attached to PVGs: Listing and Barring
- [ ] Monitoring of Safe Worship Plans
- [ ] Management of Welfare Monitoring Plans
- [ ] Development of advice to be provided to Bishop
- [ ] Relevant information shared with statutory authorities
- [ ] Support/counselling services provided to survivors
- [ ] Other - please describe below

6.2k Please describe what other Safeguarding issues were discussed by the DRAMT?

Type here...

6.7a How did the Diocese promote the annual Day of Prayer for those who have experienced abuse?

- [ ] We publicised it via Diocesan newsletters and social media
- [ ] Publicised in parish bulletins
- [ ] The Bishop referred to it in an Ad Clerum letter
- [ ] The Bishop referred to it in a Pastoral Letter to the Faithful
- [ ] The Bishop participated in a service where this was highlighted
- [ ] No action taken
- [ ] Other

6.7b What measures did the diocese adopt to limit the potential impact on survivors from its messaging around the Annual Day of Prayer?

- [ ] Suitable advance warning
- [ ] Signposting of available support services which accompanied messages
- [ ] Grounding or self care message included in the promotion of the day
- [ ] No measures adopted
- [ ] Other; please explain below

6.7c Please provide further detail if necessary in respect of Q 6.7b

Standard 7: Training and support for all responsible for safeguarding

7.1a Did the diocese deliver any Safeguarding Induction training to the clergy, employees or volunteers?

○ Yes   ○ No

7.1b Did the diocese deliver any sessions involving the New Safeguarding Induction Training package?

○ Yes   ○ No

7.1c Did the diocese conduct any evaluations on the effectiveness of these sessions?

○ Yes   ○ No

7.1d How was this training received by those attending?

○ Very positively

○ Positively

○ Neutral

○ Negatively

○ Very negatively

7.1e Do you maintain a record of the evaluations gathered?

○ Yes   ○ No

7.1f Did the diocese maintain delivery of Safeguarding Induction Training - Parts 1 & 2?

○ Yes   ○ No

7.1g What steps did the Diocese take to further promote engagement with 'In God's Image', since the last audit?

☐ We promoted the National Safeguarding Conference (18/11/2023)

☐ We offered awareness-raising sessions on IGI

☐ We have raised awareness of the IGI video

☐ We publicised issues of the Safeguarding Matters newsletter

☐ IGI is uploaded onto our website

☐ No steps taken this year

☐ Other

7.1h How confident is the diocese that there is a strong awareness of In God's Image within the below groups?

	Extremely confident	Good confidence	Some confidence	Not sure
DSAG	☐	☐	☐	☐
DRAMT	☐	☐	☐	☐
Diocesan Trainers	☐	☐	☐	☐
Clergy	☐	☐	☐	☐
PSCs	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other volunteers	☐	☐	☐	☐

7.1i Does the diocese see any requirement for specific In God's Image awareness sessions?

○ Yes   ○ No

7.1j Does the diocese have any plans to improve awareness of 'In God's Image' among clergy, PSCs and others?

Type here...

7.2a Details of specific Safeguarding training sessions offered to the CLERGY.

	Date	Course Title/Topic(s)	Online	No of attendees
1			☐	
2			☐	
3			☐	
4			☐	
5			☐	
6			☐	
7			☐	
8			☐	
9			☐	
10			☐	

7.2b How many of the following participated in Safeguarding Training courses offered by the Diocese?

	Number who participated
Priests	
Deacons	
Seminarians	

Propaedeutic students	
Diaconate students	
New PSCs	
Existing PSCs	
Volunteers	
DSAG members	
DRAMT members	

7.2c Can the Diocese identify any Safeguarding training needs that needs to be addressed as a priority for each group? Please list in order of priority.

	Safeguarding Topic(s)
Bishop	
DSA	
DSAG / DRAMT	
Diocesan Trainers	
Clergy	
PSCs	

7.2d Does the diocese maintain a record of all training sessions delivered and those who participated?

○ Yes   ○ No

7.2e Does the diocese maintain a record of evaluations submitted for those training sessions delivered?

○ Yes   ○ No

7.2f Has the diocese prepared a plan for the necessary training to be delivered in 2024?

◯ Yes   ◯ No

7.2g Does the diocese provide opportunities for Safeguarding practitioners to participate in online training sessions?

◯ Yes   ◯ No

7.2h Does the diocese provide opportunities for Safeguarding practitioners to participate in online training sessions via a specific online learning platform?

◯ Yes   ◯ No

7.4a Does the diocese have a method to share best practice in relation to Safeguarding amongst the clergy, employees and volunteers?

◯ Yes   ◯ No

7.4b How does the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor communicate key Safeguarding messages with practitioners?

☐ Reporting key messages via email

☐ Reporting key messages via publication of newsletters

☐ Via Ad Clerums to the clergy

☐ Reporting key messages on the diocesan website

☐ Reporting key messages via social media platforms

☐ Regular meetings with practitioners

☐ Other; please provide details below

7.4c Please provide detail on other methods used to communicate key Safeguarding messages.

Standard 8: Planning for continuous improvement in safeguarding

8.1 On what date did the Bishop last communicate with all parishes in the Diocese on some aspect of Safeguarding?

DD/MM/YYYY 🗓

dd/mm/yyyy

8.2a How many parishes did NOT submit a completed Parish Audit this year?

ex: 23

Number only

8.2b What actions have been taken to address any NIL, incomplete or late returns by Parishes?

8.3a From your analysis of the Parish Audit returns, what have you identified as the "priority issues" to be addressed by the Diocese?

Type here...

8.3b How do you intend to provide feedback to PPs & PSCs on the issues emerging form Parish Audits?

Type here...

8.3c Who was involved in developing, reviewing and approving the strategic planning that will determine the Diocesan Safeguarding Action Plan?

	Created	Discussed	Approved	Reviewed progress
Bishop	☐	☐	☐	☐
DSAG	☐	☐	☐	☐
VG/VE	☐	☐	☐	☐
DSA	☐	☐	☐	☐
Others	☐	☐	☐	☐

8.3d How does the Diocese communicate its Safeguarding Action Plan to others?

	Copies distributed	Posted on website	Referenced in Diocesan communications
To Clergy	☐	☐	☐
To Parishes	☐	☐	☐
To Employees	☐	☐	☐
To general public	☐	☐	☐

9.1 Please note here any other information or comments, either relating to any of the above questions, or to other matters that are relevant to Safeguarding.

Type here...

You should review the pages of the self-evaluation questionnaire to ensure that you are satisfied with all the entries. When you are ready to SUBMIT, click on the blue box below which says: **Click here to submit your completed questionnaire**.

You should see an immediate acknowledgement of your submission.
You should also receive an email message providing you with an EDIT link and a PDF copy of your submitted data. *Ticking "I consent" below indicates that you agree to receiving emails about this.*

(Please check for this in your Junk /Spam folder for these email messages.)

Please select "I consent" below to confirm that you consent to the information you provide in this form being shared with the SCSSA for the purposes of monitoring and evaluating Safeguarding practice in your diocese. *

☐ I consent.