

## **Vincentians response to review of Safeguarding Practice, 23 October 2014**

We, the Vincentians, have today published the review of the National Board for Safeguarding Children into safeguarding practice in our Congregation. We take this opportunity to thank the members of the Board for their work.

We sincerely apologise to those who were abused by members of our Congregation and acknowledge the deep suffering of survivors and the ongoing traumatic effects of their ordeals. We will continue to strive to respond in a compassionate way to assist them in their journey towards healing.

This review deals with allegations made against 13 members of our Congregation over a fifty year period, dating back to the 1950s, 11 of whom are deceased.

The report shows that we are fully compliant with guidelines in regard to reporting and responding to all allegations and we will continue to ensure that our safeguarding procedures are thoroughly implemented; this will include the implementation of the recommendations made by the National Board. (These recommendations are listed on page 30 of the Review).

We accept the findings of the review and make a firm commitment to implement all eight recommendations.

We encourage any person who has been abused and has not reported this to consider making contact through any of the offices and agencies listed below:

The **Designated Officer for Vincentians in Ireland** is Fr. Paschal Scallon CM, and he can be contacted on **01 8102566** or on email: [paschal.scallon@stpetersphibsboro.ie](mailto:paschal.scallon@stpetersphibsboro.ie)

The **Designated Officer for Vincentians in England** is Fr. Kevin O'Shea CM, and he can be contacted on 0044 208 959 1021 or on email: [oshea\\_kevin@hotmail.com](mailto:oshea_kevin@hotmail.com)

**THE GARDA SÍOCHÁNA** can be contacted on: 01 6663430

**TUSLA** the Child and Family Agency can be contacted on: Tel: 01 8708000

*We also ask those who were abused to consider contacting the independent and confidential **Towards Healing** Support Service:* R of I Tel: Freephone **1800 303416**  
NI and UK Tel: Freephone **0800 0963315**

Details on [www.towardshealing.ie](http://www.towardshealing.ie)

**TOWARDS PEACE**, the spiritual support service, can be contacted on: 01 5053028

The **National Board for Safeguarding Children** in the Catholic Church in Ireland (NBSCCCI) can be contacted on: 01 5053124

**Ends**

Media queries to Fr Paschal Scallon CM, 01 8102566 / email: [paschal.scallon@stpetersphibsboro.ie](mailto:paschal.scallon@stpetersphibsboro.ie)  
Also to Young Communications at 087 2471520