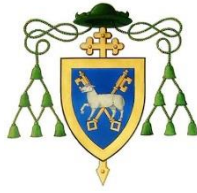


# Down and Connor Diocesan Trust



## SAFEGUARDING SUPPORT PERSON PANEL MEMBER

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Down and Connor Diocesan Trust is committed to providing support that facilitates the healing process for victims and survivors of abuse and their families. This commitment is outlined in the Diocesan Safeguarding Plan 2021-2024 and the Diocesan Pastoral Strategy. It is in keeping with the requirements of the Standards and Guidance Document 2016, issued by the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland (NBSCCCI) which can be viewed at: <https://www.safeguarding.ie/policy-guidance/policy-document>

The concept of a 'Support Person' is outlined in the Standards and Guidance Document issued by the NBSCCCI specifically:

- Standard [2] - Procedures for Responding to Child Protection Suspicions, Concerns, Knowledge or Allegations, *and*
- Standard [3] - Care and Support of the Complainant which each Diocese has agreed to implement.
- The Diocesan Trust wishes to offer victims and survivors, and their families, the opportunity to meet with a Diocesan Support Person.
- It is the intention of the Diocesan Trust to establish and maintain a panel of people, on a service provision arrangement, to call upon to fulfill the role of the Support Person.
- An individual from the Support Person Panel will then be engaged as and when required.
- Victims, survivors, and their families can select from the Panel who they wish to undertake the role of Support Person.
- Other factors considered in selecting a specific Support Person from the Panel will include any conflict of interest and availability to undertake the role.
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) training will be delivered to those engaged in the role of Support Person.
- Appointment to the Support Panel will be agreed and reviewed on an annual basis on the anniversary of appointment.