

Appendix 14: Legislation for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults/Adults at Risk – Northern Ireland

Adult Safeguarding: Prevention and Protection in Partnership – July 2015

http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/hss/safeguarding_vulnerable_adults/safeguarding_vulnerable_adult_s-resourcelibrary.htm

Adult safeguarding policy to improve safeguarding arrangements for adults who are at risk of harm from abuse, exploitation or neglect, for the purpose of reducing the prevalence of harm.

Criminal Law Act (NI) 1967

In Northern Ireland, whilst there are clauses, under the Criminal Law Act (NI) 1967 Sec 5 it is an offence not to report an arrestable crime to the police, which by definition, includes most crimes against children and adults.

Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups (Northern Ireland) Order 2007 and Protection of Freedoms Act 2012

These set out measures to prevent unsuitable adults from working with children.

The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/child-protection-system/northern-ireland/legislation-policy-guidance/>

Provides the legislative framework for Northern Ireland's child protection system. It sets out: parental responsibilities and rights, and duties and powers public authorities have to support children and intervene if there are concerns about a child.

Safeguarding Board Northern Ireland (SBNI)

<http://www.safeguardingni.org/>

Provide coordination and guidance to organisations in their work to safeguard children.

SBNI Strategic plan for Keeping Children Safe 2013-2016

<http://www.safeguardingni.org/sites/default/files/sites/default/files/imce/Strategic%20Plan%20Children%27s%20Version.pdf> Children's version

A Short Guide to Regional Policy and Procedures

<http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/acpcregionalstrategyshortguide.pdf>

UNOCINI (Understanding the Needs of Children in Northern Ireland)

http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/acpc_policy_procedures_amendments_-_pdf.pdf

Provides a framework and language to understand and express the needs of children and their families.

The Safe Parenting Handbook http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/sph_english.pdf

Offers ideas and information around core parenting issues, listing some of the warning signs of particular difficulties and offering helpful tips.

Criminal records disclosure checks are carried out by **AccessNI** - www.nidirect.gov.uk/

Further details of safeguarding legislations, policy and publications can be found on the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety site:

http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/child_protection_publications