



**catholic office for the protection of children and vulnerable adults**

**annual report 2005**

## Catholic Office for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults (COPCA)

### Annual Report 2005

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If you need to make contact with a child protection co-ordinator in a diocese or religious congregation, contact details are available from the relevant diocese or religious congregation.

# foreword

by Archbishop Nichols



*Archbishop Nichols*

This is the fourth annual report on the work of child protection that I have presented. It has been put together by Eileen Shearer, the Director of our national Office for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults (COPCA) and it provides a picture of the work done not only by that Office but also by each diocese and religious congregation.

This report, together with its three predecessors, gives a picture of steady and well-founded progress in this most sensitive area of responsibilities in the life of the Catholic Community. I am proud to present it.

In doing so I want first to thank all who willingly involve themselves in the work of child protection and in responding to allegations and incidents of abusive behaviour within the Church community, whenever they took place. This is the double thrust of their work, whether in parishes, dioceses, religious congregations or in the national office.

Of course it is very difficult to give a true and accessible picture of all this work in the dry statistics of a report. So my thanks go beyond the message conveyed in these pages to include the great emotional cost that is often associated with this work and the countless hours spent assisting, comforting and guiding those involved in these matters.

This report covers matters of child protection which relate directly to cases reported by the Church to the Statutory Authorities; it is also increasingly true that our Child Protection workers have developed a high degree of credibility in partnership working with external agencies, working together to help them to carry out essential work in preventing abuse and in managing risks to the public. It is our privilege to respond to them as best we can. But all that work is not included in this report.

The report gives a picture of the progressive work of child protection: the build up of parish representatives; their support and training; the implementation of policies covering a range of issues; the systematic response to allegations; the following through of cases. While attention may readily be directed to the numbers of allegations received and acted upon, the real substance of the work achieved during this year lies in the work of creating thoroughly safe environments in which the loving work of the Church may proceed in confidence.

This year has also seen considerable work carried out on the COPCA web-site. This will be an important tool for making information more easily available, offering guidance on policy matters and improving communication between all who work in this field. Indeed the regular meetings between all who do so, organised by COPCA, are proving to be a source of encouragement and renewed dedication.

On behalf of the members of the COPCA Board, I welcome this report. I thank Eileen Shearer and her small team for their untiring effort and I congratulate all involved in this work for their achievements and for the growing confidence which is permeating the Catholic community in these matters, which have been so very painful for many.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads '+ Vincent Nichols'.

+Vincent Nichols  
Archbishop of Birmingham  
Chairman COPCA Management Board March 2006

# executive summary

This independent Report to the Bishops' Conference and the Conference of Religious in England & Wales for 2005 charts the continuing success of the Catholic Church in moving forward to become a model of best practice in protecting vulnerable people. Lord Nolan's recommendations in *A Programme for Action*, published in 2001, are being followed up with energy and commitment at all levels in the Church.

Prevention is the long-term key to this effort, and the Church has continued to make great strides in preventing unsuitable people from gaining access to vulnerable people of all ages, in raising awareness among those who work with children and vulnerable adults, and in ensuring that expert professional advice is always available to Church personnel responsible for these matters.

The aim of our work on future prevention is to deter potential abusers from attempting to join the Church in any role, by sending a message that rigorous checks are made, and to raise awareness among all those involved in Church activities of the possibility of abuse.

## The 2005 Report shows that:

- Nearly 18,000 CRB checks have been completed on
  - clergy and religious
  - all those working in the child protection system
  - all employees working with children & vulnerable adults
  - all new recruits
  - existing volunteers

This is 4000 more than in 2004.

- Training has been prioritised, with all dioceses reporting that they have a specific plan in place, and with nearly 400 training events held for 5,000 people during 2005.

Since 2003, over 14,000 people have received training.

- Local Child Protection Representatives are in place in all but 176 of 2,600 parishes.

These volunteer roles act to:

- Raise awareness among parishioners and act as a listening post for anyone with concerns
- Help carry out CRB checks in parishes
- Make sure all events and activities for children or vulnerable adults are safe.

- The majority of diocesan Child Protection Commissions, which are responsible for all child protection matters, are in a position to provide independent expert advice to dioceses through the members from the Police, Social Services or NSPCC and the Probation Service.

The Church is committed to creating a culture of vigilance and transparency in its efforts in protecting vulnerable people, and it is a measure of our success that this 2005 Report demonstrates that people have confidence in the Church to come forward and report their concerns about abuse. As in previous years, it is clear that few cases result in prosecution, and the need to ensure that the Church exercises its duty of care to protect the public remains a priority in these circumstances.

## Total Number of Reports:

- **In 2005**, 60 reports of alleged abuse (of all types of abuse, and committed by volunteers, employees, religious and clergy) were passed on to the Police. These cases involved 75 alleged victims, and 59 alleged offenders.



*Eileen Shearer, Director COPCA*

# executive summary

- **In 2004** 100 reports of alleged abuse (of all types of abuse, and committed by volunteers, employees, religious and clergy) were passed on to the Police. These cases involved 153 alleged victims and 100 alleged offenders.
- **In 2003**, the comparable figures were 62 reports, involving 86 alleged victims & 62 alleged offenders.

## Incidents occurring prior to 2005:

- Of the 75 alleged victims in the reports made in 2005, 54 alleged abuse taking place before 2005, covering a period of 65 years, and involving alleged abusers who have since died.

## Incidents occurring during 2005:

- 21 alleged victims reported abuse occurring in 2005; of these, 5 (17 in 2004) were allegedly committed by clergy: 2 related to sexual abuse (compared to 11 in 2004), 1 to child abusive images (compared to 5 in 2004) and 2 to physical abuse (1 in 2004).
- Of the further 16 instances of alleged abuse taking place in 2005, 2 related to religious and 14 (compared with 20 in 2004) were against employees, volunteers and parishioners.

Note: There are 5613 priests working in England and Wales.

## Progress Report on Actions taken by the Statutory Authorities in 2005 & 2004:

### 2005:

Of the 60 reports in 2005, 37 resulted in no further action by the Police.

18 are still under consideration and investigation, and 4 have resulted in prosecution, with no convictions so far. None were reported to the Protection of Children Act List.

### 2004:

Of the 100 reports made, 4 were incorrectly reported; of the remaining 96, 37 resulted in no further action by the Police, 48 are still under consideration and investigation, and 14 have resulted in prosecution, including 3 convictions and 3 cautions so far. 1 was reported to the Protection of Children Act List.

## Progress Report on Actions taken by the Church in 2005:

In all cases where allegations are received and reported to the Police, the individual is temporarily withdrawn from their role and remains so until the close of the statutory investigation. Where concerns remain regarding risk, an assessment of the risk is undertaken, sometimes involving independent experts, and recommendations are made by Child Protection Commissions as to the steps required to safely manage the risk identified. In some cases this is not an issue, for example where the allegation is unfounded, or where the accused is deceased.

Thus, of the 41 allegations of abuse against 40 clergy in 2005, 14 clergy were temporarily withdrawn from active ministry, 4 were undergoing a risk assessment, and 4 were under supervision/in restricted ministry. 2 had been reinstated, 1 received a warning and 4 had been dismissed. In 11 cases no further action was required, for example because the individual was deceased. (**Note:** 2 separate allegations were reported against 1 individual).

## Conclusion

This summary of information about allegations of abuse received this year continues our practice of working transparently in reporting on cases arising during the year, and how they have been handled. It also gives a flavour of the positive achievements of 2005 in building on the efforts of past years' work by everyone in dioceses and religious congregations who are concerned with child protection with the aim of creating an increasingly safe environment for children and young people in the Catholic Church in England & Wales.

# overview of national developments

This has been a year of continued progress in implementing the Recommendations of *A Programme for Action* throughout the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

There are over 200 Religious Congregations based in England and Wales, and they have made great strides during 2005 in developing a workable structure for child protection, despite the complexity and variety of their organisational and internal structures. Work has begun on the development of 4 Regional Religious Commissions, whose required external membership will mirror that in dioceses. Each will be served by several Religious Child Protection Co-ordinators, and each of them will take responsibility for child protection matters in a group of Religious Congregations.

This should improve access to external advice, develop better communication channels, and help in implementing national policy and training more systematically and consistently than has been possible so far.

It will also mean that Religious Congregations will have access to Commissions with a good understanding of the specific issues that arise for them.

The COPCA Management Board has considered how to address the issues surrounding the relationship of Canon Law to the National Child Protection Policies & Procedures, and their status in Church law. A working group has been established, chaired by Bishop Kevin Dunn and including members of the Canon Law Society from Dioceses and Religious Congregations.

A Working Group was also set up to develop our approach to self audit of child protection

policies and procedures, creating a self-audit instrument and planning a pilot process in Dioceses and Religious Congregations.

Progress has also been made in 2005 on developing the COPCA website, which will be an invaluable tool in communicating throughout the Church in England & Wales and with the general public; it will allow access to our policies and procedures and have a section on Frequently Asked Questions. It will be helpful in implementing best practice and in demonstrating transparency in all our work.



*Sally Sanderson Business Manager*

We have almost completed the process of planning and administering our 3-day National Child Protection Conference for 120 delegates on the theme of Partnership: Effective Risk Management.

We are acutely aware of the importance of good administration in ensuring that protection policies are implemented locally. With the arrival of our new Business Manager, we have begun to develop closer relationships with local administrative staff through regular national meetings to

ensure they are well informed and supported in their vital work, in particular in relation to the complexities of administering CRB Disclosures.

We have worked successfully with the Criminal Records Bureau and the Bishops' Conference Secretariat towards resolving a backlog of CRB charges. With the additional help of the Conference of Religious and the Diocesan Finance Secretaries, we are developing a workable invoicing and payment system for CRB Disclosures for the future. COPCA has completed its first Registered Body Assurance visit by the CRB with flying colours in 2005.

# national policy development

The policy development agenda covered in 2005 has been challenging and wide-ranging. Much consultation and discussion has taken place in achieving the progress summarised below.

The key preventative policy for the Catholic Church in England & Wales, **Creating A Safe Environment**, was issued in June 2005.

This policy implements Recommendation 2 of Lord Nolan's Report *A Programme for Action* (2001):

The top priority is to have preventative policies and practices operating effectively in parishes, dioceses and religious orders that will minimise the opportunity for abuse.

The policy builds on the considerable work undertaken on safe recruitment and selection procedures and Criminal Records Bureau checks introduced in 2003.

It is a comprehensive preventative policy based on the principles of Safe from Harm (A Code of Practice for Safeguarding the Welfare of Children in Voluntary Organisations in England & Wales: Home Office, 1993). (Recommendation 21 of *A Programme for Action*).

It covers all aspects of protection for the various activities and events taking place within any church setting - both parish and other local ministry settings. These include events organised by religious communities or parishes, and day trips or residential events such as pilgrimages. Each type of activity is carefully planned and organised to minimise situations where the abuse of children could possibly occur.

Guidance is also included on dealing with unplanned informal contact between adults and children or young people, for example, visitors to presbyteries, religious houses and parish centres, and on the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The policy emphasises both the importance of choosing all those who work with children and young people with care, including the use of CRB Disclosures, and of providing clear roles and responsibilities, alongside child protection training and monitoring and support.

It also contains Codes of Conduct and Guidance, and sample policies on specific issues such as anti-bullying, managing behaviour and on the use of images of children and young people.

The systematic implementation of this crucial element in prevention will take time to carry out in all the activities of the Church in England and Wales. We plan to produce a Parish Pack on Child Protection to facilitate this as soon as possible.

The **Review of Past Cases Guidance** Document has been revised, and has been reviewed by the Board in the light of feedback from Consultation with Dioceses and Religious Congregations. It will be considered by the Bishops' Conference and the Conference of Religious in May 2006. This assists Dioceses and Religious Congregations to carry out a review of any "historic cases" known of in the past but not acted on satisfactorily, in line with Recommendation 70 of *A Programme for Action*.

The **Support Policy** for those who have suffered abuse and those accused of abuse has been revised and ultimately approved by the COPCA Management Board, and will be issued in early 2006 following the Conference of Bishops' and Conference of Religious' agreement to implement it. This is important in establishing a consistent approach to supporting those who have suffered abuse as well as their families, and in ensuring that support is provided for clergy and parishioners who have allegations made against them, as well as for those who have committed abuse, within a clear framework of safe structures, information-sharing and monitoring in each situation.

"CRB checks have increased dramatically as has awareness of the Creating a Safe Environment Policy in Parishes. More Parishes are providing 2 Parish Child Protection Representatives leading to a quicker and more efficient response."

# national policy development

The COPCA Management Board has also considered the first part of the policy on Vulnerable Adults. This relates to the policy on Responding to Allegations, and consideration has also been given to the options for the required Organisational Structures for Vulnerable Adults. Work on this will continue during 2006.

In addition to these main policy development initiatives, action has also been taken by the COPCA Board to address the following policy issues:

- The relationship of Canon Law to the National Child Protection Policies & Procedures, and their status in Church law
- Self-Audit Instrument and Pilot
- National Policy on Roles Requiring CRB Disclosures
- Cross-Boundary Placement Policy
- Revision of the Annual Report Format used to collect information from dioceses and religious congregations
- Awareness raising & policy development work with various organisations whose work takes place in dioceses & parishes: St Vincent de Paul Society, The Polish Mission, HCPT, and The Lourdes Pilgrimages Association, to name but a few.
- The establishment of a Learning Sub-Committee of the Board to ensure that lessons from experience are captured and acted upon.

The COPCA Management Board once again expresses appreciation for the contribution of all who assisted in the development of national policies, and pays tribute to the work of everyone in the dioceses and religious congregations who work so hard to ensure they are implemented locally.



*Claire Jobson, PA to Director*

"We have produced 2 newsletters updating both LCPRs and priests on current issues with regard to policies and their implementation."



*Christine Stewart National Child Protection Officer*

# implementation

## Reports from the dioceses and religious congregations

This section of the Annual Report, and the tables and charts contained within it, give information about the implementation of national policy in parishes and in the work of religious congregations locally. Information about the handling of cases reported during 2005 is also provided, along with an update of cases reported in 2004, where such information is available.

Much of the work that is undertaken by Child Protection Co-ordinators and Officers in conjunction with Diocesan Child Protection Commissions is not recorded here. Increasingly, in some dioceses, reports of abuse occurring in families are made. The time spent in the provision of pastoral support is not reflected here, nor is the vital work of ensuring that those who present a risk of abuse in a Church context, including parishioners, are appropriately managed. The work of liaison where cases cross boundaries, both geographical and between dioceses and or religious congregations, is also immensely time-consuming.

The essential preventative work of awareness raising and of policy implementation at local level continues to require much time and attention.

The figures presented in this Report cannot do justice to the time and effort that is needed to deliver such positive results.

The work undertaken in dioceses and religious congregations by the members of Child Protection Commissions underpins the progress being made in implementing A Programme for Action, and is greatly valued by COPCA, the more so as they give of their time as volunteers.

The following information derives from 22 Diocesan Annual Report Returns and 115 Returns received from Religious Congregations out of 214 issued.

### A. Prevention: Creating a safe environment

#### 1. Child Protection Commissions

The picture in 2005 is one of continuing progress in ensuring that independent expert advice is available, and that transparent processes are in place in Dioceses.

Only 3 dioceses were recorded as not having the required independent child protection expert as Chair of the Child Protection Commission; all Commissions have Police members; only 1 has no social work child protection professional as a member, while 7 have no Probation Service member.

## 2. Appointment of Local Child Protection Representatives (LCPRs)

Information from diocesan Annual Report Returns for 2005 gives the number of parishes with one or more LCPRs, instead of the number of LCPRs, as in previous years, so no direct comparison with 2004 and 2003 is possible.

Table 1

	2005
Number of parishes	2604
Number of parishes with 1 LCPR or more in post as at 31.12.05	2428
Number of LCPRs formally appointed/in process during the year	620
Number of parishes without LCPRs	176

## 3. Criminal Records Bureau Checks

In implementing Lord Nolan's Recommendations 29, 30, 33 & 39 in *A Programme for Action*, much hard work was undertaken in previous years to ensure that all clergy and religious in active ministry, all employees, and all new volunteers undergo CRB checks.

The process of checking new people continues each year, and in addition, all existing volunteers will undergo checks. This is a huge task given the numbers involved and the regular turnover of volunteers each year.

Although targets have been set by the COPCA Board for completion of this work by the end of 2006, current annual rates of processing Disclosures mean that these targets cannot be met within existing resources. While this requirement is stringent, and sets a higher standard than in many other organisations, it may well be true that the highest risk group will be found in the least regulated and supervised area of volunteering, and among those who entered prior to the recent stringent checks we now undertake.

Table 2

	2005			2004			2003		
	CRB Checks initiated	Blemished Disclosures	% of Total Checks	CRB Checks initiated	Blemished Disclosures	% of Total Checks	CRB Checks initiated	Blemished Disclosures	% of Total Checks
Total	17763	99	0.56	14083	95	0.67	5298	39	0.74
By Dioceses	16534	68	0.41	11313	70	0.62	3309	16	0.48
By Religious	1229	31	2.5	2770	25	0.90	1989	23	1.16

**\* NB Definition of Blemished Disclosure:** A "Blemished" Disclosure contains details of all convictions and cautions. Please note however that these are not necessarily specifically related to the protection of children and vulnerable adults and therefore may not result in a non-appointment.

Figure 1

CRB Checks initiated

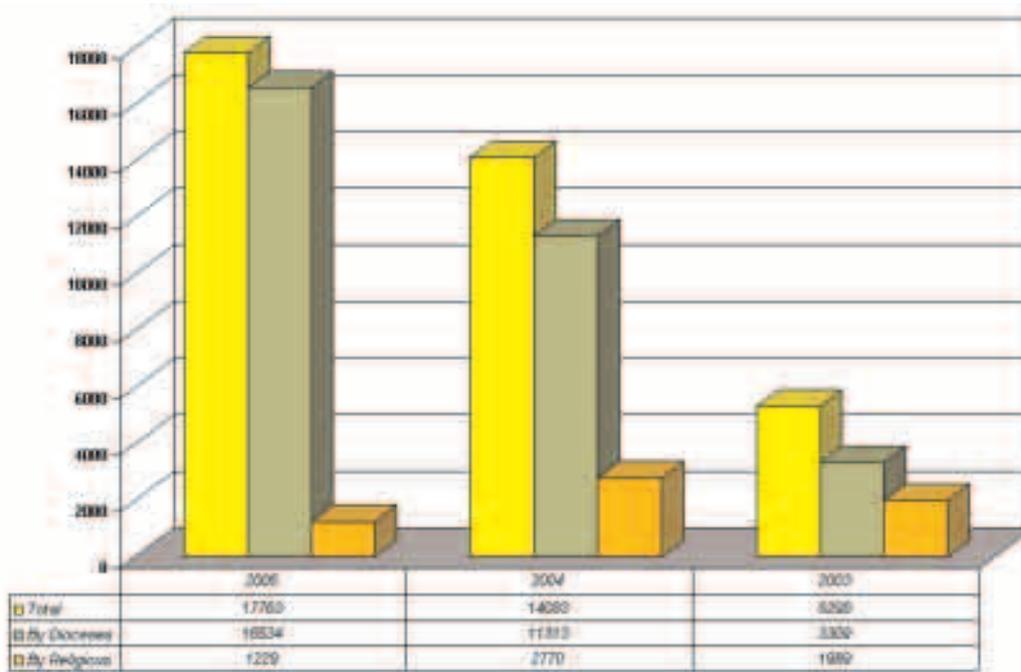
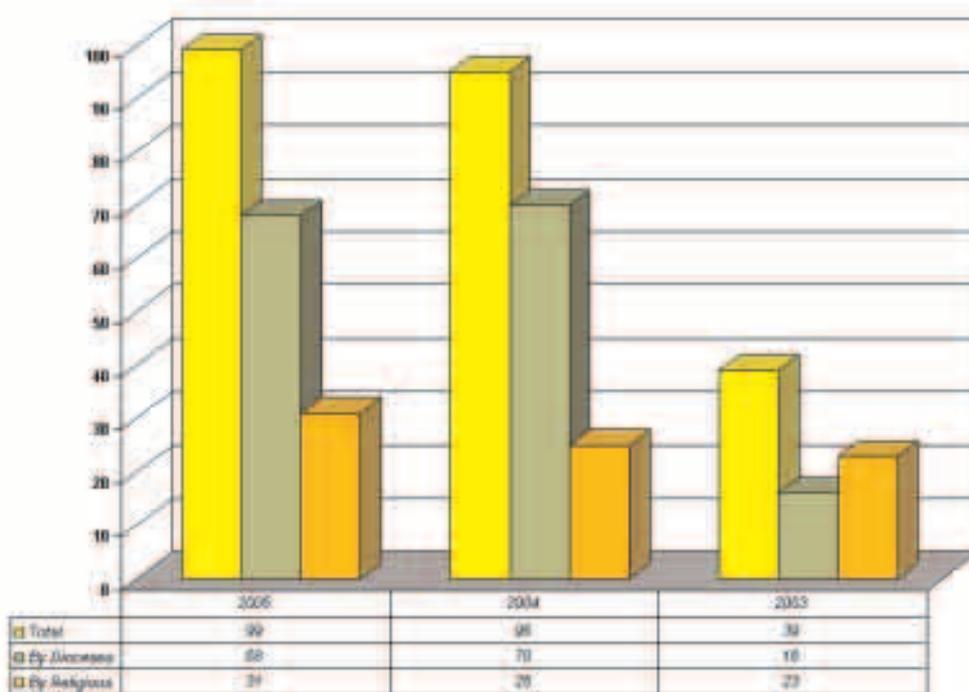


Figure 2

Number of Checks resulting in "Blemished" Disclosure



The number of CRB checks completed in 2005 was almost 18,000, a 26% increase on 14,000 in 2004. The proportion of blemished disclosures decreased slightly, reduced from 0.62% in 2004 to 0.56% in 2005; the proportion of blemished Disclosures was considerably higher (2.5%) among the Religious than in Dioceses (0.41%). None of them however was of a nature that resulted in non-appointment.

#### 4. Training

Training remains an important part of the work of raising awareness of the abuse of children and vulnerable adults and of contributing therefore to the creation of a safe environment within all Church activities. Those responsible for the child protection system need to be well trained and supported.

All 22 Dioceses report that they have a training plan in place, and across dioceses and religious congregations, in total, 463 sessions of training were provided to almost 6000 participants. Topics covered included induction sessions, general child protection awareness raising, introduction to policies, CRB Disclosures, appointment of volunteers, the Creating a Safe Environment Policy, Responding to Allegations and Working with Vulnerable Adults. There have been 170 additional training sessions in 2005 compared to 2004. In dioceses, Child Protection workers themselves received 104 days' training, on subjects including CRB administration, the Protection of Children Act (POCA) List, child abusive images, domestic violence, interview skills, assessment of sex offenders, inter-agency information-sharing, media training, and vulnerable adults.

However, in 5 dioceses, no training was received during 2005, and in 3 dioceses there was no qualified professional in place, nor any training received by them.

### B. Responding to allegations and managing risk

#### 1. Introduction & Summary of Allegations

The following figures relate to allegations of child abuse occurring in a Church setting only. Allegations made to Church representatives about cases of abuse within families and the wider community are referred on to statutory agencies (Police and Social Services Departments).

An allegation is a matter sufficiently serious to warrant reporting to the Statutory Authorities to allow them to consider whether an investigation is required, and whether they may have other information that would assist in evaluating the risk presented.

#### **NB**

The following tables report on the roles of those accused in three categories in order to simplify presentation of the data.

The three categories are: Clergy, Religious and Other, and the roles included in each category are:

**Clergy:** Secular/Diocesan Priests; Religious Priests; Transitional & Permanent Deacons;  
Secular Diocesan/Religious Clerical Students

**Religious:** Male Religious (excluding Priests); Female Religious; Religious in Formation (male & female);  
Unidentified Religious

**Other:** Volunteers; Employees; Parishioners

"Parish training, involving all volunteers of the Catholic Church within the Parish, has progressed well and over half of the Diocese has now received training. This has meant direct contact with over 2000 people where their questions and points of view are discussed openly."

## Guide to Tables

### Reports in 2005

(Tables include comparison to previous years where comparative data is available)

<b>NUMBER OF ALLEGATIONS IN 2005</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>Reported by dioceses</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>
	Source of report	See Table 4
	Concerning whom?	See Table 7
	Action by Church	See Table 10
	Action by Statutory Bodies	See Table 9
<b>Reported by Religious</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>
	Source of report	See Table 5
	Concerning whom?	See Table 7
	Action by Church	See Table 10
	Action by Statutory Bodies	See Table 9
<b>NUMBER OF VICTIMS</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>
	Type of abuse	See Table 6
	In Diocese or Religious Congregation?	See Table 8
	Date of abuse	See Table 8
	Role of abuser	See Table 3

In 2005 a total of 60 allegations were received, of all types of abuse and in relation to all Church roles. 49 occurred in a Diocesan setting and 11 were reported from Religious Congregations. As incomplete information was received from Religious Congregations, however, this figure is unlikely to be an accurate reflection of the position.

These cases involved 75 alleged victims.

41 allegations relating to clergy were reported in 2005, involving 40 individuals. There are approximately 6,500 clergy in England & Wales.

Out of approximately 6000 religious in England and Wales, four allegations were made against them in 2005. 15 allegations related to other roles: 10 were against volunteers; 3 were against parishioners and 2 against employees.

Table 3

Summary of alleged abuse incidents OCCURRING IN 2005 by type of abuse & role of alleged abuser (combined reports from dioceses and religious congregations)

<b>Role of Alleged Abuser</b>	<b>Sexual Abuse</b>	<b>Physical Abuse</b>	<b>Emotional Abuse or Neglect</b>	<b>Child Abusive Images</b>	<b>Total</b>
Diocesan Priest	2	1		1	4
Religious Priest					
Deacon		1			1
Diocesan/Religious Clerical Student					
Religious Brother					
Religious Sister					
Priest or Religious in Formation					
Unidentified Religious					
Volunteer	5	1		4	10
Employee			1		1
Parishioner	5				5
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>21</b>

Of the 75 alleged victims in the reports made in 2005, 54 alleged abuse that took place prior to 2005, covering a period of 65 years (and involving alleged abusers who have since died or left the country). See Table 8, P22 for further detail.

21 alleged victims reported abuse occurring in 2005; of these incidents, 5 related to clergy; of these 2 related to sexual abuse, 1 to child abusive images and 2 to physical abuse. Of the further 16 instances of alleged abuse taking place in 2005, none related to Religious and 10 to volunteers, 5 to parishioners and 1 to an employee.

**2. Sources of Allegation Reports.**

This information is provided for the first time in 2005, so there are no comparative figures from previous years.

Table 4

Allegations Reported to Dioceses in 2005 by source of report

Source of Initial Information – per Diocesan Returns	Clergy	Religious	Other	Total	%
Alleged Victim	12	1	0	13	28
Third party	4	0	1	5	10
Statutory Agency	7	1	2	10	20
Local Rep	0	0	4	4	8
Parish Priest	6	0	4	10	20
Other	3	0	4	7	14
<b>Total Allegations</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>100</b>

The largest source of referrals in Dioceses is from victims themselves, with reports made to the Church through Statutory Agencies and by priests, the next most frequent sources of allegations reported.

Figure 3

Source of Initial Allegation Information – based on Diocesan returns

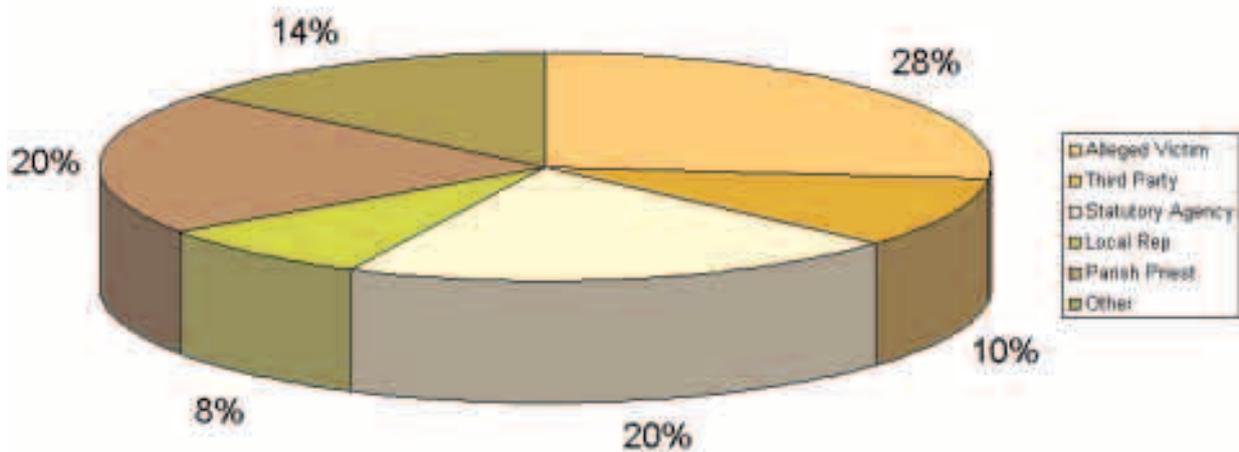
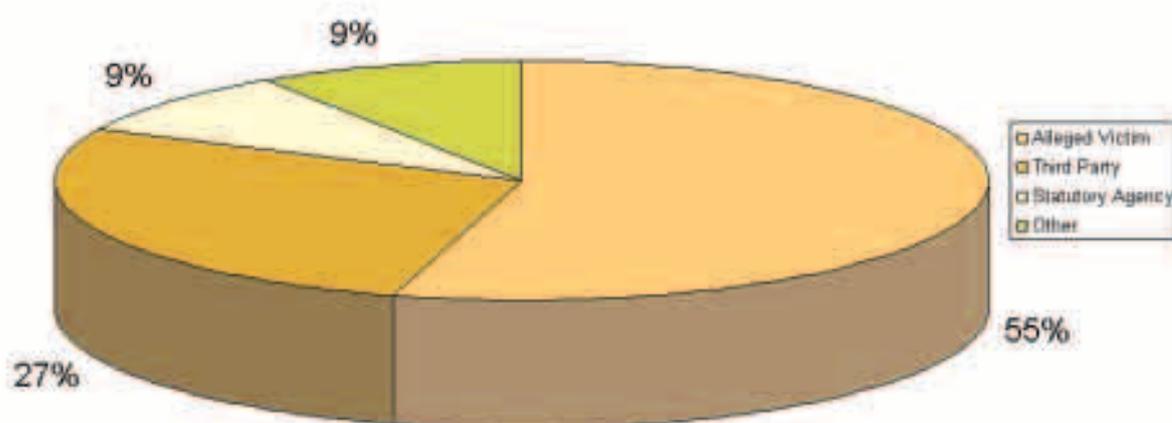


Table 5  
 Allegations Reported to Religious Congregations in 2005 by source of report

Source of Initial Information – per Religious Returns	Clergy	Religious	Other	Total	%
Alleged Victim	5	1	0	6	55
Third party	3	0	0	3	27
Statutory Agency	1	0	0	1	9
Local Rep	0	0	0	0	0
Parish Priest	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	1	0	1	9
<b>Total Allegations</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>100</b>

In Religious Congregations, victims were also the main source of allegations reported with third parties the second most common source.

Figure 4  
 Source of Initial Allegation Information – based on Religious Returns



**3. Allegations Reported by type of abuse, based on the number of alleged victims**

Table 6

Type of abuse by number of alleged victims in 2005 compared with 2004

Type of Abuse	Number of alleged victims 2005				Number of alleged victims 2004			
	Total	Diocesan Reports	Religious Reports	%	Total	Diocesan Reports	Religious Reports	%
Sexual Abuse	56	44	12	75	111	86	25	72
Physical Abuse	10	10	0	13	14	12	2	9
Emotional Abuse	1	0	1	1	6	2	4	4
Neglect	2	2	0	3	2	0	2	1
Child Abusive Images	6	6	0	8	10	9	1	7
Other abuse					10	10	0	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>100</b>

Figure 5

Type of abuse reported in 2005 – by number of alleged victims

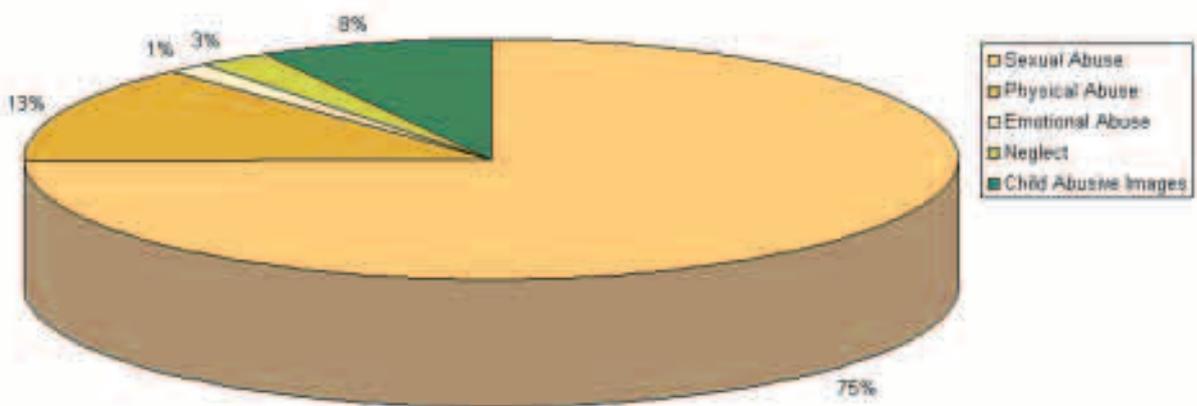
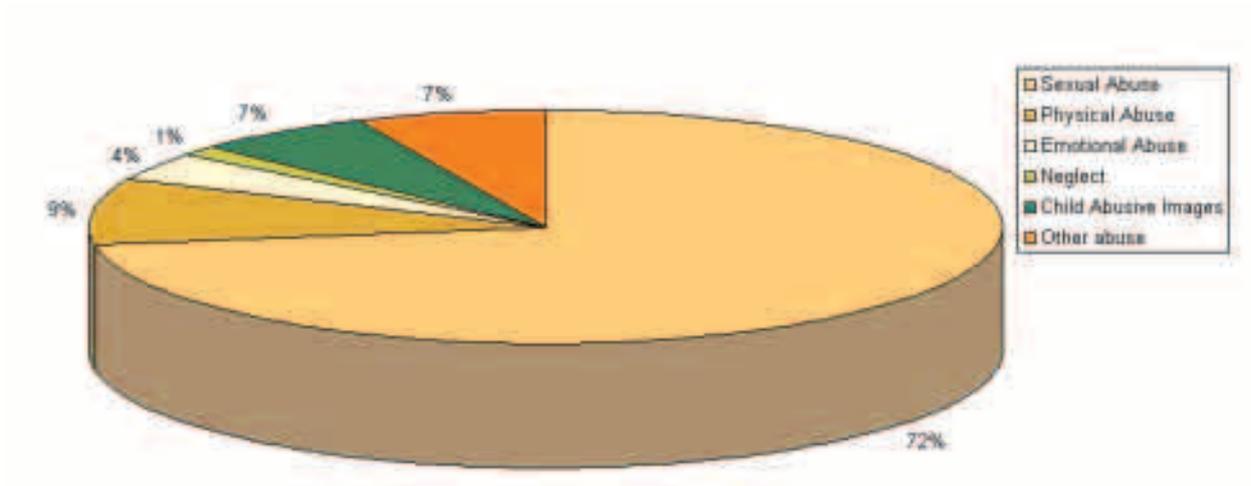


Figure 6

Type of abuse reported in 2004 – by number of alleged victims



Note: "Child pornography" is now known to statutory agencies as "child abusive images" to emphasise that children are actually sexually abused in the course of producing these images

As in previous years, the largest category of abuse alleged is sexual abuse.

The proportion of sexual abuse victims compared to other types of abuse has remained at about the same level since 2003, at around 75%, while physical abuse has risen slightly to 13% in 2005; child abusive images cases remain at a similar level to 2004 at 8% in 2005.

#### 4. Allegations Reported by Role of Abuser

Table 7

Allegations Reported by dioceses and religious congregations in 2005 compared with 2004.

	2005				2004			
	Total	Diocesan Reports	Religious Reports	%	Total	Diocesan Reports	Religious Reports	%
Clergy	*41	31	10	70	56	48	8	56
Religious	3	2	1	5	12	4	8	12
Other	15	15	0	25	32	32	0	32
	<b>*59</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>100</b>

\* The total shown is 59 not 60 as 2 allegations received were in respect of 1 individual.

Figure 7  
Allegations Reported by Role of Abuser 2005

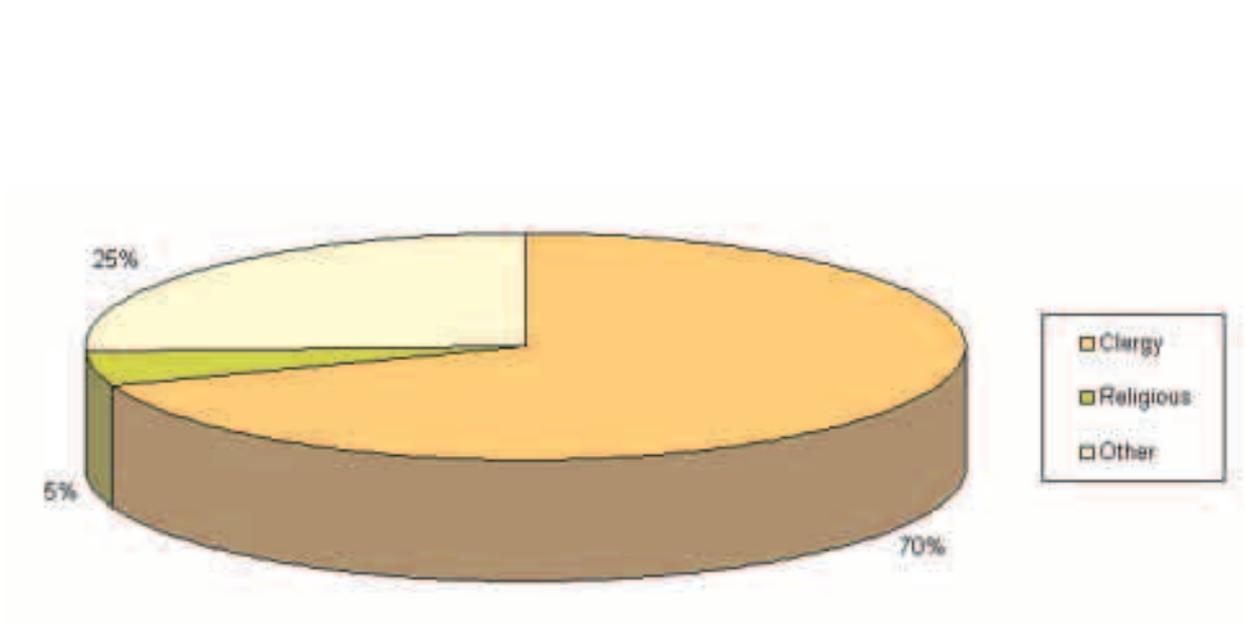
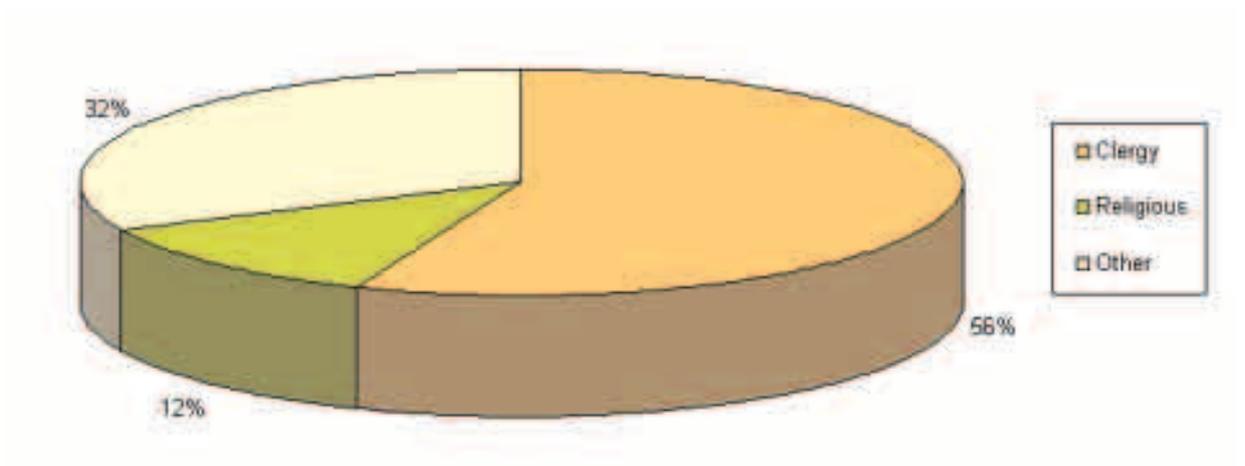


Figure 8  
Allegations Reported by Role of Abuser 2004



The proportion of clergy accused of abuse has risen from 56% in 2004 to 70% in 2005; this figure includes religious priests. The proportion of other religious has fallen from 12% in 2004 to 5% in 2005. The number of employees, volunteers and parishioners accused has fallen from 32% in 2004 to 25% in 2005.

## 5. Allegations Reported in 2005: date abuse occurred by number of alleged victims

Table 8

Number of alleged victims in Dioceses and Religious Congregations by date abuse occurred, in 2005 compared to 2004

Year	2005			2004		
	Total	Diocesan Reports	Religious Reports	Total	Diocesan Reports	Religious Reports
Year not specified	1	0	1	0	0	0
2005	21	21	0			
2004	1	1	0	37	34	3
2003	1	1	0	16	14	2
2002	0	0	0	3	2	1
2001	0	0	0	1	1	0
2000	0	0	0	1	1	0
1990s	9	8	1	20	18	2
1980s	16	14	2	10	8	2
1970s	13	11	2	45	27	18
1960s	4	2	2	11	10	1
1950s	8	3	5	5	3	2
1940s	1	1	0	4	1	3
1930s	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pre 1930s	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>34</b>

During 2005, no incidents of abuse were reported as occurring in the years 2002, 2001 or 2000; none were reported as occurring prior to the 1940s in 2005.

In 2004, incidents of abuse were reported as occurring in each year and each decade until the 1940s.

In 2005 the largest proportion of the incidents occurred in 2005 (29%), whereas in 2004 the largest group of incidents was in the 1970s (29%).

For 2005, 31% of incidents occurred since 2000; for 2004, the comparable figure was 38%.

## 6. Allegations Reported in 2005: Summary of Actions taken by Statutory Authorities

Table 9

Progress of cases reported to Statutory Authorities in 2005	Summary Info for 2005				Summary Info for 2004			
	Total	Diocesan Reports	Religious Reports	%	Total	Diocesan Reports	Religious Reports	%
Investigation initiated and in progress*	**18	17	1	31	48	38	10	48
Statutory Authorities - No Further Action	37	27	10	62	37	34	3	37
Police Caution	1	1	0	2	3	3	0	3
Court Hearing	3	3	0	5	8	8	0	8
Conviction	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	2
Sentence	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
Report to POCA list etc	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
<i>Total by Role of Alleged Abuser</i>	<b>**59</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>100</b>

\*This category includes the status reported in 2004 listed as: Outcome of statutory investigation not yet known; Initial assessment by statutory authorities; Interagency strategy discussion; Investigation by statutory authorities.

\*\* The total shown is 59 not 60 as 2 allegations received were in respect of 1 individual.

Figure 9

Action taken by the Statutory Authorities on allegations reported in 2005

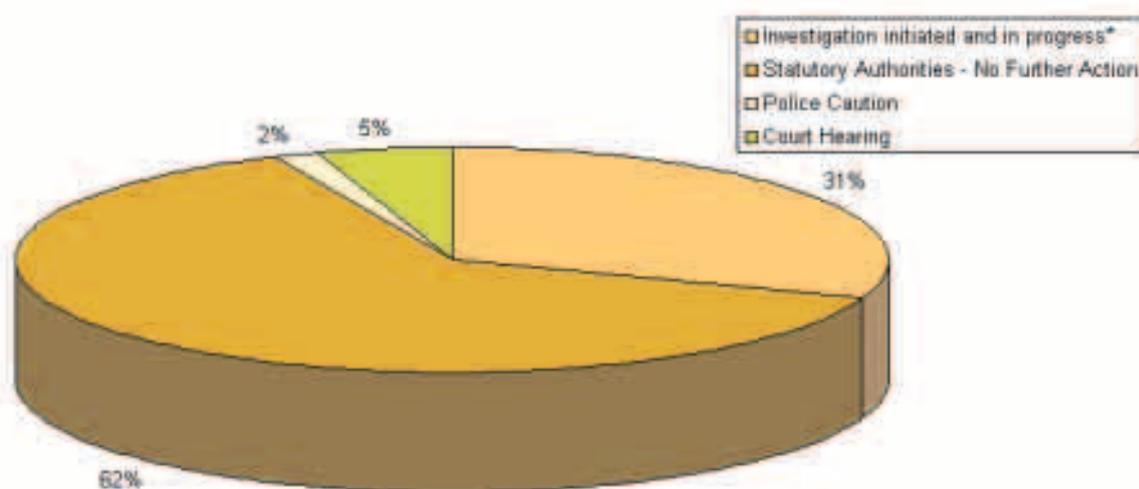
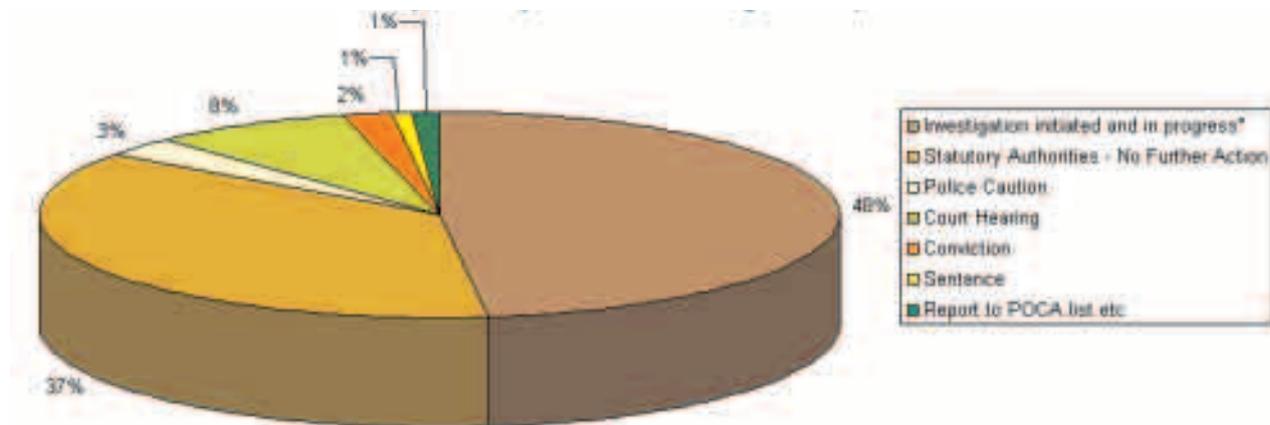


Figure 10

Action taken by Statutory Authorities on allegations reported in 2004



In 2005, a considerably greater proportion of cases were designated as "No Further Action" by Statutory Authorities (62%), compared with 2004 (37%). The proportion of investigations in progress showed the reverse, with 31% in 2005 and 48% in 2004. The share of cases where a caution or court hearing resulted decreased from 11% to 5% in 2005.

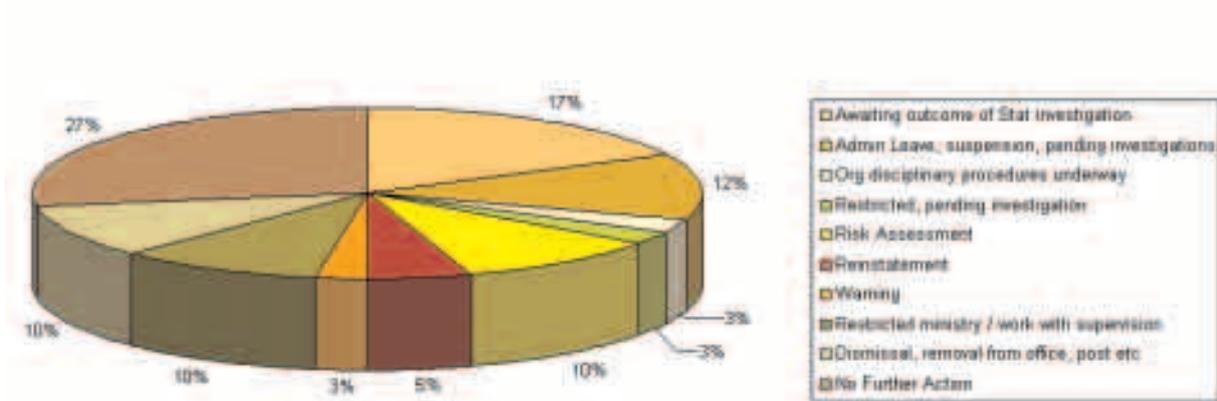
## 7. Allegations Reported in 2005: Summary of Actions taken within the Church

### i) Clergy

Table 10

Action Taken	2005			
	Total	Diocesan Reports	Religious Reports	%
Awaiting outcome of Stat Investigation	8	8	0	17
Admin leave, suspension, pending investigations	5	4	1	12
Disciplinary procedures underway	1	1	0	3
Restricted, pending investigation	1	0	1	3
Risk Assessment	4	4	0	10
Reinstatement	2	1	1	5
Warning	1	1	0	3
Restricted ministry / work with supervision	4	2	2	10
Dismissal, removal from office, post etc	4	4	0	10
Laicisation	0	0	0	0
Resigned	0	0	0	0
No further action	11	7	4	27
Reported to POCA by CP staff	0	0	0	0
Continuing Risk Assessment				
<b>Total</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>100</b>

Figure 11  
Action taken by Church on 2005 allegations in respect of Clergy



**ii) Male & Female Religious**

No further action was taken in respect of the 4 allegations relating to religious as 1 was deceased, 1 was by now physically and mentally disabled and 2 could not be identified.

**iii) Volunteers**

Of the 10 Volunteers against whom allegations were made, 1 has been removed from role, 1 received a warning, 3 are still under investigation by the Police, and in 2 cases no further action was judged necessary. 3 are suspended from role pending further enquiries.

**iv) Parishioners**

In 2005 3 parishioners were the subject of an allegation; in 2 cases no further action was judged necessary and in 1 a protection plan is in place.

**v) Employees**

2 employees were the subject of allegations in 2005 and in both cases no further action was judged to be required.

**8. Progress Update on cases reported in 2004**

11 cases are still under investigation by the Statutory Authorities, and in 60 the Statutory Authorities took no further action. There have been 2 prosecutions, 5 convictions and 1 caution. 1 case was reported to the POCA List.

Information received regarding religious cases reported in 2004 was inadequate for consistent reporting purposes.

# copca's aims for 2006

In 2006 we plan to continue the task of assisting dioceses & religious congregations to work towards the implementation of *A Programme for Action* in a number of ways. We will continue our efforts to recruit professionally qualified staff to COPCA, whilst keeping up the pace on planned initiatives:

- Our website will go "live" in 2006.
- Our National Child Protection Conference on the theme of *Partnership: Effective Risk Management* will be held from 1st to 3rd March 2006.
- The Support Policy for those who have experienced abuse and those accused of abuse will be issued.
- The National Policy on Roles Requiring a CRB Disclosure will be issued.
- The Cross Boundary Placement Policy, which we will agree with our colleagues in Ireland and Scotland, will be issued.
- We will also issue the Guidance on the Review of Past Cases to dioceses and religious congregations.
- The self-audit process will be piloted in dioceses and religious congregations, with a view to introducing the process fully in the course of 2006.
- We will continue to support the development of Regional Religious Protection Commissions so that they are established by the end of 2006.
- We will continue to support the important work in seminaries and religious formation to equip the next generation of priests and religious to be confident in their dealings with children and child protection issues.
- The process of undertaking CRB Disclosures on all existing volunteers will continue, and resources permitting, we will develop auditing processes for the CRB Disclosure system.
- We will continue to assist the process of learning from experience through the Learning Sub-Committee
- Finally, 2006 will see the 5-year Review of *A Programme for Action* initiated and we will hold a Keynote Conference in July 2006 to mark the progress made since 2001, celebrate our achievements and formally announce the Review itself.

# appendix one

## The COPCA management board

### Profile of members

The Management Board is chaired by the Archbishop of Birmingham, the Most Rev Vincent Nichols, and comprises the following members:

- Terry Bamford, chair, Westminster Area Child Protection Committee. Non-Catholic.
- Rev Tim Bryan, National MAPPA Co-ordinator, National Offender Management Service; member of the Nolan Review Committee. Anglican Priest.
- Sr Raymunda Jordan OP, General Secretary, Conference of Religious in England and Wales (resigned January 2005)
- Sr Jane Bertelsen, Conference of Religious in England and Wales Executive (appointed June 2005)
- Fr David Smolira SJ, Provincial, British Province of the Society of Jesus (resigned June 2005).
- Fr Stanislaus Neild OH, Hospitaller Order of St John of God (appointed June 2005)
- The Right Reverend Kevin Dunn, Bishop of Hexham & Newcastle (appointed January 2005)
- Fr Jonathan Mitchell, nominee by the National Conference of Priests.
- Prof. Peter Gilbert, Visiting Professor in Health & Social Care Staffordshire University (appointed January 2005). Catholic.
- Enid Hendry, Head of Child Protection Training, NSPCC. Non-Catholic.
- Mgr Jack Kennedy, formerly Child Protection Co-ordinator, Liverpool Diocese; member of the Nolan Review Committee.
- Helen Kenward, independent child protection consultant. Non-Catholic.
- Bernadette Cawley, solicitor. Catholic.

### In attendance

- Eileen Shearer, Director, COPCA.
- Charles Wookey, Assistant General Secretary, Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.
- Alex Des Forges, Head of News, Catholic Communications Network (from November 2005).

### Finance Sub-Committee

**Chair** Terry Bamford, Vice Chair of COPCA Management Board

#### Membership

Dr Jim Whiston	Finance Secretary, Diocese of Middlesbrough
Sr Meg Walshe	Bursar, Society of the Sacred Heart
Fr Stanislaus Neild, OH	Hospitaller Order of St John of God

#### In attendance

Eileen Shearer	Director, COPCA.
Maureen Lucht de Freibruch	Director of Finance, Catholic Trust for England and Wales
Sally Sanderson	Business Manager, COPCA

# appendix two

## COPCA Staff

### **Director**

Eileen Shearer Appointed January 2002

### **National child protection officers**

Christine Stewart Appointed on temporary part-time basis from October 2004  
Vacant full-time permanent posts

### **PA to the Director**

Claire Johnson Promoted June 2005 from Team Secretary

### **Business Manager**

Sally Sanderson Appointed June 2005

### **Team Secretary**

Vacant

2005 has seen much change in the staffing situation at COPCA. We are grateful to Claire Johnson for acting as both PA to the Director and Office Manager for the first 6 months of the year; she was then deservedly promoted to PA to the Director on a permanent basis. In June we were delighted to welcome Sally Sanderson to COPCA in the role of Business Manager, in charge of all aspects of office management and CRB systems. We were less fortunate in our several attempts to recruit to the 2 professional posts during the year and have been grateful for the expertise of Chris Stewart who has ably provided advice and support to dioceses and religious congregations on a temporary and part-time basis. We have also engaged consultants to assist with specific projects and we record our thanks to them here. They are: Trevor Stockton, who chaired the Vulnerable Adults Working Group, Rosemary Gallagher, who managed the typesetting and printing of the Annual Report 2004 and Elizabeth Clark who advised on the revision of the Annual Report Return for 2005. We have worked very hard and pulled together as a Team to keep the momentum going as far as possible despite the gaps in our Team.

# appendix three

## Working Group Members

### Vulnerable adults

#### Chair

Trevor Stockton, Consultant

#### Membership

Brother John Martin OH

Provincial, Hospitaller Order of St John of God

Anthea Beeks

Director, community services, Hospitaller Order of St John of God (resigned May 2005)

Martin Hirst

Director, Catholic Care, Diocese of Leeds

Ann Harris

Operations manager, Birmingham Health and Social Care

Fr Frank Daly

Parish Priest of St Peter's, Hinckley (Nottingham Diocese)

Sr Marianne Donnelly

Conference of Religious CHS Co-ordinator (resigned May 2005)

### Audit Standards Working Group

#### Chair

Terry Bamford, Vice Chair of COPCA Management Board

#### Membership

Eileen Shearer

Director of COPCA

Sr Raymunda Jordan OP

Brian Kelly

Child Protection Coordinator, Brothers of Charity

Fr Anthony Skillen

Child Protection Coordinator, Marist Fathers

Vince Rice

Child Protection Officer, Hexham & Newcastle Diocese

Helen Sheppard

Child Protection Officer, Southwark Archdiocese

Pauline Butterfield

Child Protection Coordinator, Shrewsbury Diocese

Sally Sanderson

Business Manager, COPCA

### National Policy on Roles Requiring CRB Disclosure

#### Membership

Pauline Butterfield

Child Protection Coordinator, Shrewsbury Diocese

Patricia Gilligan

Child Protection Officer, Salford Diocese

Keith McDonogh

Child Protection Coordinator, Wrexham Diocese

### Cross -Boundary Placement Policy

Nick Reynolds

Child Protection Coordinator, Portsmouth Diocese

Jane Jones

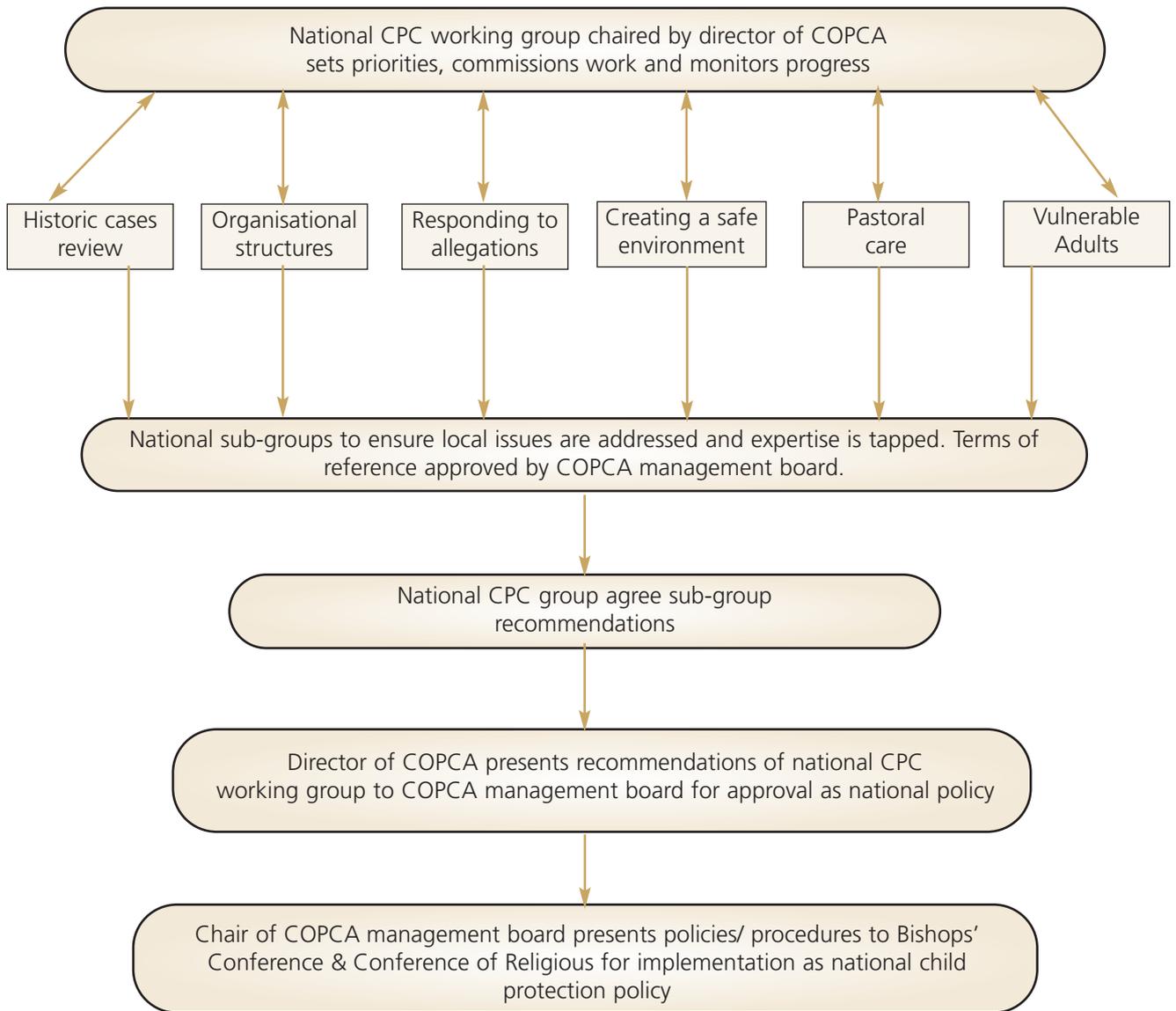
Child Protection Coordinator, Birmingham Archdiocese

Pauline Butterfield

Child Protection Coordinator, Shrewsbury Diocese

# appendix four

## National policy development process



# appendix five

## COPCA accounts 2005

	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>
Staff Costs	200,660	193,424
Recruitment & training	2,571	787
Travel & subsistence	11,625	13,645
Conferences & meetings	10,121	40,024
Property costs	33,175	29,006
Office costs	50,552	49,445
Professional fees & legal advice	3,871	10,149
Depreciation	26,818	26,484
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>339,393</b>	<b>362,964</b>
<b>Financed by:</b>		
Diocesan Assessments	303,613	259,152
Diocesan Assessments re 2002		75,000
Other donations and grants	285	340
Other income		
Contribution from Conference of Religious	39,000	33,000
Conferences	7,027	38,340
Other		83
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>349,925</b>	<b>405,915</b>
Surplus/(Deficit)	10,553	42,915
Surplus brought forward previous year	72,648	29,698
<b>Total surplus</b>	<b>83,181</b>	<b>72,649</b>
Fixed Assets	105,934	105,934
Cumulative Depreciation	84,591	57,773
<b>Net Book Value</b>	<b>21,343</b>	<b>48,161</b>

# Notes