

If you would like a copy of the Hurt by Abuse evaluation report...

contact Jo Pearson on jpearson@hallam-diocese.com or 0114 256 6453.

If you would like tailor made training or support for your parish or group...

contact Lisa Markham or Jim Todd on j.todd@live.co.uk.

If you would like to contribute to research about your experiences of how the church has dealt with cases of sexual abuse...

contact Lisa Markham, or email Colette Limbrick, the Director of the Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Service, at colette.limbrick@csas.uk.net.

If you would like to find out more about the Goddard enquiry or how to contribute...

see the Hurt by Abuse page on the Diocesan website, or on the Goddard Enquiry website at www.csa-inquiry.independent.gov.uk.



“Safeguarding, Justice and Changing the World”

When you attended mass on the weekend of the 26th/27th September, you may have heard a pastoral letter which refers to the ongoing aftermath of the Jay Report into sexual exploitation in one part of our Diocese, and its impact on all communities. The impact on individuals and families is incalculable and heart breaking. Like many other reports before, Professor Jay demonstrated that there has been a failure to listen and take seriously those reporting and experiencing abuse.

This year the Goddard Enquiry into institutional sexual abuse has been established. The Catholic Church is one of the first subjects of the enquiry. Amongst other things, Lady Goddard, who is chairing the enquiry, has taken steps to ensure that the voices of those who have been hurt by abuse are heard, their telling of their experiences respected and their expertise used to inform us.

In Scotland, the Catholic Church has been subject to the scrutiny of the McLellan Enquiry into its handling of abuse concerns. The enquiry speaks of the need to change the culture of the church. This has been a painful process but one which is important is shedding a light into those hidden areas of suffering.

In Hallam, the Hurt by Abuse project clearly demonstrated the importance of people being enabled to speak out, and the need to continue talking appropriately about these issues. Some people spoke anonymously about their histories for the first time, and about being silenced by the fear of the consequences of speaking out, or by initial reactions to their speaking out. This cannot be right, and our collective endeavours must be directed to creating and maintaining places of safety, where people are able to fulfil their potential.

The project also enabled people to reflect on how healing processes can be nurtured. The Pastoral letter came from a recognition of all the hurt that has been experienced and a pastoral desire for the church, its ministers and its people to be part of the solution, recovery and healing process.



If you would like further information about any aspect of this topic...

contact the Hurt by Abuse phone number 0750 235 3226 and leave a message, or contact Lisa Markham by phone on 0114 256 6454, 07909 117964 or by e-mail at lmarkham@hallam-diocese.com.

If you are looking for help independent of the church in this area...

see the list of providers on your church noticeboard., the Hurt By Abuse section of the website or speak to your Local Safeguarding Representative.

If you would like to influence the work of the Catholic Church...

speak to Fr Andrew Browne on 0114 284 8344, who is a member of the National Expert Advisory Group of Victims and Survivors, Lisa Markham, who is advising the National Pastoral Working Group or Mgr Des Sexton, who is involved in the Interfaith Safeguarding Network.

If you would like to train as a listener for the proposed Hurt by Abuse helpline and support service...

contact Lisa Markham.
