A photograph of a path winding through a forest with trees showing autumn foliage in shades of green and yellow. The path is covered in fallen leaves. The text is overlaid on this background.

Where are the Independent Safeguarding Audits steering us?

Caterina O'Connor
Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser
Archdiocese of Glasgow

Walking Together in Safeguarding: a Journey of Personal and Communal Conversion

The Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) was commissioned to undertake an audit of the safeguarding arrangements of all 8 Scottish Dioceses.

Each Diocese audit report can be found at <https://www.bcos.org.uk/safeguarding>

Each Audit has:

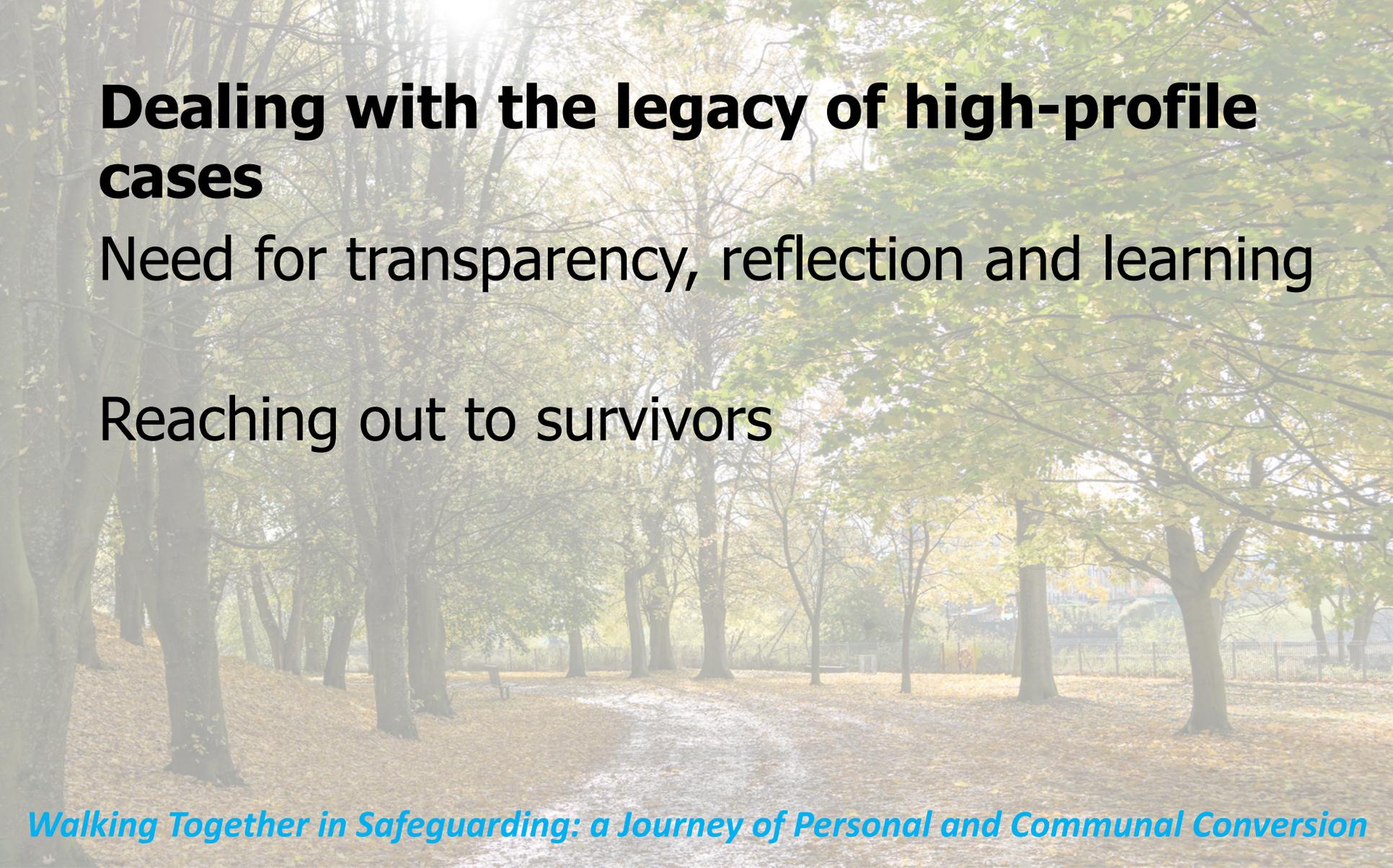
- Introduction
- 19 sections with analysis and findings - presented by theme
- Questions for the Diocese to consider
- Appendices

Safeguarding Leadership/Management Strategic & Operational

How to make all aspects of safeguarding including the theology of safeguarding core, visible and integrated at all levels, including parishes and congregations

How to develop and progress strategic planning and link it with operational needs

Culture of safeguarding

A photograph of a park path in autumn. The path is covered in fallen yellow and orange leaves. The trees are mostly bare, with some green and yellow leaves still on the branches. The background shows a fence and some buildings in the distance.

Dealing with the legacy of high-profile cases

Need for transparency, reflection and learning

Reaching out to survivors

Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Groups & Diocesan Risk Assessment Management Teams

Links between strategy and operational need

Oversight, governance, guidance & disagreements

Survivors

Guidance, Policies & Procedures

Links with Dioceses and SCSSA

Making these mandatory, accessible and reviewed

Complaints, whistleblowing and independent scrutiny

Allegations, Risk Assessments & Safe Worship Plans

Transparency and equitable treatment

Mandatory reporting

Support to survivors, respondents & parishes

Risk Assessment Training

Supporting Survivors

Hearing the voices of survivors

How to do this better

How to repair some of the damage

Theological leadership to reach out to those who don't want to come further

Safe Recruitment, Training & Support to Parishes

Legal requirements, processes and consequences

Supporting Parishes & Parish Safeguarding Coordinators

Need to be trauma informed

Post COVID

Quality Assurance

Significant Case Reviews

Include views of survivors

Independent scrutiny

Analysis of audits

A photograph of a park path in autumn. The path is covered in fallen yellow and orange leaves. The trees are tall and thin, with some green and some yellowing leaves. The sun is shining through the trees, creating a bright, hazy atmosphere. The path leads into the distance, flanked by trees on both sides.

Thank You

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