



DUBLIN WELL WOMAN CENTRE CLG CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

Introduction:

The purpose of the Child Safeguarding Statement is to ensure the best interest and welfare of children attending Well Woman Services.

Name of service being provided:

The Dublin Well Woman Centre provides a range of primary health care services, family planning, counselling and sexual health services. Dublin Well Woman is a not-for-profit organisation that champions women’s sexual health at every life stage and delivers the best possible advice and care to women. Well Woman wants the best possible healthcare to be available to *all* women in Ireland which includes young persons under the age of 18.

Services which children may be availing of:

- Crisis Pregnancy Counselling
- Post Termination Counselling
- Sexual Health and Community Gynaecology

Nature of Service and Principles to Safeguard Children from Harm:

At Dublin Well Woman we are non-judgemental in our treatment of clients and patients; our approach is one of integrity, upholding the right of each individual woman to make health choices appropriate to her needs. We are caring and supportive in what we do and we connect with our clients and patients in a relationship of equals. Our guiding principle is that the best interest and welfare of children is paramount.

Risk Assessment:

Well Woman has carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of our services. Below is a list of the risks identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

Risk identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified <i>Written policies in the following areas:</i>
From Staff	Recruitment & Selection
	Garda Vetting
	Complaints
	Confidentiality
	Induction
	Staff Management
	Child Protection
	Data Protection
	Supervision of Counsellors
	Note-Taking
	Counselling Services
	Patient / Client Charter
	Designate Liaison Person
	Mandated Persons
From External Adults	Staff Trained in Child Protection
	Health & Safety Statement
	Designated Liaison Person
	Parent or Legal Guardian Oral Consent To
	Engage with Counselling Service



Procedures:

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, *the Children First: National Guidance*, and Tusla's *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice*. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our service:

- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers or a child availing of our service.
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers to work with children.
- Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm.
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla.
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons (if any) in the relevant service who are mandated persons.
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person.

All procedures listed are available upon request.

Implementation:

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our service is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our service. This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed in May 2020, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed: _____ (Provider)

Provider's contact name and details: Alison Begas, CEO, Dublin Well Woman.

For queries please contact: abegas@dublinwellwoman.com or 018749243

Relevant person under the Children First Act 2015.