Diocese of Dunkeld Guidance on PVG Scheme and Regulated Work

Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme

The PVG Scheme

The Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) membership scheme is managed and delivered by Disclosure Scotland. It helps makes sure people whose behaviour makes them unsuitable to work with children and/or protected adults, can't do 'regulated work' with these vulnerable groups.

The application process involves gathering criminal record and other relevant information. This can be shared with the employer who is providing regulated work, unless the person applies to have a conviction removed from their PVG Scheme record.

If the information shows the applicant might be unsuitable for regulated work, they'll be referred for further investigation as part of the 'consideration process'.

Once someone is a PVG scheme member

Disclosure Scotland keeps checking their suitability to continue working with children or protected adults. If they find new information which means someone might have become unsuitable to work with children or protected adults, they'll tell their employer.

How long does it last?

A PVG Scheme member's paper certificate shows the information available on the day it was created. Membership of the scheme lasts forever though, and scheme members are continuously checked, unless they decide to leave the scheme.

The Catholic Church in Scotland asks that PVG's be renewed every 5 years.

Regulated Work - Types of work covered by PVG Scheme

The PVG Scheme doesn't apply to all jobs and volunteering. It only applies to 'regulated work'. There are 2 types of regulated work – work with children and work with protected adults.

Regulated work is usually jobs including:

- caring responsibilities
- teaching or supervising children and/or protected adults
- providing personal services to children and/or protected adults
- working directly with children and/or protected adults

It can also apply to certain positions of trust within organisations, even where the role doesn't involve any direct contact with children or protected adults. Examples of this include:

- membership of certain councils or committees
- trustees of charities focused on children
- trustees of charities focused on protected adults

Regulated work in the Catholic Church in Scotland

The following roles are considered as a guidance:

- Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator
- Children's liturgist
- Eucharistic Minister (those taking communion out to housebound / sick)
- Catechist
- Pilgrimage Leader / volunteer
- Legion of Mary
- Knights of St Columba
- St Vincent de Paul
- SPRED Leader / volunteer