CREATING A *safe* CHURCH FROM WITHIN

Opportunity for priests to engage with other parts of society other than regular parishioners x

Listen to the voice of the child, ensure there is open environment

Flatter governance model of leadership and a change in structure to include more women and married people

Public apology

Support network for our priests

Better use of parish council as it is a rich and under used resource

Each parish reports to itself and processes data about child protection measures

Clergy empower lay people more

Change in language and culture involving gender, sexuality, and

Explicit rules for priests regarding children, and mandatory reporting

More explicit reflection on child protection – paramount consideration

Include regularly in the prayer of the faithful, petitions for the abused and the abusers

Child friendly code of conduct, polices etc., ways of reporting concern, ensuring they are receiving ongoing education about rights/responsibilities

Agreed ways of operating to keep children safe

Annual spoken statement about the safety of children

Democracy in the selection of leaders and decisions, all have the opportunity to vote at plenary council

Continuation of all safeguarding practices

Alternative governance model of leadership

Protective training in basic pastoral care behaviour

Greater focus on longer and ongoing human formation, with consultation of experts to look at adapting aspects of formation including safeguarding and the ability to share and relinquish power

Very clear, simple and succinct code of conduct

Victims are treated and supported in a manner that is trauma informed

Ongoing training and education for all personnel, and importantly in regards to respectful relationships, power imbalance and child safety

Clear definitive role of parishes and personnel, including an appropriate contact person for reporting and support of victims and survivors

Standing agenda item on parish councils around safeguarding

Treating everyone with equality and respect

Different forms of lay ministry

Regular conferences that are accessible to all

Transparency, specifically in reporting

Ongoing mandated training and supervision, with measures of accountability and consequences if not maintained

Feedback and dialogue between parishioners and priests, and other members of leadership, as well as an annual review for priests

Publicly available clear definitions of rights and responsibilities of victims and perpetrators

Vetting by WWCC of all people

Standards set across all diocese and schools, with audits conducted by independent auditors

Consistency in policy and practices

Listening to and learning from victims

Local interface referring into experts

Collaboration across all dioceses, schools, parishes and CatholicCare, with a greater sharing of resources

Support services for victims including support groups and a safe place

Structure filled with diversity of gender, with a greater emphasis on more involvement of women, culture, age and experience

Box at back of church for questions/suggestions

Training and education for parish council, parishioners and volunteers in relation to child protection and child sexual abuse

Safeguarding truly protects children and not simply an organisation

All people take responsibility for child safety in the church, everyone is accountable

Male priesthood should not be a requirement for church offices/except Bishop

Safe environment for children to understand and explore gender and sexuality

Mandatory reporting on all as part of their Christian duty

Explicit statements of support and ways to report

Learn from best practice and look for it outside the church

Ongoing awareness

Not lay people vs clerical – we are all people of god

Communicate with outside world and reaching out to the wider community

Parish finances need to reflect parish priorities

Direct financial resources to independent agencies to assist victims and survivors and to develop effective networks

Alpha programs to encourage disengaged victim and survivors to re-engage, make them feel it is safe for them to return with their children

Appropriate structures in place to ensure that every child coming into the church environment knows that they are safe