

Safeguarding Legislation in Northern Ireland

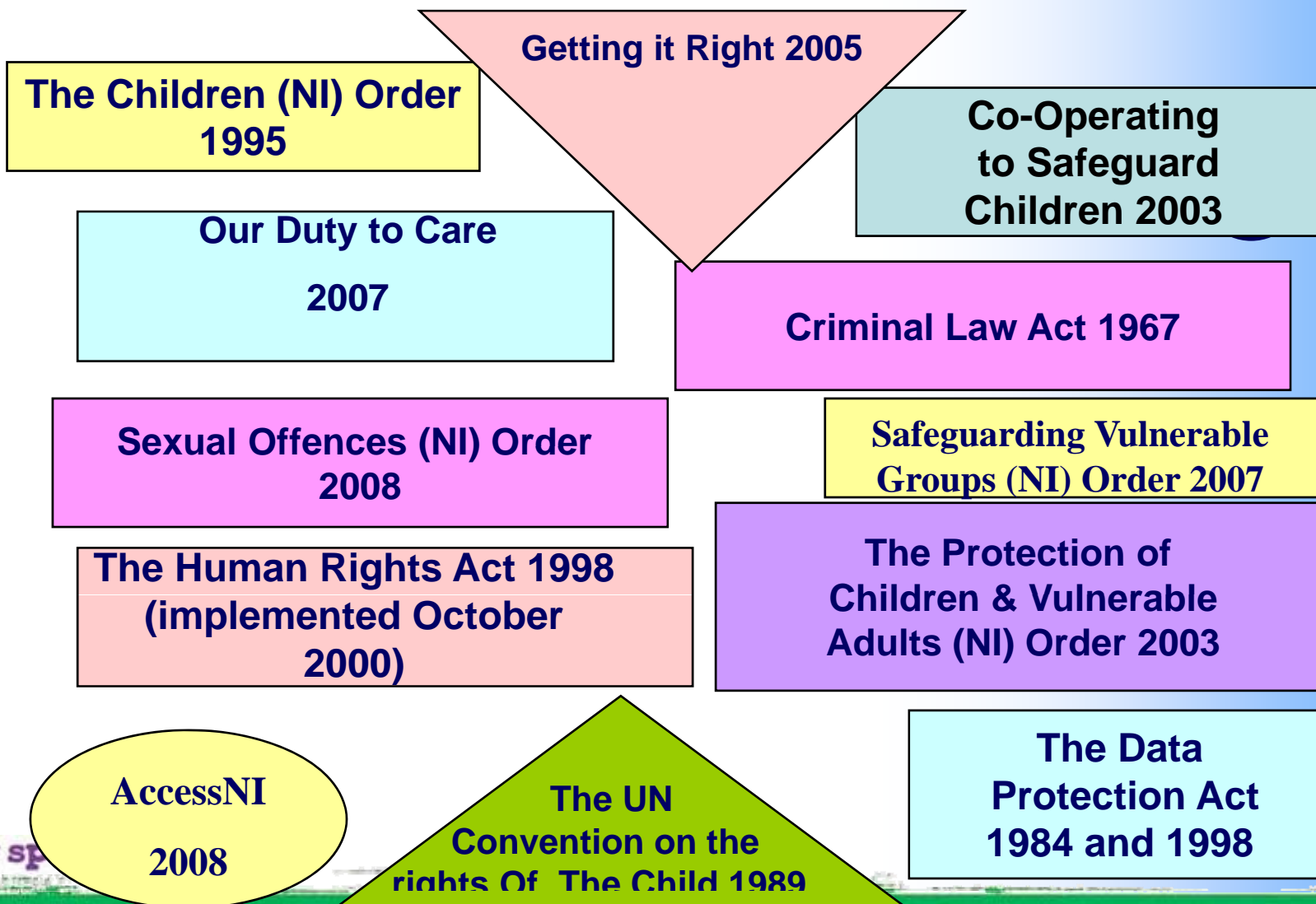
Paul Stephenson

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The Legal & Procedural Framework



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Children (NI) Order

**Paramountcy
Parental Responsibility.
Prevention
Partnership
Protection**

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Ready to address what stops CHILD ABUSE

New vetting and barring arrangements

Implications for sporting organisations

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Where we are

- Vetting and barring developed through 90s
- POCVA 2003
 - DWC List
 - DWA List
 - Barred person could not work in range of regulated activities
 - Development of the UP List in Education
- Requirement to check for childcare position in child care organisation
- Permissive power for others scouts and sports bodies
 - E.g. community group could check NI Lists and report those dismissed but no direct legal requirement to do so
 - Implicit requirement

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Weakness

- Not portable
- Multiple checked being done
- Only as good as the day it was done
- Different requirements to different sectors
- Speed of returns

But still one of the best in the world

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Ready to address road safety. FULL TIME

Soham

- Information known not passed on
- Flawed check



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SVG govt's response

■ Main features

- New barring body to take discretionary barring decisions ISA
- Autobars for certain criminal convictions
- NI part of E&W scheme

■ Extension of regulated activity

- Requirements to carry out vetting and reporting much more extensively applied

■ Requirements to be a member of scheme before working in regulated activity

■ Regulators, holders of statutory registers, local authorities more extensive requirements to report

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Implications for Sport

- Some post not previously vetted:
- Funding and supporting community groups
- Sport NI will you need to think about building in requirements into SLAs and funding agreements?
- All island sport groups
- Development of materials and advice for bodies
 - Will require development of internal policy
 - Help from the SVG team and ISA website
- Funding considerations: volunteers are free statutory volunteers/ staff are not (£58 charge)

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Health warning

Note: detailed policy on certain issues still not settled. Need to keep in touch with SVG team through website or CPSU

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Contact Numbers

- **NSPCC Helpline**

0808 800 5000

www.nspcc.org.uk

SVG Team 028 90538223

www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/hss/svg.htm/

- **Child Protection in Sport Unit**

028 90351135

pstephenson@nspcc.org.uk

www.thecpsu.org.uk

- **Volunteer Development Agency**

028 90236100

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