

Report from IACR committee on Safeguarding to February 2021 meeting

Dear Executive Council member,

I write in an apologetic manner. I expected to finish the editing of Encyclopedia of Materials: Technical Ceramics and Glasses on January 6th. This has dragged on until last week and I have had to make the commitment to it rather than looking at an overall safeguarding policy for the Association and having Zoom meetings to discuss it. In order to keep things progressing, the committee has looked at the two issues mentioned in the last report by email correspondence. For information, these were:

- 1) “Are the Districts in agreement with the notion that the IACR has an overarching Safeguarding Policy Statement which would rely almost solely on a District hosting an IACR event, subject to clear guidelines?”
- 2) “Are Districts comfortable with the appointment of District Safeguarding Officers appointed by them and an IACR Safeguarding Officer who will be appointed by the Executive Council?”

The committee is in general agreement with a positive response to issue 1. However, one suspects that this will need more discussion and presentation to District meetings. There is good positive agreement for issue 2 and accordingly a proposal, set out below is put to Executive Council. A zoom meeting of the committee to tease out problems and approaches to issue 1 will be held on 3rd March 2021. This meeting will also begin to consider the IACR safeguarding policy.

Proposal to IACR Executive Council

“The IACR will appoint a Safeguarding Officer[§] to uphold its Safeguarding Policy. This will be done at its AGM. It is recommended to each District that it also appoints a Safeguarding Officer at its AGM to uphold their District Policies.”

[§] please note if this Officer is to be an Association Office holder then this may necessitate a future change to rule 11 of the Association or the formulation of a new rule to cover safeguarding and the officer. As a first step it is important that the Association has a policy and a person responsible for its implementation.

Mike Pomeroy on behalf of Niamh Hickey, Cliff Jeffers, Don McLean, Eric Thompson, June Kelly and Robert MacDonald.

15 / 02 / 2021