

Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults (NI) Order 2003

Ann Mooney

**Child Care Policy Directorate
Department of Health, Social Services and Public
Safety**

Overview

- **Commenced 1 April 2005**
- **Strengthened protection arrangements for children & vulnerable adults**
- **Placed Pre Employment Consultancy Service (PECS) on a statutory basis**

Overview

- **2 Disqualification Lists – DWC (NI) & DWVA (NI) Lists**
- **Automatic right of Appeal to Care Tribunal**
- **Choosing to Protect**

Main Provisions

- **Robust recruitment procedures**
- **Requirement to refer**
- **Disqualification Lists**
- **Regulated & Care Positions**
- **Requirement to check**

Criteria for Referral

- **Individual must have harmed a child/vulnerable adult or put a child/vulnerable adult at risk of harm AND has either:**
 - **been dismissed; or**
 - **resigned or retired in circumstances where he or she would have been dismissed; or**
 - **been transferred to a non-regulated/non-care position; or**
 - **been suspended pending a decision on dismissal or transfer.**

Checking Procedures

- **DHSSPS/DE Statutory Lists**
- **PSNI Criminal Records check**
- **Disqualification Orders**

Offences

It is an offence to:

- **Apply for, offer to do, accept or do any work in a regulated or care position if disqualified;**
- **To knowingly offer work in a regulated or care position to a disqualified person;**
- **Fail to remove such a person from a regulated or care position or to procure work in a regulated or care position for a disqualified person.**

Future Changes

- Access NI
- The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups (NI) Order 2007
- The Independent Safeguarding Authority

THANK YOU