# IACTO Child Protection & Welfare Designated Officer Programme

**HSE Report Form Supplementary Information**

The HSE has a statutory responsibility under the Child Care Act1991 to promote the welfare and protection of children. The HSE therefore has an obligation to receive information about any child who is not receiving adequate care and / or protection

The HSE standard report form is for use by:-

* Any professional, individual or group involved in services to children, including the HSE staff themselves who become aware of a child protection or welfare concern ot to who a child protection or welfare concern is reported.
* Professionals and individuals in the provision of child care services in the community who have service contracts with the HSE.
* Designated persons in voluntary and / or community agencies.

When completing the Standard Reporting Form, please fill in as much information as is known to you as this will assist the Social Work department in assessing the level of risk to the child or the support services required. If the information requested is not known to you, please indicate this by putting a line through the question. It is likely that a social worker will contact you to discuss your report.

The HSE aims to work in partnership with parents. If you are making this report in confidence you should note that the HSE cannot guarantee absolute confidentiality for the following reasons:-

A court order often requires that information be disclosed

Under the Freedom of Information Act 1997 the Freedom of Information Commissioner may order that information be disclosed.

You should also note that in making a “bona fide” report you are protected under the “Protections for Persons Reporting Child Abuse Act 1998”. If you are unsure if you should report your concern, please contact the HSE duty social worker and discuss your concerns with them. See handouts 24 and 25 in the back of this pack.