

SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER SUMMER/AUTUMN 2021

SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Firstly – a huge thank you for all you are doing to keep people safe. We continue to encourage you to contact us with your safeguarding concerns and queries. You will find safeguarding team names and numbers at the end of this newsletter. We would like to remind you that any new concerns or general enquiries should be sent to the team e-mail or by calling the team number. The contact details are:

Team email: safeguarding@leeds.anglican.org / Office number: 0113 353 0257

TRAINING

Safer Recruitment and People Management Training is now available to complete on the safeguarding training portal. Safer Recruitment and People management is required training for all line managers; anyone involved in the recruitment of Church Officers (employees, elected members and volunteers); those with responsibility for administering DBS and Safeguarding Officers in all Church bodies.

Please ensure that you provide a copy of your Safer Recruitment and People Management completion certificate to your Parish Safeguarding Officer (or equivalent) to ensure that the Diocesan Safeguarding Trainer is able to update your personal training record accordingly.

All those required to complete Safer Recruitment and People Management should also complete the online Basic (CO), Foundation (C1) courses, if they have not done so already. Basic (CO), Foundation (C1) and Safer Recruitment courses can be accessed on the [safeguarding training portal](#).

Up to date information on all our safeguarding training courses and information on how to book a place can be found at <https://www.leeds.anglican.org/safe-training>

For training enquiries and bookings please email safeguardingtraining@leeds.anglican.org

Please note that the full programme of Core Pathway training, developed by the National Safeguarding Team, has now achieved Continuing Professional Development (CPD) status.

SAFE SPACES UPDATE

Safe Spaces is a free and independent support service, providing a confidential, personal and safe space for anyone who has been abused by someone in the Church or as a result of their relationship with the Church of England, the Catholic Church of England and Wales or the Church in Wales.

The Safe Spaces service has published the second round of quarterly reports, which can be found here. The service continues to be well utilised, with 76 active cases from Jan – Mar 2021, including 44 new cases.

The Safe Spaces service has produced some new publicity materials which can be downloaded and displayed locally.

[Safe Spaces Poster](#)

[Safe Spaces Tear Off Poster](#)

[Safe Spaces A5 leaflet](#)

[Safe Spaces folding leaflet](#)

SAFER RECRUITMENT

The Safeguarding Team would like to reiterate the importance of safe recruitment for all roles in parishes – paid or voluntary. We would like to remind you that all volunteers are required to complete a confidential declaration form and recommend they are renewed annually for good safeguarding practice. The full policy and practice guidance can be accessed via this link <https://www.leeds.anglican.org/safe-dbs>

Safer Recruitment & People Management Guidance is available via the online Safeguarding e-manual, found here <https://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding/safeguarding-e-manual>. (This is the first Guidance to go onto the Safeguarding e-Manual and eventually all safeguarding guidance will be located there).

A particular mention to the recruitment of Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSO) – we encourage new PSOs to make contact with the Safeguarding Team after they have been safely recruited and confirmed in role so we can send them helpful information to get them started.

DBS CERTIFICATES – changes to renewal period

Currently the Church of England renews DBS certificates every 5 years.

The updated Safer Recruitment guidance which comes into effect in January 2022 – states that enhanced DBS certificates should be renewed every 3 years instead of 5. There is a 2 year window for this to take place – so it does NOT mean that any certificate over 3 years old in 2022 is invalid – we have from January 2022 to January 2024 to arrange renewal of any certificates so that by January 2024 all those requiring an enhanced DBS check have a DBS certificate that is 3 years old or less. The diocese will be in touch to arrange renewal over the coming months for any clergy who has a certificate that falls into this category.

DBS UPDATE SERVICE – changes to use of the service for home based roles

The updated Safer Recruitment guidance no longer recommends the use of the update service for home based roles with effect from January 2022. The DBS defines home based roles as ‘carrying out some or all of his or her work with children or vulnerable adults from the place they live’. The majority of parish volunteer roles are not home-based but please contact gail.oneill@leeds.anglican.org if you have a query.

Gail will be in touch with clergy over the coming months to arrange renewal of certificates, and can advise if continued use of the update service is appropriate.

This is a change from the House of Bishop Guidance 2016, to bring the Church in line with good practice across the charity/not for profit sector.

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

We encourage every Sunday service to incorporate safeguarding but there is a national event on the 10 October 2021 where hundreds of churches will be ‘turning a spotlight on safeguarding’.

You can register and access resources through the thirty one eight website using the link:

<https://thirtyoneeight.org/news-and-events/safeguarding-sunday/>

PCR2 UPDATE

As we updated in the last newsletter the Past Cases Review 2 continues and the PCR2 Project Reference Group last met in July. The Reference Group continues to ensure robust risk management of the review process, in particular by discussing two or three anonymised cases at each of its meetings. The Group feeds back comments and concerns to the Independent Reviewers. There are two members of the Group who have a particular responsibility for ensuring that care and support is in place for anyone that is impacted by the undertaking of this review, in particular survivors of abuse.

SAFEGUARDING DASHBOARD

We are continuing to promote the Safeguarding Dashboard which we believe to be an extremely useful and easy to use system and would encourage all PSO's to accept their invitation and to start using this system. It will help you! We would like to thank everyone who has already signed up and is progressing through the levels – well done!!

The attached video link clearly demonstrate how Dashboards work. <https://vimeo.com/315725141>

Again a reminder that in each deanery area, we will be looking to set up a Safeguarding Dashboard Champion to assist and encourage the use of this system with other PSOs in your area. If you feel that you have grasped the system quickly and are an advocate of it, we would be grateful if you could contact the safeguarding team, so we can highlight whom the Dashboard Champions are to go to for each area.

Could we ask that all incumbents advise Annette Blackburn (Annette.blackburn@leeds.anglican.org) of any changes of roles, supplying up-to-date names and email addresses to ensure that all of our databases are accurate. This is particularly important as Dashboard is rolled out.

CHILD OR ADULT IS AT IMMEDIATE RISK – WHAT TO DO

If a child or adult is at *immediate* risk of significant harm, in the first instance you should always contact [your local social services team](#) or local police (call 101). You must then inform the Safeguarding Team

OUT OF HOURS ADVICE

A DSA will usually be available between 09.00 and 17.00, Monday to Friday. Please see below for contact details of the DSAs. If you require URGENT safeguarding advice outside these hours, or if you are unable to speak to a DSA, then please contact your Archdeacon. If they are unavailable then you must contact any Archdeacon in the Diocese of Leeds.

ALL SAFEGUARDING ENQUIRIES

Please note the change of contact numbers for the Diocesan Safeguarding Team. This should be your first point of contact for reporting issues or making enquiries.

Team email: safeguarding@leeds.anglican.org

Office number: 0113 353 0257



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