

SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

Summer 2022

SAFEGUARDING TEAM

We hope that our summer newsletter finds you all well and as always thank you all for your commitment and contribution towards safeguarding. We have lots of helpful information for you in this edition and hope that you all have a lovely summer.

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 email or if more urgent by calling the team number. The contact details are safeguarding@leeds.anglican.org. **0113 353 0257**

We would continue to encourage you to visit our Safeguarding Website, which is frequently being updated and expanded. It is hoped that this will address many of the queries you may have. [Safeguarding is everyone's business | The Diocese of Leeds, Church of England \(anglican.org\)](#)

DOMESTIC ABUSE TRAINING AND PCC MEMBERS

One of the issues, which has been raised recently, is the requirement that PCC members complete the domestic abuse training module. Some PCC members feel that the module is an excessive demand on their time given their other responsibilities. This matter will now be discussed by the National Safeguarding Team (NST) at the July 22 National Safeguarding Steering Group ([NSSG](#)) meeting. The following facts might be useful in your local discussions:

1. The requirement that PCC members partake in the domestic abuse training is contained in the Church's Safeguarding Learning and Development Framework, which was approved by the National Safeguarding Steering Group in April 2021. The Framework is formal House of Bishops Safeguarding Guidance.
2. Domestic abuse is such a major form of abuse across society – including within the Church. Figures from diocesan safeguarding audits show that in 2019 and 2020 domestic abuse and sexual abuse were the forms of abuse with the highest numbers of reported concerns / allegations in respect of adults. 20% of all safeguarding concerns / allegations about adults concerned domestic abuse in 2020 (19% for sexual abuse).
3. PCC members can offer real leadership in respect of domestic abuse – and victims of domestic abuse need champions. House of Bishops Guidance on "Roles and Responsibilities" states that the PCC "has the responsibility, along with the incumbent to promote the mission of God in its parish." It goes on to say, "The PCC and the incumbent have a duty of care to ensure the protection of the vulnerable in their church community. In terms of safeguarding, with the incumbent the PCC will promote a safer church for all in the church community, and ensure there is a plan in place to raise awareness of, promote training and ensure that safeguarding is taken seriously by all those in the church community."
4. In terms of time commitment, the requirements of PCC members is that, they complete Basic and Foundation Safeguarding training within six months of starting in role. After that, they need to complete the domestic abuse module within the next 30 months. This works out to an average of 1.5 safeguarding training per annum.

SAFEGUARDING VIRTUAL LIBRARY

We are excited to announce the launch of your Safeguarding Virtual Library (SVL). The SVL provides a central point on a digital platform where individuals across the Church can access a range of resources to support their understanding and practice of safeguarding. You will need to register if this is the first time you have used this portal, or have your login details to hand. You can gain access to the portal via the below link:-

<https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/course/index.php?categoryid=63>



Safeguarding Virtual Library

This Safeguarding Virtual Library provides a digital platform where individuals across the Church can access specific resources to help them in their understanding and practice of safeguarding.

Getting the most out of the virtual library

We take great care to ensure that the materials reflect useful content and the diverse groups and perspectives that inform healthy safeguarding practice. By using media including audio, video, and literary items we hope you will find the topics and resources that enable you learn best.

Ultimately this is your library and, whilst we cannot guarantee to publish every suggestion, we ask you to continue sending contributions to extend the learning available. Please send your suggestions to safeguarding.learning@churchofengland.org marked *Safeguarding Virtual Library*.

Search

[Open library tag search](#)

Library Tags

Adolescent to Parent Abuse
Adverse Childhood
Experiences Black Women
Coping with trauma
Disclosure Checks Domestic
Abuse Forgiveness Gender-
based violence Harmful
sexual behaviours
Homophobia Honour Based
Violence Organisational
Culture Practical theology
Preaching Recommended
for clergy Recommended for
lay ministry Spiritual abuse
Torture Trauma Working
with survivors

The SVL offers a virtual safeguarding multi-resource provision. It currently holds digital articles, podcasts, videos, suggested reading and a useful list of external organisations. Thematic 'tags' make it smooth and easy to navigate the site giving ease of access to resources collated under subject headings and media types. There is an accessibility feature on the right of the page allowing users to adjust the font size and background colour.

HOUSE OF BISHOPS SAFER RECRUITMENT

The safeguarding team would like to remind all parishes that all volunteers require to be safely recruited. Reinforcing the safeguarding and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults throughout the recruitment process and beyond will help create and maintain a safe and positive environment that inspires trust, enabling them to thrive and grow and have the very best experience of Christian living through the work of the Church.

To assist parishes we have uploaded the links to our webpage where you can find policies and templates to assist you. The link can be found here:-

[Safe Recruitment and DBS | The Diocese of Leeds, Church of England \(anglican.org\)](#).

Your Safeguarding Dashboard also provides useful support, advice and helpful links. If you are not using a Safeguarding Dashboard and are unsure what this is then please follow this link which gives information on the Dashboard and shows just how supportive it will be for you. [Safeguarding Dashboards | The Diocese of Leeds, Church of England \(anglican.org\)](#)

If you still have DBS queries, don't forget to utilise [Thirtyone:eight](#), they have got all your safeguarding needs covered from DBS checks and training, to advice, guidance and support. They can be contacted on the below email and phone number:-

[Thirtyone:eight home page \(thirtyoneeight.org\)](#) tel: 0303 003 1111

INFORMATION ON WHAT PARISHES SHOULD DISPLAY

Please may we remind all parishes to check their websites to ensure that they have a safeguarding link clearly displayed on the front page. Links to this documentation can be found on the:

[Parish Safeguarding Dashboard.](#)

[Parish Guidance and Displays | The Diocese of Leeds, Church of England \(anglican.org\)](#)

SAFEGUARDING DASHBOARD UPDATES FOR JUNE

The following helpful changes were made to the dashboards in June:

- Church activities can be renamed or suspended
- Multiple dashboards can be updated at the same time
- The 'Use of Social Media' light has moved from Level 1 to Level 3

You can read more here...

<https://www.safeguardingdashboards.org.uk/support/dashboard-updates/dashboard-updates-june-2022.php>

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

Safeguarding Sunday is on 20th November this year.

The registration page is now live where you can register your Church/Cathedral to take part. You will receive a FREE church resource pack by email as soon as it is ready. In the meantime, you can download and print the poster to put up in your churches.

You can do this at: [Safeguarding Sunday | Thirtyone:eight \(thirtyoneeight.org\)](#)

Contact deborah.toni@churchofengland.org for further information.

DEMENTIA FRIENDLY PARISHES

The Diocese of Leeds has registered to the Alzheimer's Society's Dementia Friends programme.

This is the biggest ever initiative to change people's perceptions of dementia. It aims to transform the way the nation thinks acts and talks about the condition. The safeguarding team are happy to announce that they raised £100 at their bake for dementia coffee morning.

We encourage everyone to take the small step to become a dementia friend.

Please contact nikki.rose@leeds.anglican.org for information on how to do this.

PARISH WORSHIP AGREEMENTS

We would just like to remind everybody who has a worship agreement in place within his or her parish that in line with the House of Bishops guidance the incumbent must review this agreement in the agreed timescale which is usually annually unless otherwise stated on the worship agreement and inform the DSA.

Please contact your DSA if you have any agreements that have not been reviewed or are out of date.

The safeguarding team would also be appreciative if you could contact them to confirm any agreements

that are no longer required as the individual is no longer in attendance.

CHURCH SECURITY

We have a useful link here from ecclesiastical insurance to assist to keep churches safe. Key security and management is of great importance and has previously been highlighted in failings on a lessons learned review.

[Church security](#) | [Church security guidance](#) | [Ecclesiastical](#)

MODERN SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Human trafficking involves the recruitment or movement of people for exploitation by the use of threat, force, fraud, or the abuse of vulnerability. Trafficking is a crime that can occur across international borders or within a country. It often crosses multiple geographic and legal boundaries. Men, women and children may be trafficked for various purposes, including labour sectors (for example, agriculture, food processing, manufacturing, services), domestic servitude, forced begging and petty theft and sexual exploitation.

For further information and videos that can viewed please follow this link :-

[Modern slavery and human trafficking - National Crime Agency](#)

The Clewer Initiative

Homeless people are at risk of modern slavery. They are being targeted on the streets, but also at church-run projects like drop ins and night shelters. We have heard anecdotal reports of vans pulling up outside projects, before driving off with homeless people who are not seen again.

A recent report from Hestia estimates that 1 in 10 homeless people in London has been a victim of modern slavery. The Clewer Initiative has developed resources to help churches raise awareness of the issue amongst those most at risk, as well as volunteers.

The resources also include guidance notes for project leaders on how they can begin to 'slavery proof' their projects. All available from www.theclewerinitiative.org/letstalk

The Salvation Army provides support services for adult victims of trafficking and modern slavery. They can be contacted on 0300 303 8151

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 of the Archdeacons 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



Carla Derbyshire
Team Leader - Safeguarding Advisor
0113 3530 258
07399 809732



Jenny Leccardi
Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser
0113 3530 259
07872 005189



Narinder Lyon
Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser
0113 3530 256
07872 005309



Nikki Rose
Assistant Safeguarding Adviser
0113 353 0304
07903197497



Alex Robertshaw-Seery
Safeguarding Training Officer
07903 197505