

SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER July 2020

Please let Karen Setchfield know if your role has changed.
karen.setchfield@peterborough-diocese.org.uk



A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious,
be with those who care for the sick,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may find comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen.

I thought I would start the safeguarding newsletter with a prayer taken from the Church of England website. Coronavirus has had an impact on everyone in many ways, and continues to do so, let us pray and reflect.

Despite the continued lockdown, many things are changing within society as the new normal begins to emerge. The wearing of facemasks (who knew there was such a choice); separate entry and exit routes into cafes / pubs and restaurants and the track and trace system in place to try and control the spread of the virus are only some of the changes.

As restrictions were eased and discussions were taking place for the re-opening of church buildings, Bishop Donald sent a letter explaining what changes could look like. He highlighted that for some this was a moment of rejoicing, yet others may be afraid. If our churches wanted to open, then there were some detailed guidance and stringent conditions that needed to be adhered to. Whilst many discussions have been going on across our parishes Bishop Donald asked us to: *Take your time to think and pray this through. Where should your energies now be focussed? What priorities might need to change?*

Safeguarding is at the heart of our Christian faith. We are all made unique and in the image of God. Jesus came that we might have life and have it in abundance (see John 10.10). Safeguarding means the action we take to promote a safer church culture for all and take appropriate steps to maintain a safer environment for all. Let's continue with all the hard work that we are doing to make our churches the safest churches to be part of. See the link to the Parish Safeguarding Handbook to help you focus on what might need to change regarding safeguarding within your church: <https://www.churchofengland.org/media/11842>

This newsletter provides information about what has changed for: our safeguarding training: an update on safeguarding training; advice about the Safeguarding Dashboard App and an update regarding Victim Support charity offering support for survivors of church related abuse.

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING



On-line safeguarding training for Basic (C0) and Foundation (C1) modules are still available. To complete the training this way: copy the link below into a browser address bar: <https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/> Once on this page click on the 'online courses' option, create a new account and follow the instructions.

During COVID-19 restrictions, face-to-face training is not an option at the moment. To address this the National Safeguarding Team (NST) developed a Virtual Leadership (C2) training module, with new training material. The NST training team have been preparing the DSA's across the Dioceses to become familiar with the new material and also how to present a Zoom training session.

All Diocese have now been provided with the Virtual Safeguarding Leadership (C2) module and the new material. **Of note:** There have been many discussions about this at various meetings as the training was to take over 2 months for someone to complete their training and then receive their certificate. The DSA presented a business case to the Bishops Management Group, highlighting strengths and weaknesses of the proposed training and an alternative option. The option still used the new material but in a shorter time frame. This was unanimously approved.

The DSA team delivered the first of this training via Zoom this month and other dates have now been arranged. *Thank you to the group who signed up for the training and engaged so positively and provided great feedback to help shape future training sessions.*

Alongside this the National Safeguarding Team (NST) are 'aiming to move away from safeguarding training being seen as an event to attend and tick a box that it has been attended, to being seen as an ongoing journey of safeguarding learning'.



As Leaders, if you haven't completed Church of England / Diocesan safeguarding training in the last three years (2017 -2019) you will have to complete Basic Awareness (C0) and Foundation training (C1) first

As a Leader, how do I sign up to the Virtual Leadership training?

- Sign up to the training by looking at the training dates and then contact Sharon Welbourne via email: Sharon.welbourne@peterborough-diocese.org.uk
- She will require your full name, email address, church role and whether you hold a Bishops License or if you are a Volunteer
- Some pre-attendance work is required by participants prior to the training session. Once you have signed up to the training session you will receive an email from Sharon, containing all the information at least a week before the training date. Check your Spam if you do not see this in your in-box
- **You will need to sign up to the training at least a week prior to the training date**

Here is the link to the safeguarding training information and dates:

<https://www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/training/training>

What does the pre-attendance work and new training material consist of?

- Don't panic, the pre-attendance work involves:
 - Answering 4 safeguarding questions and returning the responses to Sharon Welbourne two days before the training session
 - Reading a Parish checklist so that you are aware of what your parish should be doing in relation to safeguarding – and be able to challenge where the parish is not doing this
 - Reading the first part of a case study and note some answers to the questions ready for group discussions on the day
 - **NB** – *if your answers to the 4 safeguarding questions aren't returned before the training then you cannot participate in the training. When we receive the completed answers we will then send the Zoom invite to the training session*

- During the training session the second part of the case study will be emailed to you for you to read and promote further discussion (we don't want to spoil the suspense by giving you the outcome right from the outset)
- The training material is aimed to explore of what effective leadership behaviour looks like in respect of safeguarding
- The case study is aimed to explore how to respond effectively to a safeguarding disclosure

What happens after the training session finishes?

- At the conclusion of the training session participants will be sent an email containing:
 - A Reflection and Learning Goals pro-forma, which is completed and returned to Sharon Welbourne
 - Those who hold a Bishops Licence will also be asked to read Psalm 91 Read and write a short reflection on how this informs your safeguarding leadership beliefs
 - Once these have been returned your certificate will be provided and our records updates that you have completed the training
 - The DSA will dip-sample the returns and contact participants to see how they have embedded the goals they have set themselves and also obtain further feedback about the training process
- You will also be asked to:
 - Watch the BBC documentary Exposed: The Churches Darkest Secret and the ink and password to access this will be provided
 - Read 'Promoting a Safer Church – House of Bishops policy statement and the link to this policy will be provided



DON'T SHOOT THE MESSENGER

Information from your DSA team: This is a new direction of travel being proposed by our NST regarding safeguarding training. By us delivering the new training material we can then gain feedback of the strengths and areas of improvement, which we can then share with the NST. This will help to shape how the future training will look.

If you feel anxious or troubled about the leadership training then please let [Bev Huff](#) or [Samantha Jackson](#) know so that they can speak with you about your concerns.



DASHBOARD APP



We mentioned in our last newsletter our aim of contacting parishes to try and encourage and support you to use the Safeguarding Dashboard App instead of having to complete an annual parish safeguarding audit.

To achieve this aim, you may have received emails from either Sam Jackson or Sharon Welbourne. What fantastic results are being achieved, so thank you to everyone who has signed up to this brilliant and simple App. I encourage all of our parishes to sign up as it will make safeguarding easier to oversee within your parishes. It will also help us to identify where we can come and offer support to you – we are one team and ‘safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility’.

Here is a breakdown of what has been achieved since our last newsletter in June:

Numbers of parishes using Dashboard			
	Oakham	Northampton	Total
Before lockdown	15	25	40
June newsletter	48	51	99
Waiting to join in June	16	26	42
Now	50	62	112
Waiting to join	19	27	46

Our helpful video will tell you more about how the App works

<https://vimeo.com/315725141>

For those of you who opt to sign up to the Parish Dashboard App, remember that it is not necessary for you to complete a paper audit.

If you are interested in registering your parish for the Dashboard App, please contact Sam Jackson at Samantha.Jackson@peterborough-diocese.org.uk for further information.

SUPPORT FOR SURVIVORS OF CHURCH RELATED ABUSE



Victim Support has been awarded the contract to manage 'Safe Spaces', a joint Anglican and Catholic Church in England and Wales (CCEW) project to provide a vital support service for survivors of church-related abuse.

Victim Support is well known for its specialist services and work with people affected by crime, abuse and traumatic events, and was awarded the contract following a competitive process.

The proposed model for Safe Spaces to be developed by Victim Support and which will run for an initial two-year period, is:

- A central hub helpline with skilled first response advocates trained in trauma informed advocacy support and advice
- The development of a 'Safe Spaces' website to provide information and advice to survivors, families and professionals.
- Up to 10 community-based survivor led therapeutic support groups (both faith-based and secular)

Diana Fawcett, Chief Executive of Victim Support, said: 'The importance of specialist services for victims of faith-based abuse cannot be understated. Those affected by sexual, physical or psychological abuse face increased risk of mental health problems, and are often denied justice.'

Where trauma is compounded by disbelief, it is vital that victims can access specialist services completely anonymously and independently from the police or any faith-based institution. We welcome the introduction of this much-needed specialist service, and recognise the importance of input from survivors in the design and delivery of trauma-informed support.'

The Bishop of Southampton, Debbie Sellin, deputy lead bishop coordinating support for survivors, said: 'I am very much looking forward to working with Victim Support as Safe Spaces develops providing vital support and advice to survivors.'

The DSA team are attending a virtual meeting regarding the model and will share any further information in future newsletters.



NOTIFICATION FOR SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS



Regardless of circumstances, if you see or hear something which makes you think that a child, young person or vulnerable adult may be being neglected or abused in any way, you should not hesitate to report your concerns. In an emergency call 999. Please continue to contact the DSA team via email or phone. If you do phone leave a message on our answer machines as we do pick the messages up remotely.

Any safeguarding concerns, referrals that have been made to our statutory partners and any allegations of crimes that have been committed **must** be brought to the attention of the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Team.

Who do I contact?

Safeguarding concerns:

Beverly Huff, Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser: 01733 887040 or e-mail at: bev.huff@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

Samantha Jackson, Assistant Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser: 01733 887041 or e-mail at: samantha.jackson@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

DBS Checks:

If you have any questions about safer recruitment or DBS checks then please contact

Thirtyone:eight DBS enquiries: 0303 003 1111

or contact

Sharon Welbourne: 01733 887027 or e-mail at: sharon.welbourne@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

Safeguarding Training Modules

See our training link on Peterborough Diocese website under safeguarding:
<https://www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/training/training>

or contact

Sharon Welbourne: 01733 887027 or e- mail at: sharon.welbourne@peterborough-diocese.org.uk



REMINDERS

1. If someone discloses to you something which amounts to an offence you must inform the DSA team and in an emergency call 999 / 101
2. If you make a referral about a young person or vulnerable adult during your role within a church, then the DSA team must be informed and any referral forms copied to them
3. Please let Luke Smith know if you are new to your role or your role has changed: luke.smith@peterborough-diocese.org.uk
4. If, as a church officer, someone disclosed something to you which you did not report or raise the concern at the time or subsequently then please speak with the DSA team
5. Your Local Authority will have free safeguarding training available – please look on their website for sessions that might be of interest

THANK YOU



I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone in supporting Samantha, Sharon and myself in embedding safeguarding within our churches.

We couldn't do this without your help. Together, within our Diocese, it is about teamwork and working together internally and externally with others. We are making our churches safe places to be part of – safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

You can get information about many of your safeguarding queries on line at
www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/safeguarding