

# SAFEGUARDING BRIEFING

Winter 2019/3

**SIGN UP TO OUR TRAINING HERE**

*Welcome!*

Welcome to the third edition of the Diocese of Truro's Safeguarding Briefing. This newsletter is sent to Priests in charge, safeguarding co-ordinators, safeguarding trainers & PCC secretaries.

This briefing contains up-to-date guidance, information, dates, and events and provides you with the

opportunity to ask questions and share best practice. Please feel free to share this briefing.

## TRAINING & EVENTS

### TRAINING

There are nine safeguarding training events across the diocese over the next three months; click on the link above to book a place.

## PAST CASE REVIEW 2 (PCR2)

### WHAT IS IT?

PCR2 is an independent review being carried out in every diocese and church institution. The aim of the review is to check that:

- all known safeguarding cases have been appropriately managed and reported to statutory agencies or the police where appropriate;
- that the needs of any known victims have been considered and that sources of support have been identified and offered where this is appropriate; and
- that all identified risks have been assessed and mitigated as far as is reasonably possible.

The review will be conducted between January and June 2020.

### How will it affect parishes?

Phase 1 of the review, which will start in January, is to check with every parish and identify any file that could contain information regarding a concern, allegation or conviction in relation to abusive

behaviour by a living member of the clergy or church officer, whether still in that position or not.

A church officer is anyone appointed/elected by or on behalf of the Church to an office, post or role, whether they be ordained or lay, paid or unpaid. This includes all clergy, including those with PTO, readers and licensed lay workers, volunteers and parish lay employees whose role includes (or has included) direct involvement with children and vulnerable adults.

### HOW CAN I PREPARE?

Further information will be available in December and the Bishop's formal request to review your parish files and make enquires will be sent to incumbents/parishes on January 7, 2020. We ask that you set aside time in your diaries to undertake that review during January.

In September we circulated a poster promoting the NSPCC helpline for anyone to provide information or

raise concerns regarding abuse within the Church of England. If you have not already done so, please display this poster in your churches. A copy is attached to this briefing note.

### WHAT WILL HAPPEN THEN?

If a case is identified that requires immediate action, e.g. referral, the diocesan safeguarding team will contact you. The independent reviewers will start their review of the case files in February and they may or may not need to visit your parish.

### SUPPORT FOR ANYONE AFFECTED BY THE REVIEW

We recognise that this review may cause upset and re-open old wounds and will be offering support and/or counselling.

Please contact us via email: [safeguarding@truro.anglican.org](mailto:safeguarding@truro.anglican.org) for details.

# GUIDANCE & INFORMATION

*The diocesan website contains national and local safeguarding resources for parishes and is updated on a regular basis. The following is a summary of new/ revised guidance.*

## UPDATES TO THE PARISH SAFEGUARDING HANDBOOK

The Parish Safeguarding Handbook has been updated to reflect the Training and Development Framework 2019.

For those in possession of original printed copies of the Parish

Safeguarding Handbook, an **addendum** may be downloaded and printed off to replace the information found on pages 16 and 17. We will provide further information about the training framework shortly.

## SAFEGUARDING SUPPORT FROM CHURCH HOUSE

As some of you may be aware there have been some changes to the operations team at Church House.

Rosey Sanders has moved on from supporting safeguarding and we are now supported by Brigitte Lowe. If you have any general safeguarding queries, including DBS and training please send them in the first instance via email to [safeguarding@truro.anglican.org](mailto:safeguarding@truro.anglican.org).

*“A quick note to say au revoir to all I have had contact with in my past role as safeguarding administrator over the last three years. I have enjoyed getting to know you all, particularly the safeguarding co-ordinators, as well as clergy and readers in*

*relation to renewal of their DBS checks. I will leave you in the very capable hands of Brigitte Lowe who is taking on the Safeguarding and DBS specialism. Thank you for all you do and for making our churches safer places.*

*I shall be taking on new specialisms in the Operations Team at Church House namely: Social Responsibility, Environment, HR and Health and Wellbeing, so I still will be around and will no doubt speak to some of you again in the future!”*

*Rosey*

## SAFER WORKING PRACTICE

Safer working practice - The companion to the Parish Safeguarding Handbook, Safer Environments and Activities, has now been published on the Policy and Practice Guidance section of the Church of England [website](#).

This guidance provides highly practical advice for parishes, helping them to run their day-to-day activities as safely as possible.

## INFORMATION & LINKS

**Safeguarding Sunday:** We would appreciate it if safeguarding co-ordinators could complete a small survey about Safeguarding Sunday. The survey can be found [here](#)

**Anti-Slavery Resources:** The Clewer initiative have put together several resources around the theme of ‘Let’s Talk’, including an church resources, children’s resource and prayers. They have also created graphics of the prayers to use on social media.

All the resources are available from:

[www.theclewerinitiative.org/resources](http://www.theclewerinitiative.org/resources)

As well as resources for churches there is a poster designed to raise awareness amongst homeless people for use in winter night shelters, drop ins, and soup kitchens.

Alongside it there is a foldable card, designed for people working with the homeless to help them understand the signs of modern slavery, and know what to do when they come across it.



Parish Resources



Group photo of our Celebrating Safeguarding Coordinators and Trainers event

## NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

# Safeguarding is front & centre

My name is Simon Bray, I was newly appointed as the Church Warden for All Saints Highertown (ASHT) earlier this year. I have been asked to share some of the processes we use to ensure safeguarding remains at the forefront of our church life.

At ASHT we are fortunate to be able to support a wide range of activities and have a pro-active safeguarding co-ordinator, Irene Mortimore.

Apart from the required posters, information leaflets and policy documents we ensure that we follow the safe recruiting guidelines. We carefully identify the roles that require DBS checks and make



sure that the appropriate level of safeguarding training is achieved. We identify the people in these roles as our safeguarding stakeholders.

Having established a robust framework, the primary challenge is to ensure that all safeguarding stakeholders remain engaged and up-to-date on safeguarding matters.

To this end we use a form of cascade briefing. Irene receives regular updates from the diocese and

attends a safeguarding co-ordinators meeting approximately every six months. As a result we aim to convene a safeguarding stakeholders meeting every term (after the co-ordinators meeting) to discuss any new developments and reflect on the effectiveness of our practices. These meetings are also timed to be held just before each PCC meeting to assist Irene in preparing a report as safeguarding is a standing agenda item at all PCC meetings.

This process has served us well so far and has provided a platform for sharing ideas amongst the Safeguarding stakeholders as well as keeping us well informed.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### Online child abuse & exploitation programme

The Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) Command Thinkuknow education programme aims to empower children and young people to identify the risks they face online and know where they can go for support.

You can access their resources and register for regular updates [here](#), or show children and families the resources available for them [here](#).

### National Domestic Violence Helpline information

Domestic abuse charity Refuge has been awarded a grant to operate a vital helpline to provide confidential advice for domestic abuse victims. Refuge has been awarded more than £1.2 million to run the National Domestic Violence Helpline, a free service which provides confidential information and expert support to people affected by domestic abuse. The service is free to call on 0808 2000 247. It is staffed 24 hours a day, every day of the year, by a dedicated team of experts.