

SAFEGUARDING BRIEFING NOTE

July 2022/14

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Welcome!

Welcome to the 14th edition of the Diocese of Truro's Safeguarding Briefing Note. Please contact safeguardingqueries@truro.anglican.org for more information or assistance.

If you need to raise a safeguarding concern with the safeguarding team please email your concern to safeguardingconcerns@truro.anglican.org using the [safeguarding referral form on the diocesan website](#).

If you are concerned there is an immediate risk of harm to an individual you should contact the MARU 0300 1231 116 or Police 101 or 999.

Further information and archived copies of the safeguarding briefing notes can be found on our [website](#).

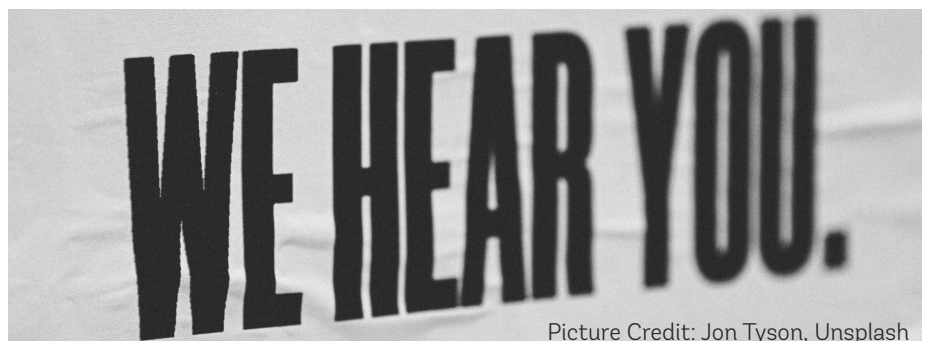
RESPONDING WELL TO SURVIVORS - UPDATE

The Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Panel (DSAP) met in April and focussed on how we are listening to, engaging with, supporting and learning from those with lived experience of abuse.

DSAP reviewed the recently launched Responding Well to Victims and Survivors of Abuse guidance document, which can be found in the [e-manual](#).

There is a lot of ongoing work around listening to survivors, and this will continue to be a priority at both a national and local level. Some examples include:-

- At a national level +Philip chairs the project board that is tasked with setting up the National Redress Scheme.
- In addition to our work with First Light we are working in partnership with Men Against Sexual Abuse (MASA) to deliver a bespoke and funded service for male victims of church based abuse.



Picture Credit: Jon Tyson, Unsplash

- Updating our 'I am concerned – what can I do' information on our website, to include developing a flowchart that shows what support is available and how to access it.

- Working with the Senior Leadership

Team to review the 'issuing of apologies by Church Bodies' section.

We are continuing to work our way through the guidance. Watch this space for some exciting developments in the autumn.

MEN AGAINST SEXUAL ABUSE FUNDED COUNSELLING

Men Against Sexual Abuse (MASA) is a registered charity that was set up to support males from the age of 16 upwards who have experienced sexual abuse during their lifetime.

There are a number of funded counselling sessions available for men who are subjected to Sexual Abuse. If you know anyone who this would assist please encourage them to apply to [MASA](#).

If you would like to know more about



MASA please see our October 2021 Safeguarding briefing or look on their [website](#).

SAFE SPACES: FREE INDEPENDENT SUPPORT SERVICE

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 in England and Wales or the Church in Wales.

Although the churches have funded the service, it is run independently by the charity Victim Support, who are one of the leading charities providing specialist support to survivors of abuse in England and Wales.

If you have been affected, however long ago, Safe Spaces can provide you with support. You do not have to have told the police or the church authorities, and you do not have to still be involved with the church. Your information will not be shared without your consent unless you or someone else is in immediate danger.

You can contact the Safe Spaces team by phone, live chat or by filling in a self-contact-referral form. Further information can be found on their [website](#).

RAISING AWARENESS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE

Domestic abuse awareness month takes place in October with the aim of raising awareness of the various types of domestic abuse and the various forms it comes in.

The Church of England is working nationally to plan events, workshops and interactive sessions so that we can all actively participate. We will pass on any information in our next briefing note.

We would like to remind you of the online training that was launched in November 2021. Anyone who holds the Bishop's licence, commission, authorisation or permission, Parish Safeguarding Officers, Ordinands and PCC Members are required to undertake this training during 2022. To date 40 people across the



PCC's, diocese and cathedral have undertaken this module.

Have you done yours? If not please log into the [CofE online portal](#).

HOW DO I RESPOND TO A SAFEGUARDING INCIDENT?

In order to provide the safeguarding team with the information needed to support you with your safeguarding concern we have created a form which can be used as your safeguarding record AND must be used to make your referral.

The form can be found on the [diocesan website](#), additional information can be found on the [How do I report a safeguarding incident?](#) section.

THIS NEWSLETTER ...

Please share this briefing with others including your PCC, priest, safeguarding officer or PCC secretary

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY: SAVE THE DATE

Safeguarding Sunday takes place on November 20.

Protecting vulnerable people is at the heart of the Christian message of justice and hope. Safeguarding Sunday is an opportunity for your church to show your community that you take this responsibility seriously.

It's your chance, as a church, to use your regular Sunday service to explore together what safer places look like, and to thank all those working behind the scenes to make our churches safer for all.

Whether you give just a few minutes or can dedicate your whole service [thirtyeight.org](#) have everything you need to help plan and run your event.

The [registration page](#) is now live where people can register their churches to take part. You will receive the 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.

SPIRITUAL ABUSE: WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT?

Spiritual Abuse is not a separate category of abuse but is a form of psychological and emotional abuse within a religious context.

The Safeguarding Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults guidance, which can be found in the safeguarding e-manual notes that in relation to spiritual abuse, Church Officers must:

- i) Listen carefully, avoid interrupting and allow a full disclosure without feeling they must defend the Church or the individual.
- ii) Respond in a non-judgemental manner, demonstrating that the disclosure of spiritual abuse is being taken seriously.
- iii) Avoid minimising what they are being told or showing disbelief or denial.
- iv) Be aware that victims may have experienced harmful teaching.
- v) Avoid suggesting the use of Matthew 18 (resolving disputes by speaking directly to the person). It is harmful to suggest that someone speaks to their abuser about their abuse.
- vi) Be aware that a disclosure of spiritual abuse may also be part of a disclosure of other forms of abuse.
- vii) Where abuse has involved use of scripture or prayer, think carefully and be judicious about whether it is appropriate to use this as a first response to a disclosure.

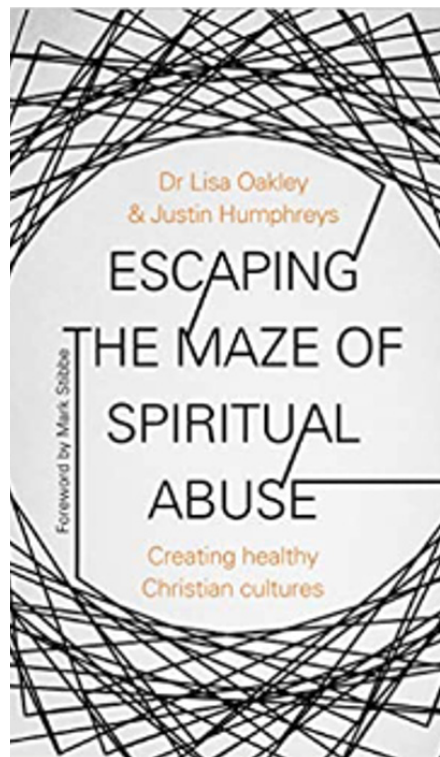
WANT TO KNOW MORE?

You can read - Escaping the Maze of Spiritual Abuse: Creating Healthy Christian Cultures Paperback – by Lisa Oakley (Author), Justin Humphreys (Author).

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING FOR BELL RINGERS & TOWER CAPTAINS - WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS?

Safeguarding Training for Bell Ringers and Bell Tower Captains – what are the requirements?

We have received a number of queries



You can learn more by attending the CofE Spiritual Abuse training by contacting lisa.clarke@churchofengland.org

CURRENT TRAINING DATES

- * Wednesday 7th September
- * Monday 12th September
- * Thursday 22nd September
- * Monday 26th September
- * Monday 10th October
- * Monday 7th November

about the safeguarding training requirements for bell ringers and Tower Captains:

- Bell ringers – all to complete Basic

SAFER RECRUITMENT & PEOPLE MANAGEMENT: SHARING BEST PRACTICE

It has been six months since the introduction of the SRPM guidance, which we know you are working hard to implement.

For those PCCs which are using the Parish Dashboards, 27 have identified that they are fully compliant with SRPM and 74 are actively working towards compliance.

We will be looking to hold some more drop in sessions over the next few months if they would be helpful.

Please let us know (safeguardingqueries@truro.anglican.org) if you have any questions or queries and we can add them to the list of topics.

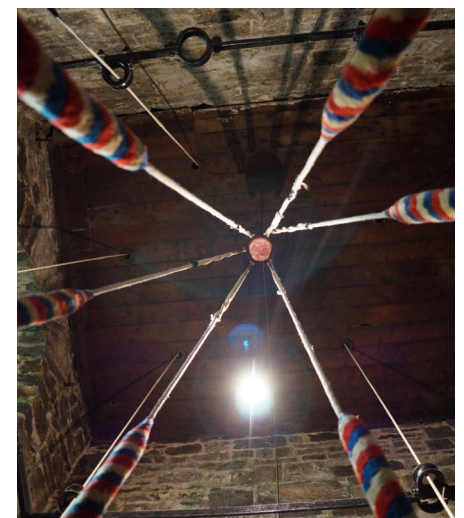
Equally if you have any good practice, or hints and tips that you would like to share please send them in.

As a reminder if you are involved in recruitment you must do SRPM online training.

Currently 85 Clergy/parish officers, 21 diocesan staff and 3 cathedral staff have completed the training.

Not only is it a requirement for those of us involved in recruitment it is a good way to understand the guidance.

Access to the training requires logging into the **CofE online portal**.



Awareness;

- Tower captains and those teaching children – complete Basic Awareness, Foundation and Leadership.

SURVIVOR ENGAGEMENT SURVEY LAUNCHED

A national anonymous survey to understand how victims and survivors would like to be involved in the development and implementation of a Church of England survivor engagement framework has been launched.

The purpose of the survey is to listen to victims and survivors about how they would like to be involved in developing and implementing the framework and enable victims and survivors of any form of abuse to engage in different workstreams within the Church, including its response to victims and survivors of abuse.

The survey is open for any victim or survivor, including children and young people, and all responses will be anonymous. It takes approximately 13-15 minutes to complete.

The survey will run until September 18, 2022, and the learning from the survey will inform a publicly accessible report, which will include key themes and next steps to develop the framework.

The report will be published online in Church's survivor engagement webpage which has also just launched.

Details about the survey can be found on this [webpage](#), and the survey can be accessed [here](#).

If you have any query or need the survey in a word format, please contact the Survivor Engagement Team at engage.safeguarding@churchofengland.org.



MODERN SLAVERY & HOSTING REFUGEES TRAINING

The Clewer Initiative are running free 90 minutes online awareness raising sessions on modern slavery and safeguarding for those hosting and volunteering with refugees. These will be delivered by Becca Faal and Helen Styles (safeguarding consultants for TCI).

This workshop will build on any previous experience you have of safeguarding and modern slavery. It will help you to get some answers to the following questions.

- What is modern slavery?
- Why are refugees vulnerable to exploitation and trafficking?
- What do I need to know about safeguarding when working with potential victims?
- Where can I get further information and training from?

Please book onto one of the dates using the link below. We will send you the zoom link once you have registered:

19 September 2022 @7pm- 8:30pm
22 September 2022 @2pm- 3:30pm

FREE MODERN SLAVERY & SAFEGUARDING TRAINING AVAILABLE

The Clewer Initiative are running free 90 minutes online awareness raising sessions on modern slavery and safeguarding for Parish Safeguarding Officers. These will be delivered by Becca Faal and Helen Styles (safeguarding consultants for TCI).

This workshop will build on any previous experience you have of safeguarding and modern slavery. It will help you to get some answers to the following questions.

- What is modern slavery?

- How do you recognise, respond, record and refer concerns about modern slavery and exploitation?

- What do I need to know about safeguarding when working with potential victims?

- Where can I get further information and training from?

Please book onto one of the dates using the links below. We will send you the

zoom link once you have registered:

12 September 2022 @7pm- 8:30pm
16 September 2022 @10am- 11:30am



THE CLEWER
INITIATIVE