

SAFEGUARDING BRIEFING NOTE

October 2022/14

[SIGN UP TO OUR TRAINING HERE](#)

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 standard referral form ([model parish recording template](#)) on the C of E 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](#).

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & ABUSE AWARENESS

Domestic abuse is “any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality.

More information about domestic abuse and how the church can raise awareness and become a ‘safe space’ for people to disclose can be found in the safeguarding e-manual [here](#),

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).

How can I find out more?

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.”

Domestic abuse awareness training is available via the [online training portal](#).

How are we raising awareness?

Domestic Violence awareness month takes place internationally in October, the aim is to raise awareness of the various types of domestic abuse and the various forms it comes in.

The Church of England will be raising awareness of domestic through 16 days of sound bites and videos starting in November, followed up by training in 2023. Watch this space for more information about how you can get involved.

PCC TRAINING - WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS?

The safeguarding training requirements for PCC members are 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.

In terms of 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.

For more information about PCC members responsibilities please refer to the leaflet on our [website](#).

DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING ADVISORY PANEL

The Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Panel (DSAP), which meets quarterly, advises the diocesan bishop (Bishop Philip) of how: safeguarding is working across the diocese, we are engaging with survivors and working with our partners.

Each meeting focusses on one of our four key themes: being survivor led, strengthening our leadership culture and increasing capacity & supporting our parishes. The panel includes external partners, a Survivor Advocate and parish representatives.

Hearing directly from parishes about their safeguarding experiences is one of the key areas of the DSAP work. We

understand that not everyone has the time or feels able to be a member of DSAP and therefore Justine Hosking, our Independent Chair has been considering how we can better engage with you.

We are proposing to provide regular updates, via this briefing note, about DSAP discussions. In addition to the parish representatives on DSAP, we will be setting up some drop in sessions with Justine in the new year. Finally, if you want to contact Justine directly she can be reached at dsapchair@truro.anglican.org. (Please do not use this email address for safeguarding concerns or safeguarding queries).

MODERN SLAVERY MODULE ON E-PORTAL

Modern slavery is present in every single community. According to the Global Slavery Index, there are 136,000 victims in the UK and most of these people go unnoticed, hidden in plain sight. The methodology used by criminal gangs to control victims is increasingly sophisticated and always evolving. For this reason, it is essential that safeguarding officers keep their knowledge up to date.

The Clewer Initiative, the Church of

England's response to modern slavery, has recently revised the Modern Slavery module on the Church of England's online safeguarding portal. The new, interactive material shares insight about how modern slavery is manifesting itself within UK communities and how to recognise, respond, refer and record concerns. The module is useful to anyone with a safeguarding remit and can be broken down into sections so participants can digest the material slowly. To find out more click [here](#).

OCTOBER 18 IS ANTI-SLAVERY DAY

To help galvanise our communities to act against modern slavery, The Clewer Initiative is launching a new campaign - **Make it Slavery Free**. The hope is that groups and individuals will work towards building slavery-free communities by pledging to carry out three anti-slavery actions this year. This could include setting up a social action project,

attending a safeguarding seminar on modern slavery, making a commitment to ethical purchasing or simply using the Safe Car Wash App.

The Clewer Initiative has **lots of anti-slavery ideas** online and has designed easily-customisable Make It Slavery Free posters and flyers, available to order from **Christian Publishing & Outreach**.

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

Safeguarding Sunday is on November 20 this year. If you want to take part and haven't yet registered you can still do so via the thirtyone: eight website - **Safeguarding Sunday**. Once you have registered you will be able to access the posters, communications pack and resource pack to help plan and lead a service.

SRPM - NEED HELP?

Further to our note in the July Safeguarding briefing there have been no queries regarding future drop in sessions or best practice to share.

The self-assessment tools that can be found in the SRPM policy or the parish dashboards are a good way of understanding how your parish is doing. We know that 43% of parishes who use the dashboard are using the self-assessment tool.

If you have any questions that you would like to raise email safeguardingqueries@truro.anglican.org

SAFEGUARDING TEMPLATES

As you will hopefully be aware we have published your completed role profiles on our website so that you can share them. We know that sometimes that the national safeguarding templates can be time consuming to fill out from scratch. Do you have examples of completed templates that you would be willing to share, send them into safeguardingqueries@truro.anglican.org

MEETING YOUR NEEDS?

The safeguarding briefing note is how we share guidance and information with parishes. We get very little feedback and we want to make sure that it meets your needs.

Please help us to help you by completing a short **questionnaire** by the end of October.

PAST CASE REVIEW 2

Further to the recent letter from Bishop Philip the Past Case Review 2 (PCR2) national and local reports have now been published. More information about how the review was conducted and what happens now can be found on the diocesan and cathedral's websites.