

ISSUE

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Safeguarding Matters

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WELCOME

Welcome to the Spring edition of Safeguarding Matters! In this edition, we will be explaining about the Independent Safeguarding Board (ISA) and what effect the new Vetting and Barring Scheme will have on parishes when it is launched in October this year. We will also give you details about the whole new area of safeguarding vulnerable adults, and what parishes will need to be doing now in order to prepare for the revised Diocesan Safeguarding procedures due out soon.

We have had very positive feedback about our first newsletter, so thank you for all your encouraging comments, and we hope that you continue to feedback your views and suggestions to us.

Mary Daisy
Assistant Safeguarding Adviser

Parish Policy Statements (PPP/1)

Please can you remember to send us your Parish Policy Statements (PPP/1) every year. Although nothing might have changed within your parish, we still require a copy of the statement annually in order that we can be assured that you are continuing to monitor your arrangements for child protection and that we also have up-to-date information in order to correspond with child protection representatives and/or identity validators.

At the moment 30% of parishes have not sent us a PPP/1 form for two years or more, so please let us have your latest copy as soon as you can!



Thank you!



Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults



This year, our safeguarding responsibilities have increased to encompass vulnerable adults. As a result of this, we are currently in the process of writing new procedures which will be distributed to all parishes in the next few months. Also, our job titles have changed in reflection of these additional responsibilities. They are:

- John Marshman -Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser
- Mary Daisy—Assistant Safeguarding Adviser
- Theresa Winship—Safeguarding Administrator

What is the definition of a Vulnerable Adult?

A vulnerable adult is a person... *“who is or may be in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness; and who is or may be unable to take care of him or herself, or unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation.”*

What impact will this have on parishes?

The Vulnerable Adults Policy will outline the practice and procedures for paid and voluntary workers in parishes. Every PCC will be required to adhere to the Diocesan policy and to implement this into their parish. In view of this, we are recommending that parishes start preparing now for the new procedures. This includes:

Appointing a Vulnerable Adults Rep

This person will be responsible on behalf of the incumbent and PCC for implementing the Vulnerable Adults Policy and any local details. Your Parish Child Protection Representative might be willing to incorporate these new responsibilities into their current role, and if this is the case, their title might need to change reflect their additional duties, i.e. Safeguarding Representative.

However, you may decide to have two representatives, one with responsibilities for children, and the other for vulnerable adults. If this is what is decided by the PCC, mechanisms need to be put in place in order that the two individuals meet regularly to discuss any issues, as although there are specific differences between the two roles, the procedures in dealing with concerns are broadly similar.

Identifying vulnerable adults events and activities that are the responsibility of the PCC

These should be recorded in the same way as with the children and young people’s activities. We can provide a document template in respect of this or by e-mail on request.

Identifying the positions that require CRB checks

At the present time, the circumstances in which ‘vulnerable adult’ CRB checks can be carried out are quite restricted. We would recommend that all pastoral visitors who provide care services to vulnerable adults in their own home, i.e. shopping, transport are checked. However, those who run or help with lunch or tea clubs in the church hall would not be eligible for a check under the current guidelines.

For further help and guidance, please contact: Mary Daisy or Theresa Winship on 023 92899 667

The Independent Safeguarding Authority and the New Vetting and Barring Scheme



The Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) was created following the recommendations of the Bichard Enquiry, which was set up in response to the Soham murders in 2002.

What is the ISA?

The main aim of the ISA is to prevent unsuitable people from working with children and vulnerable adults. It will do this by placing people on one of two ISA Barred Lists. The ISA will make decisions about who should be on these lists. The ISA will work in partnership with the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) to deliver the new scheme. The CRB provides the administrative arm, supporting the ISA's primary function of making barring decisions.

What are Barred Lists?

From 12 October 2009, the three current barring lists (POCA, POVA and List 99) will be replaced by the creation of two new barred lists administered by the ISA. These are:

- A list of people barred from working with children (replacing List 99, the POCA list and disqualification orders) and
- A list of people barred from working with vulnerable adults (replacing the POVA list).

How will the Vetting and Barring Scheme work?

Any worker or volunteer who is, or applies to be, involved in certain activities with children or vulnerable adults will need to become registered members of the Vetting and Barring Scheme. All applications will continue to be processed through the Diocesan Safeguarding office in Portsmouth, in the same way as the CRB Scheme.

distinguish between volunteers and paid workers, which means that the new rules will apply equally to anyone who is seeking to work with children or vulnerable adults

When will this Happen?

The new Scheme is due to be launched on **12th October 2009**, with the creation of two rather than three barred lists. Barred individuals who seek or undertake work with vulnerable groups, or organisations who knowingly take them on will be subject to criminal penalties. At this time the eligibility criteria for enhanced CRB checks will be extended to include anyone working in a regulated position.

From **July 2010** individuals will be able to register with the ISA if they intend to work or currently work with children and/or vulnerable adults. The existing CRB application will remain in place until this time at which time a new application will be introduced to allow individuals to apply for either ISA registration, a CRB check or both.

What does this mean for my parish/organisation?

You should continue to undertake CRB checks on all your workers and volunteers who work with children and/or vulnerable adults. All

CRB checks are subject to renewal after 5 years, therefore individuals who were last checked in 2004 or before must be re-checked this year if they are still working or volunteering with children and/or vulnerable adults.

From October 2009 any individual working in a regulated position is required to apply for an Enhanced CRB check.



What is regulated activity?

- An activity of a specified nature that involves contact with children or vulnerable adults frequently, intensively and/or overnight. (Such activities include teaching, training, care, supervision, advice, treatment and transportation.
- Any activity allowing contact with children or vulnerable adults that is in a specified place frequently or intensively.
- Fostering and childcare.
- Any activity that involves people in certain defined positions of responsibility. (Such positions include school governor, director of children services or adult social services and trustee of certain charities).

'Regulated activity' is when the activity is frequent (once a month or more) or 'intensive' (takes place on three or more days in a 30-day period).

We will continue to send you regular updates as to the new Vetting and Barring Scheme, as



Safeguarding Children in Church Basic Awareness Training Dates

Fixed dates for 2009 are:

Isle of Wight, Newport

Wednesday 22nd April 1.30pm-4.30pm

Locks Heath, St Johns

Saturday 18th July 10.00am-1.00pm

Portsmouth, Peninsular House

Wednesday 7th October 10.00am-1.00pm

This year we are also running training sessions in parishes across the Diocese. If you are interested in hosting a training workshop in your parish, please contact Theresa Winship

023 9289 9665 or
theresa.winship@portsmouth.anglican.org

we approach the launch in October, however, until then you should continue with your current arrangements.



The ISA and the Vetting and Barring Scheme are subjects that are covered in the Basic Awareness Child Protection Training, the dates of which are confirmed below.

For further help and support in respect of the ISA and Vetting and Barring Scheme, you should contact Mary Daisy or Theresa Winship on 023 92 899677.



We do recommend that everyone who is involved in children's work with the church should attend Child Protection Training at least once every 3 years.



Coming in the next issue

ISA Update
Supervision and Care
of Offenders