

ISSUE  
**08**  
WINTER

# Safeguarding Matters

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**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**



Welcome to another Winter edition of Safeguarding Matters. This is our third year, and we trust you are continuing to find the newsletter a useful way of receiving information and updates from us.

In this edition, we bring you details of our training programme for 2012. We will be introducing a more targeted approach to training next year, and parishes are encouraged to consider the activities and events they are providing for children, young people and/or vulnerable adults, and determine what training their volunteers and workers require in order that they can undertake their church roles more effectively. Furthermore, it will be compulsory for all new Safeguarding Representatives to attend designated induction training, and we will be writing to some of you separately about this.

We have also included an article about the supervision and pastoral care of specific offenders in parishes, as this is a significant part of our work.

We wish you all a very Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

From the  
Diocesan Safeguarding Team

## *Eligibility of CRB Checks*

We have received a number of enquiries recently regarding clarification on what types of roles are eligible for CRB checks for volunteers in church.

Because a church is not a listed establishment in the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006, all roles must be assessed on the nature of the duties the individual will carry out, i.e. training, teaching, supervision and transporting children and/or vulnerable adults.

Parishes should not undertake CRB checks on their administrators, PCC members and/or Churchwardens if the individuals carrying out these roles have very minimal contact with children or vulnerable adults. This is because the contact with these groups is of an 'incidental nature' and despite the fact that they may be seen as a 'person of trust' they are not eligible under the current regulations.

For parishes who have adult and children servers, and/or a mixed age choir, it is normally only the Choir Leader, Head Server and their Deputies who are eligible for a CRB check. However, parishes are encouraged to put in place appropriate safeguarding arrangements to ensure that adult members of these activities and the children who attend are not placed at risk. For further help with this, please contact the Safeguarding Office on Tel: 023 92899677/665.

## Designated Safeguarding Representative Induction Training (Duration: 2 hours)

This is a compulsory workshop for new Parish Safeguarding Representatives and will enable them to create a safer parish culture in order to effectively protect children, young people and vulnerable adults. This workshop will enable representatives to identify what they need to do in order to implement relevant safeguarding procedures within the parish.

## Essential Awareness and Response to Safeguarding Children (Duration: 2 hours)

This workshop is intended for anyone whose work brings them into contact with children and/or young people within the church. The training covers issues specific to church organisations, around the safe working practices with children and young people, signs and symptoms of abuse and how to respond to concerns.



## Essential Awareness and Response to Safeguarding Adults (Duration: 2 hours)

This workshop is intended for anyone whose work brings them into contact with vulnerable adults within the church including pastoral visitors. The training covers issues specific to church organisations around the safe working practices with vulnerable adults, signs and symptoms of abuse and how to respond to concerns.



## Recruiting and Managing Volunteers Safely (Duration: 2 hours)

This workshop provides participants with an understanding of the principles and methods required to make fair and safe recruitment decisions in order to prevent the appointment of unsuitable people, and explores how effective supervision and vigilance can prevent children, young people and vulnerable adults being placed at risk. The training is intended for Clergy, Safeguarding Representatives and those who are responsible for recruiting and managing volunteers as part of their church role.



## Managing Offenders in Church (Duration: 2 hours)

Many churches support ex offenders in church, and this normally runs alongside the monitoring of the individual by police and probation. This workshop provides participants with an understanding of how they can support the offender pastorally, whilst also ensuring they are supervised safely, and includes issues related to sex offending, risk assessment and written contracts, as well as the pastoral care and support of sex offenders in a church setting. This workshop is intended for Clergy and Safeguarding Representatives, and those who are part of Support Groups set up through the church for high risk offenders.

# TRAINING DATES

All training workshops will be held at the Portsmouth Diocesan Offices

- \* Saturday 14th January Essential Awareness and Response to Safeguarding Children
- \* **Monday 23rd January Essential Awareness & Response to Safeguarding Adults**
- \* Saturday 4th February Designated Safeguarding Representative Induction Training
- \* Saturday 10th March Managing Offenders in Church
- \* Saturday 21st April Essential Awareness & Response to Safeguarding Adults
- \* **Tuesday 22nd May Essential Awareness & Response to Safeguarding Children**
- \* Saturday 16th June Recruiting & Managing Volunteers Safely
- \* Saturday 7th July Essential Awareness & Response to Safeguarding Adults
- \* Saturday 15th Sept Designated Safeguarding Representative Induction Training
- \* **Tuesday 25th Sept Managing Offenders in Church**
- \* Saturday 13th October Essential Awareness & Response to Safeguarding Children

TRAINING TIMES: SATURDAYS 10am - 12.00pm/**EVENINGS 7.00pm - 9.00pm**

To book on this training, e-mail Theresa at [theresa.winship@portsmouth.anglican.org](mailto:theresa.winship@portsmouth.anglican.org) or ask your Safeguarding Representative to book a place for you.

## Keeping Safe On and Off-line (Workshop for young people aged 11-16 years)

This workshop raises awareness about the issues young people face on and off line. Resources used include films and quizzes to help educate young people in the safe use of the internet, and explores how their actions and behaviour can put them at risk.



This workshop will be run in the parish in liaison with Youth Leaders and is designed to last approximately 1½ hours. For more information please contact Mary Daisy on Tel 023 9289 9677 or email [mary.daisy@portsmouth.anglican.org](mailto:mary.daisy@portsmouth.anglican.org)

## Training Workshops in Parishes

We understand that some parishes are keen to host a training workshop at their own church due to numbers involved. In these circumstances, please contact Theresa Winship on Tel 023 9289 9665 or email [theresa.winship@portsmouth.anglican.org](mailto:theresa.winship@portsmouth.anglican.org) to discuss your requirements.

## Voluntary Safeguarding Trainers Required

We are interested to hear from anyone who would like to work with us to deliver specific workshops in the Diocesan safeguarding training programme. Ideally, you will need experience in the safeguarding care field, e.g. social worker, nurse, teacher, etc., an understanding of safeguarding implications in the church context, and experience of delivering training would be desirable, but not essential. All expenses are reimbursed. For more information or to request an application form please contact Theresa Winship 023 9289 9665 or email [theresa.winship@portsmouth.anglican.org](mailto:theresa.winship@portsmouth.anglican.org)



# MANAGING OFFENDERS IN CHURCH

The Church is a community where everyone is welcome. This includes sex and/or violent offenders who may require pastoral care to help them deal with the spiritual and emotional aspects of their life. This can be a surprise or shock to some, and it is likely that this knowledge will raise all sorts of feelings and opinions. However, it is a reality that many churches do support offenders and provide appropriate guidance and fellowship to them, alongside the monitoring of the individual by police and probation.

Whatever help and support is offered to an offender, the protection of children and vulnerable adults within the church always comes first. In some circumstances, churches are unable to provide appropriately for a dangerous offender, and it is the responsibility of the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser in liaison with the Incumbent to determine this, and seek the help of an alternative church who may be better placed to provide a safer environment for them and others.

Whilst the church can be an effective place to help and motivate an ex-offender to deal with the consequences of their behaviour and grow in faith, it is important that they get the balance right between offering fellowship and maintaining explicit boundaries.

## Key Considerations for Churches

In all situations, the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser will undertake a careful assessment in liaison with the Incumbent as to whether a church can safely and adequately work with the offender. Generally, the police and probation are also involved in the monitoring of the individual, through the MAPPA (Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements) process.

All convicted sex and/or violent offenders are subject to a contract, the contents of which are agreed between the Incumbent, the offender and the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser. This agreement contains boundaries which serve to protect children, young people and/or vulnerable adults who attend church activities, but will also help the offender feel secure and supported.

The Incumbent is advised to put in place a support group for the offender, who can share the supervision plan. Members of the support group are normally informed of the offender's convictions and offending pattern, as this knowledge will enable them to challenge risky behaviour, and ensure they do not allow themselves to become manipulated.

It is recommended that churches who are managing offenders under a contract encourage members of support groups to attend specific training in respect of this. Details of these can be found in this newsletter or on the Diocesan website [www.portsmouth.anglican.org](http://www.portsmouth.anglican.org)

Churches who require more information or advice about managing offenders within the parish should contact Ian Berry on 07544566850 or Mary Daisy on Tel: 02392 899677.