Role Description

Chair of Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Panel

Background

The diocese of Portsmouth is made up of 11,000 worshippers in 139 parishes across south-east Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, and is also divided into seven deaneries each of which co-ordinates the mission and ministry of parishes in their area.

To work of the diocese is driven by its vision: **Live|Pray|Serve** From this three priorities have been agreed; to live as disciples of Christ, pray individually and together, and to serve our communities.

Key Purpose of the Role

To provide effective leadership to the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Panel (DSAP). To work with the Diocesan Bishop, the senior staff team, the Diocesan Safeguarding team and panel members to ensure the DSAP’s advisory and scrutiny functions are carried out effectively.

Principal Duties

1. To chair meetings of the DSAP and agree the agenda in liaison with the Diocesan Safeguarding Manager (DSM)/diocesan bishop or nominated person, agreeing minutes, and monitoring the follow-up actions.
2. To ensure the DSAP discharges its role and functions in line with the terms of reference.
3. To work with the DSM and senior staff to ensure the group has a strategic overview of safeguarding practice across the diocese in line with House of Bishops’ policy and practice guidance, together with appropriate quality assurance and risk management processes.
4. To ensure that the group considers the needs of victims/survivors and those affected by abuse together with relevant advice.
5. To work with the DSM and senior leadership team to ensure that the DSAP is adequately resourced; that there is sufficient capacity and diversity of skills set and experience/background of members.
6. To be involved in recruitment and succession planning, and provide an ad-hoc point of contact for the DSM/diocesan bishop or nominated person/members of the group outside of formal supervisory and management arrangements.
7. To advise where necessary the diocesan bishop/nominated person and/or senior leadership team of specific concerns/issues. Where appropriate to raise and report any concerns/issues as part of whistle blowing arrangements.
8. To attend the Bishop’s Safeguarding Management Group tri-annual meetings to ensure there is an awareness of strategy overview and operational issues within the diocese relevant to the work of the DSAP.
9. To attend quarterly meetings held between the bishop and DSM and engage in the chairs national and regional network meetings, as required.