

PCR2 Immediate Next Steps for Incumbents

Now that you have received your letter from Bishop Libby, what are the next steps? We thought the following might be helpful for you to consider but are not prescriptive:

1. Inform your PSO and ask them to start to gather any existing safeguarding files held by the parish.
2. Inform your Leadership Team, Church Wardens and PCC members about the PCR2 process and alert them to the potential that survivors may contact members of the parish leadership if they need support.
3. Place the National Survivor Helpline number on your parish Website (if you have one) and a link to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team. The next Newsletter from the DST will have a helpful paragraph and the link numbers so that you can cut and paste. The newsletter will be with you before the end of January.
4. If you have no Incumbent or you have arrived at the parish within the last three years, make contact with the previous Incumbent to ask which safeguarding cases they were aware of prior to your arrival.
5. Check with previous Church Wardens and trusted longstanding members of the congregation about any knowledge they might have of safeguarding concerns regarding church officers.
6. NB. Only complete 4-5 above if you feel comfortable in doing so, you have the contact details and making contact is not going to cause you any difficulties e.g. if the previous Incumbent left the parish on bad terms please do not contact them. If in any doubt, please seek advice from the DSA, Area Dean or Archdeacon BEFORE making contact.
7. Make sure that the appendix A is completed with your parish declaration and sent to the DST before the end of March 2020.
8. Keep an eye open for the DST PCR2 newsletters which we will produce regularly to keep you up to date of the next steps.
9. If you are in an Interregnum, contact your Area Dean for help with steps 2-7 above or contact the DSA who will be able to help.

Many thanks for your efforts in this important piece of work and we hope that the suggested steps, along with Bishop Libby's letter explain the task ahead.

Julian Hodgson

DSA

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