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**SAFEGUARDING MATTERS**

**Introduction**

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###  **In this issue:**

 *Introduction*

 *Forthcoming events*

 *National Standards*

 *Safeguarding training*

 *Parish dashboards*

*DBS*

 *LEPs*

*Out of hours cover*

 *Safeguarding adults week*

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Having said farewell in the last newsletter, it may not have escaped your notice that I have returned to the diocese and I would like to thank everyone for a wonderful welcome back! I hope you have all had a lovely summer, despite what seemed to be a lot of rain at times!

Since my return, we have been busy regrouping and are looking forward to working with you all in the run up to Christmas.

We have recently said goodbye to some PSOs and welcome to others. If you have just left the role, thank you for all you have done to support safeguarding in your parish. If you are a new PSO, welcome to our safeguarding community – please make contact with Sue Griffin, our Safeguarding Co-Ordinator and she will ensure you receive all the training and support you need.

**Forthcoming events**

You should all have received an invitation to attend the service at **Derby Cathedral at 2.30pm on Safeguarding Sunday, 19 November 2023**.We hope you will be able to join us to recognise, celebrate and give thanks for all your hard work. Bishop Malcolm will be in attendance and the service will be followed by tea and cake. We look forward to seeing you there.

You should also all have received a save the date email for our **Safeguarding Conference on Saturday 20 April 2024 at Cliff College**. Plans are well advanced and we intend to open the booking on Eventbrite early in the new year.

**National Safeguarding Standards**

The National Safeguarding Team have published the new Church of England National Safeguarding Standards to help us identify our strengths and areas for development.

The five standards aim to cover the breadth of safeguarding activity across the Church:

**Standard One:** Culture, Leadership and Capacity

**Standard Two:** Prevention

**Standard Three:** Recognising, Assessing and Managing Risk

**Standard Four:** Victims and Survivors

**Standard Five:** Learning, Supervision and Support

We will be looking at each standard in detail as a safeguarding team and we will be providing more information and updates over the coming months.

**Safeguarding training**

We are very grateful for all the work PSOs do in encouraging and persuading people to attend required training... we know it can be challenging! Courses are now available for booking in the new year. Please remember:

* The new Leadership module has launched over the summer so the course is now completely different. However, it still involves preparation and evaluation work on the part of delegates. Thank you to Nick for all his hard work in getting the package ready for delivery.
* The Safer Recruitment module is no longer available in person due to the small numbers attending – please advise people that the course should be completed via the national portal. Please ask people to include their diocese so we are notified for our records.
* As you are aware, we are very concerned for people’s safety when completing training – this is why we deliver the Domestic Abuse Awareness module over zoom or in person. However, please note

that an exemption can be requested if the training is going to cause someone particular distress or worry. Any request for exemption should be sent to Nick, our trainer, and he will discuss it with the Head of Safeguarding. This applies to Domestic Abuse Awareness only.

For more information on training and how to book onto a course, please check our [website](https://derby.anglican.org/en/who-needs-safeguarding-training.html), or email:

Nick.harding@derby.anglican.org - safeguarding training requirements and content

Amanda.Sandland@derby.anglican.org – safeguarding training bookings and certificates

**Parish Dashboards**

The National Safeguarding Team have now joined the dashboard and are continuing to support its development with the provider. We remain very keen for all parishes to use the dashboard to provide evidence of your compliance with safeguarding guidance and to assist in the identification of any gaps. We continue to work on engagement across the diocese and Sue Griffin is contacting those parishes who are not using it at the current time, for whatever reason. **We can provide training and one-to-one support to help those who are finding it difficult to set up or use it** – just contact Sue Griffin: sue.griffin@derby.anglican.org.

Some of our parishes are trialing the Dashboard Hub, which enables PSOs to keep track of training and DBS checks etc. We will be reviewing the first phase of the rollout in the new year and will be developing plans for a more extensive rollout and how this can be resourced.

In due course, the Parish Dashboard will be updated to assist parishes to measure their compliance with the new national safeguarding standards (see above).

**DBS**

Please remember that you can contact Judie Fogarty with any queries regarding the level of check required for a role or any other DBS related issues: [judie.fogarty@derby.anglican.org](judie.fogarty%40derby.anglican.org).

**LEPs**

For those of you who are PSOs in LEPs, the National Safeguarding Team have revised the guidance for LEPs around safeguarding. – you can find more information [here](https://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding/safeguarding-e-manual/safeguarding-guidance-local-ecumenical-partnerships?utm_source=Safeguarding+newsletter&utm_campaign=35e7f7e43b-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_10_08_10_43_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_7fd532e97d-35e7f7e43b-249651648&mc_cid=35e7f7e43b&mc_eid=defaa7b22f).

We are currently completing a piece of work to ensure we have up to date information of all the LEPs in the diocese and which procedures they follow. We will be sending out further information direct to LEPs in the near future.

**Out of hours cover**

Just a reminder that extended out of hours cover is available from Thirtyone:eight on 0303 003 1111. Advice is available for urgent matters each weekday 5pm to midnight and 7am-midnight over Saturday & Sunday. Cover will also be provided throughout the Christmas/New Year period. More details can be found on our [website](https://derby.anglican.org/en/safeguarding/out-of-office-hours-access-to-safeguarding-advice.html).

If the situation does not require immediate advice, you can still make a referral via our website. This inbox is monitored daily (working days only) and referrals will be responded to as quickly as possible.

**National safeguarding adults week**

This year, national safeguarding adults week will run from 20-24 November. The national focus will be on how you can prioritise the welfare and wellbeing of yourself and others. You can find more information [here](https://www.anncrafttrust.org/safeguarding-adults-week-2023-key-themes-safeguarding-yourself-and-others/). Locally, our safeguarding adults boards are focussing on mental capacity.

**And finally …..**

Don’t forget that this month we have an evening drop-in session 6-7pm on Tuesday 7 November. Here is the link in case you need it:

 <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85354834600?pwd=MSY-5hVtnP1UAbkscpv7FzqUeilgV4.1>

It is far too early to be saying this, but **Merry Christmas** to you all – we hope you have a wonderful time over the festive season!