

SAFEGUARDING NEWS

JUNE 2018

Message from the Chair

It is now a year since the diocesan safeguarding service was subject to an independent audit by SCIE (The Social Care Institute of Excellence). The report, which is available on the diocesan website, was mainly very positive, especially in respect of the culture of safeguarding, openness and transparency. This was evident in the various teams working in the diocese and the parishes.

The recommendations of the report have been incorporated into the safeguarding development plan. This is updated twice a year and approved by the safeguarding panel. The majority of the recommendations have been fulfilled (e.g. the recruitment of a full time trainer to assist with the annual training programme the diocese runs and the creation of a case management sub group to review complex cases with the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser on a regular basis).

In the midst of publicity about the failures of the Church in the past to respond properly to allegations and concerns about child abuse it is important to highlight the efforts that are made every day, within the diocese. These efforts ensure a proper response to any such concerns and also create an environment where every child and vulnerable adult is protected from risk and can thrive physically and spiritually.

CCPAS GDPR/DBS update

Last month the new laws for GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) came into effect, and in the last few weeks the DBS (Disclosure Barring Service) has made some changes to its requirements under the new legislation. As a result, CCPAS (Churches Child Protection Advisory Service) has updated all its documentation to reflect these changes.

The latest versions may be downloaded at the links below and must replace all existing electronic and paper versions of the guidance with these latest versions.

<http://files.ccpas.co.uk/Documents/E-Bulk%20Guide%20for%20Applicants.pdf>

<http://files.ccpas.co.uk/Documents/RecruitersGuideEbulk.pdf>

The Diocesan Safeguarding Panel are in the process of reviewing the self-declaration form to ensure it is compliant with GDPR and this will be made available on the diocesan website in the near future.

If you have any questions about these changes or anything relating to eligibility or disclosures please call CCPAS on **0303 003 1111 (option 1)**. Lesley Riley (Clergy Support Officer) is also available on 0161 828 1403 to offer support and guidance.



Training and Development

Safeguarding training continues to be facilitated at parishes across the diocese for Churchwardens, Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinators, Sunday School teachers, youth leaders and those with safeguarding responsibilities.

This training is a requirement in line with national policy for all of those who have not undertaken Diocese of Manchester safeguarding training within the last three years and who are new to the role. Please note that those new to role are required to undertake online training prior to working within parishes and must then book onto the face to face safeguarding training as soon as possible.

A training and development plan will be agreed by the Diocesan Safeguarding Panel this month. It will outline areas for development during the course of the next 12 months, including clergy safeguarding training.



Thinking about Disability in the Church Community

This was the title of a workshop which took place in May at St Nicholas' Church in Burnage. Convened by the Diocesan Disability Task Group, it explored the ways in which disability has been understood by both church and society and the changing contexts in which disability is thought about today.

Jackie Leach Scully, Professor of Social Ethics and Bioethics at Newcastle University led the morning and in the afternoon, our own Rachel Mann encouraged us to respond with some creative writing such as poetry, collects and litanies.

We explored the difference between impairment and disability, as in the following quotation: 'it is *society* that disables physically impaired people. Disability is something that is imposed on top of our impairments, by the way we are unnecessarily isolated and excluded from full participation in society.'

Although, on one level, there seems to be a much greater acceptance of people with disabilities in our society, not least perhaps because of the Paralympic Games, those who live with disabilities are finding themselves in an increasingly challenging environment.

Austerity measures imposed by the government over the past 10 years have significantly impacted people with disabilities. A drop in income of over £500 million since 2010 has, for example, meant a cut of between £200 and £2065 for disabled households.

As we seek to become Church for a Different World, being ready to embrace and welcome people with disabilities into our churches gives us a wonderful opportunity not only to provide community and support for those who are often vulnerable and severely isolated in our society, but also to share with them the love of God.

Cherry Vann

DEALING WITH ANY CONCERNS OR SOMETHING THAT YOU FEEL UNSURE ABOUT

In the event that you are worried about a child or adult who is being harmed or at risk of being harmed then please contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer, Abbey Clephane-Wilson (contact: 0161 828 1451 / abbey@manchester.anglican.org)

CCPAS may be contacted out of hours on 0303 003 1111.