

# DIOCESE OF ELY

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## SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2024

### Safeguarding Department

Barton Road  
Ely, CB7 4DX

Duty Phone: 01353 652747  
[www.elydiocese.org/safeguarding](http://www.elydiocese.org/safeguarding)



The Church of England  
Diocese of Ely

# Diocese of Ely Safeguarding Newsletter

## Welcome to the Diocese of Ely Safeguarding Newsletter.

A quarterly publication produced by the Diocese of Ely Safeguarding Department to help advise and guide our parishes and church leaders on a range of safeguarding related matters.

Remember, you can contact the team and find a range of supporting materials on the [Safeguarding Pages of the Diocese of Ely's website by clicking here.](#)

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### Parish Safeguarding Dashboards and Hubs

The [Parish Safeguarding Dashboards](#) are free to use and available to help make safeguarding simpler for Parishes – and the feedback from Clergy and Parish Safeguarding Officers who use the dashboards has been overwhelmingly positive.

A few parishes are yet to sign-up to the Dashboard and some Parish Dashboards have not been updated for a while. The Safeguarding Team would like to encourage and support parishes to join or update their Dashboards.

We have begun to offer [Safeguarding Dashboard Workshops](#) to provide support, demonstrate the benefits of the Dashboard. Workshops are on the 20 February at 10.00 and 21 February at 18.30. Booking is via the training pages of the [Diocesan website](#)

Clearly Simpler, the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard and Hub provider, will offering three further [Safeguarding Hubs Workshops](#) during 2024 Tuesday 9 April at 10am, Monday 3 June at 14.00, and Monday 23 September at 14.00 invitations will be sent out nearer the time.

Contact [Sarah King](#) for support with your existing Dashboard or to join the one for your Parish.

### Correspondence about a Safeguarding Concern

If you are copied into correspondence about a safeguarding concern or allegation remember to pass this on to the Safeguarding Team. Even though you may not have been the first recipient of the information please don't assume this information has already been passed to the Safeguarding Team.

We would rather receive the information twice than not at all!

## Hire Agreements

When outside groups ask to use your church premises, they need to sign a hire agreement.

Please remember to attach the Model Safeguarding Provision document which you will find on the website pages of Parish Safeguarding Resources and Templates – [Safeguarding Forms/Information](#)

## Parish Safeguarding Officers e-mail addresses

### Using email mailboxes appropriately

One of the main areas through which parishes undertake their safeguarding duties is by sharing information through emails, and frequently individuals, such as Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSOs), perform this task using their personal email accounts.

It is especially important that PSOs in particular refrain from using their personal email accounts to share and discuss matters of a safeguarding nature. There are many sound reasons for this, not least it ensures that if you leave the role, the Parish is able to retain the email account for continuity reasons, as well as helping to ensure there are appropriate privacy restrictions around who is able to access this information (readers will know and appreciate that all too frequently more than one family member may have access to a personal mailbox).

Many parishes have already set-up centralised email accounts, often based on the role name and the church, (i.e. [safeguarding@mychurchname.com](mailto:safeguarding@mychurchname.com)), and if your PCC has yet to do so, we would strongly encourage you to do so.

The platform (technology) you consider in setting-up role specific parish emails will vary

depending on your parishes circumstances. For instance, it is possible your website is hosted by a company that is able to provide emails with that service, either included already or at extra cost. Alternatively, there are other platforms available free of charge to charities, or very modestly priced for non-charities, that can offer this service.

[Church Edit](#), who work with parishes and the Church of England to provide a variety of parish administrative tools and websites, recommend Google as a email (mailbox) provider.

Church Edit have produced a helpful news item to explain the steps required to set this up with Google, which we have linked below. We would strongly recommend you discuss this with your PCC and implement either this, or another alternative appropriate to your parish, if you are still using personal emails for parish business.

<https://www.churchedit.co.uk/google-hosted-emails.php>

## Parish Websites

Please review the Safeguarding pages of your parish websites to ensure they are displaying the most up to date information links and contact numbers.

For New Safeguarding Referrals to the Safeguarding Team please list the Duty Phone number **01353 652747**. This ensures all calls are responded to promptly.

During office hours the Duty Phone is managed by the Safeguarding Team and out of hours by [Thirtyone:Eight](#).

## Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023

In December 2023 the Department for Education published a revised version of Working Together to Safeguard Children.

Links to the document can be found [here](#), and a summary of the key changes can be found [here](#).

**Chapter 4 (paragraphs 3.10 – 3.15)** outlines the expectations upon faith-based organisations, but with a wider expectation that obligations under the whole chapter should be fully understood by charities, including faith-based organisations.

**310.** Voluntary, charity, social enterprise, faith-based organisations, and private sector organisations and agencies play an important role in safeguarding children through the services they deliver. Some of these will work with particular communities, with different races and faith communities, and deliver via health, adult social care, housing, and Prison and Probation Services. They may, as part of their work, provide a wide range of activities for children and have an important role in safeguarding children and supporting families and communities.

**311.** Like other organisations and agencies who work with children, they should have appropriate arrangements in place to safeguard and protect children from harm. Many of these organisations and agencies as well as many schools, children’s centres, early years, and childcare organisations, will be subject to charity law and regulated either by the Charity Commission and/or other “principal” regulators. Charity trustees are responsible for ensuring that those benefiting from, or working with, their charity, are not harmed in any way through contact with it.

The Charity Commission for England and Wales provides guidance on charity compliance which should be followed 187

**312.** Some of these organisations and agencies are large national charities whilst others will have a much smaller local reach. Some will be delivering statutory services and may be run by volunteers, such as library services. This important group of organisations includes youth services not delivered by local authorities or district councils.

**313. All practitioners working in these organisations and agencies who are working with children and their families are subject to the same safeguarding responsibilities, whether paid or volunteer.**

**314.** Every VCSE, faith-based organisation and private sector organisation or agency should have policies in place to safeguard and protect children from harm. These should be followed, and systems should be in place to ensure compliance in this. Individual practitioners, whether paid or volunteer, should be aware of their responsibilities for safeguarding and protecting children from harm, how they should respond to child protection concerns and how to make a referral to local authority children’s social care or the police, if necessary.

**315.** Every VCSE, faith-based organisation and private sector organisation or agency should have in place the arrangements described in this chapter. They should be aware of how they need to work with the safeguarding partners in a local area. Charities (within the meaning of section 1 Charities Act 2011), religious organisations (regulation 34 and schedule 3 to School Admissions) and any person involved in the provision, supervision or oversight of sport or leisure are included within the Relevant

Agency Regulations 188. This means if the safeguarding partners name them as a relevant partner they must cooperate. Other VCSE, faith-based and private sector organisations not on the list of relevant agencies can also be asked to co-operate as part of the local arrangements and should do so.

## National Safeguarding Standards

The Church of England released the **National Safeguarding Standards and Quality Assurance Framework** last year.

Their aim is to help dioceses, cathedrals and parishes to answer the question "*How good is our safeguarding activity?*"

The Safeguarding Team will be releasing further information shortly, but please be reassured this is not an 'extra' task for parishes, but a way of helping parishes understand what they are doing well already and what areas might need some more attention.

The primary focus for Parishes in relation to the Standards is to **update and maintain your Dashboard regularly**.

If you need help with your Dashboard or need to register for one in your Parish, please contact **Sarah King** who will assist you. Please also see the **Dashboard Workshops** available in February.

## DBS Webinars

The Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) have produced some helpful Webinars which are available to watch online.

Click through on the links below.

- **[DBS Faith Sector Webinar](#)**
- **[DBS Eligibility Webinar](#)**

## Dates for your diary

### Parish Safeguarding Officers' Meetings for 2024

- Monday 29 April at 10am
- Wednesday 10 July at 10am
- Wednesday October 9 at 10am

### Evensong and Bishop's Garden Party for Parish Safeguarding Officers

- Wednesday 12 June at 5.30pm



## Contact the Team

### Safeguarding Referrals to Safeguarding Team (both office and out of hours)

Please call **01353 652747**

### Safeguarding Casework

#### DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING ADVISER

Rebecca Boswell,

Email: [rebecca.boswell@elydiocese.org](mailto:rebecca.boswell@elydiocese.org),

Telephone number: 01353 652731, Mobile

Number: 07904 487912, Hours of work 9am-

5pm Monday to Friday

#### ASSISTANT DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING ADVISER

Sharon Gage (part-time),

Email [sharon.gage@elydiocese.org](mailto:sharon.gage@elydiocese.org), Telephone

number: 01353 652706, Mobile Number: 07507

741295, Hours of work 9.30am -2.30pm Monday

to Thursday

#### ASSISTANT DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING ADVISER

Lisa Pearson (part-time),

Email: [lisa.pearson@elydiocese.org](mailto:lisa.pearson@elydiocese.org), Telephone

number: 01353 652738, Mobile Number: 07990

581267, Hours of work 9am-5pm Monday to

Thursday

## **Training, Criminal Record Checks (DBS) and Parish Safeguarding Officer Support**

### **SAFEGUARDING TRAINING AND PARISH SUPPORT CO-ORDINATOR**

Sarah King, E-mail: [sarah.king@elydiocese.org](mailto:sarah.king@elydiocese.org),  
Telephone number: 01353 652735, Mobile  
Number: 0777 666 1798, Hours of work 9am-5pm  
Monday to Friday

### **SAFEGUARDING ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT - DBS CHECKS**

Jackie Williamson (part-time), E-mail: [safeguardadmin@elydiocese.org](mailto:safeguardadmin@elydiocese.org),  
Telephone number: 01353 652721, Hours of work  
9am-5pm Tuesday and Wednesday

### **SAFEGUARDING ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT - TRAINING**

Kelly Nott (part-time), E-mail: [safeguarding.training@elydiocese.org](mailto:safeguarding.training@elydiocese.org), Telephone  
number: 01353 652744, Hours of work 10am-2pm  
Monday to Friday

# DIOCESE OF ELY

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## SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2024

Safeguarding Department

Etheldreda House  
206 Lancaster Way Business Park  
Witchford  
Ely CB6 3NX

Duty Phone: 01353 652747  
[www.elydiocese.org/safeguarding](http://www.elydiocese.org/safeguarding)



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### In this Edition

- [Lone Working](#)
- [The Code of Safer Working Practice](#)
- [DBS checks for PCC members](#)
- [DBS and Training for PSOs](#)
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### Lone Working

The Code of Safer Working Practice and Safer Environments and Activities are clear that those working or volunteering with children on behalf of the church should avoid situations where they are on their own with a child. This includes 'formal' situations such as youth groups, choirs and bell-ringing, and less formal settings such as before and after those groups, giving lifts home, and so on.

This also applies when a child under 18 is a Young Helper for a parish activity such as a children's group or food bank for example, where it is important to ensure the parish is following the lone working rule above with two

safely recruited adults present at all times alongside the young helper.

Home visiting undertaken on behalf of the parish is an important part of pastoral care and ministry. Care must be taken, however, both for the protection of those being visited and for those doing the visiting. There should be accountability and transparency in the manner in which church officers engage in lone working or visits to homes.

Resources include:

[Safer Environments and Activities Guidance](#)  
 Pages 23 and 24

[Pastoral Visiting Sample Risk Assessment](#)  
[Model Checklist for Home Visiting](#)

Clergy, office holders staff and volunteers may be involved in opening up the church or hall alone when preparing for an activity or service. The parish should revisit any risk assessments for these situations. There is a wealth of advice and support in relation to lone working on the [Suzy Lamplugh Trust](#) website. This includes links to lone working apps and personal safety tools.

### The Code of Safer Working Practice

The Code of Safer Working Practice expresses our commitment to demonstrating God's love



by placing the highest priority on the safety of those to whom we minister. It sets out what we expect from anyone who ministers in our church, in both paid or voluntary roles, and is one of the ways we ensure high standards of safeguarding in all we do.

The Code of Safer Working Practice is a simple way to make clear what is expected of all who minister to children and vulnerable adults in church. It is also very useful for communicating your church's values regarding how people should be treated.

All office holders, members of staff and volunteers should be aware of the Code of Safer Working Practice. Where staff or volunteers are recruited by the parish best practice is to provide two copies, both signed and dated by the individual, with one copy kept by them and another retained by the activity leader (or in the personal file of an employee). In the event of a breach of the code of practice, this allows the activity leader to reinforce expectations by simply reminding the person that in signing the contract, they agreed to comply with it. See our suggested [Personnel File Checklist](#), for a reminder of what records should be held in relation to staff and volunteers.

The Code of Safer Working Practice can also be given to parents, children and vulnerable adults so that they know what to expect, and most importantly what behaviours are 'out of bounds'

## DBS checks for PCC Members

The Safer Recruitment Tool kit, section C found in [Section 9 of the Safer Recruitment and People Management Practice Guidance](#), highlights policy guidance relating to DBS

Checks for PCC members which is cross referenced to Charity Commission guidance

### C. Charity Trustees of children's, young people or vulnerable adult's charities

- The Charity Commission recommends that trustees **always** obtain a DBS check when eligible to do so as it an important tool in ensuring that the person is suitable to act as such.
- If a governing body is registered as a charity and provided it sponsors and approves, in its own name, children's, young people or vulnerable adult's work then the members of the governing body will be eligible for an **Enhanced DBS without barred list check**. This **may** relate to PCCs, Cathedrals Chapters, Religious Communities, NCI Pension Board etc. **In such cases all members of the governing body will be eligible.**
- There is no eligibility requirement for a Basic DBS Check and both individuals and bodies (the latter with appropriate consent) can apply for one. Currently there is a cost for a Basic DBS. Whilst a Basic DBS provides minimal information where a role does not meet the criteria for any other level of DBS it can send out a certain message in respect of the body's commitment to safeguarding and The Basic would apply to PCC members (including church wardens) where the PCC does not qualify as a children's/young people's/vulnerable adult's charity. The Diocese of Ely recommends that Basic checks are undertaken in these circumstances.

## DBS checks and Safeguarding Training for PSOs

Whilst monitoring safeguarding training and DBS in the parish please do not forget to keep your own training and DBS check up to date. As a reminder the training requirement for PSOs is to complete

**Basic Awareness,  
 Foundations, Leadership,  
 Safer Recruitment and People Management  
 Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse**

Once completed it is not mandatory to repeat the Basic Awareness and Foundations modules. New PSOs are also required to complete the **PSO Induction** module although we are making this module open to all existing PSOs who would like to complete the training.. Further information can be found on the [Safeguarding Training page of the Diocesan website](#)

## New Forms and Templates

We have recently added a new form to the [Parish Safeguarding Resources and Templates](#) section of the website including a Supervision form for use during supervision/line management meetings with staff and volunteers. Please remember these templates are provided as a starting point and can be adapted for local use.

We have also added guidance for visiting groups. This can be used for any groups visiting your church including bell ringers.

## Reviewing Risk Assessments

Having completed a risk assessment, it is easy to put them aside and forget them. It is extremely important that your risk assessments are seen as live documents because changes in personnel or changes in the activity format can happen as a group develops. Regular reviewing

of your risk assessments will ensure they are completely up to date and help your insurers carry out an audit if an incident happens or a claim is made against a parish. Without up to date risk assessments the parish is at risk of invalidating their insurance.

## Parish Safeguarding Officers Evensong and Bishop's Garden Party



Bishop Dagmar, Acting Bishop of Ely has invited Parish Safeguarding Officers, and their guest, to a

Garden Party in the Bishop of Ely's garden following the Evensong service on 12 June at 5.30pm

If you haven't replied to the invitation please do so as soon as possible by e-mailing [kelly.nott@elydiocese.org](mailto:kelly.nott@elydiocese.org)

## New Office – Etheldreda House

The new office has now officially been blessed and opened by Bishop Dagmar and we will be moving in over the next week. The Safeguarding Team will continue to offer some face to face Leadership training but will be using Etheldreda House as the venue rather than Powchers Hall in Ely. We have been very grateful to Ely Cathedral for letting us use Powchers Hall over the last couple of years.

Please do come and see us in the new office. We will be running some Drop In Sessions which you will provide you with the opportunity to talk to the Safeguarding Team either face to face over a cup of tea or coffee or to drop in virtually to discuss any areas of Safeguarding for which you feel you need support, advice or further

information. Dates are listed on our website <https://elydatabase.org/events/safeguarding>

## Additional Available Training

### Restored - Free webinar for churches

Restored are hosting a free webinar for churches on Thursday 20th June at 12 o'clock. This online session is totally free to attend and lasts for just an hour.

Content includes an introduction to Restored, detail on how to partner with Restored to equip churches to respond to domestic abuse and support survivors. If you're keen to get your church interested in standing against domestic abuse, this webinar is a great place to start! Even if you're not sure if your church is ready to join the Restored Beacon Network, inviting your church leader to join the session will start the conversation about domestic abuse and give them an opportunity to consider how to get involved. [Becoming a Beacon of Hope: Restored Beacon Webinar by Restored on academy.co.uk](https://academy.co.uk)



**VOICES** a New platform for survivors The Domestic Abuse Commissioner has launched a virtual platform – VOICES - for victims and survivors to influence change to improve the lives of others subjected to domestic abuse. From today, victims and survivors, as well as friends and family bereaved by domestic abuse, can sign up to receive the VOICES email newsletter, which will include opportunities for victims and survivors to share their experiences, as well as providing relevant

updates on the work of the domestic abuse sector, government and academics. The Commissioner is also inviting victims and survivors to share their views in a survey on their experiences with the police.

### 31:8 training - NEW: Supporting Victim-Survivors

2.5 hours with a short comfort break | Live | Online

Are you supporting victim-survivors of abuse and trauma?

31:8's brand new webinar will equip you with a greater awareness of the impact of abuse and trauma and enable you to apply this awareness to the support you offer. The overall aim is to ensure our support is safe and empowering for children and adults who have experienced abuse and trauma.

The webinar covers the following topics:

#### Part 1: Who are we supporting?

- Recognising victim-survivors in our communities
- Scope and scale of abuse and trauma
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Adverse Community Environments (ACoEs)
- Trauma Awareness

#### Part 2: Supporting well

- Principles of Trauma Awareness
- Safety
- Trust
- Choice
- Collaboration
- Empowerment

Laura Rutherford, content creator, has this to say about the course:

"I'm really excited for the release of this new course! Many people attend our training because they want to support people in their communities who have experienced abuse and

trauma. It can feel hard to know where to start. However, having an increased awareness of the impact of trauma and applying some simple, practical principles to the support we offer can make a huge difference. Research shows us that good support can be restorative and can reduce the negative impact of trauma and abuse. Our hope for this course is to equip you to offer this safe, empowering support in the communities you serve." **Book Now**

**Cost £57.50**

## Guidance and Resources for PCC Members

We have added resources and guidance for PCC members as they are Trustees of a Charity with specific safeguarding responsibilities.

- [PCC suggested code of conduct](#)
- [Charity Commission - Safeguarding for charities and trustees](#) Guidance and Videos
- [Church of England Trusteeship An Introduction for PCC Members](#)



## Contact the Team

### Reporting Safeguarding Concerns

DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING ADVISER

Rebecca Boswell,

Email: [rebecca.boswell@elydiocese.org](mailto:rebecca.boswell@elydiocese.org), Telephone number: 01353 652731, Mobile Number: 07904 487912, Hours of work 9am-5pm Monday to Friday

ASSISTANT DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING ADVISER

Sharon Gage (part-time),

Email [sharon.gage@elydiocese.org](mailto:sharon.gage@elydiocese.org), Telephone number: 01353 652706, Mobile Number: 07507 741295, Hours of work 9.30am -2.30pm Monday to Thursday

ASSISTANT DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING ADVISER

Lisa Pearson (part-time),

Email: [lisa.pearson@elydiocese.org](mailto:lisa.pearson@elydiocese.org), Telephone number: 01353 652738, Mobile Number: 07990 581267, Hours of work 9am-5pm (Doesn't work Thursdays)

### Training, Criminal Record Checks (DBS) and Parish Safeguarding Officer Support

DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING TRAINING AND PARISH SUPPORT CO-ORDINATOR

Sarah King, E-mail: [sarah.king@elydiocese.org](mailto:sarah.king@elydiocese.org), Telephone number: 01353 652735, Mobile Number: 0777 666 1798, Hours of work 9am-5pm Monday to Friday

SAFEGUARDING ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT - DBS CHECKS

Jackie Williamson ((part-time), E-mail: [safeguardadmin@elydiocese.org](mailto:safeguardadmin@elydiocese.org), Telephone number: 01353 652721, Hours of work 9am-5pm Tuesday and Wednesday

SAFEGUARDING ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT - TRAINING

Kelly Nott (part-time), E-mail: [safeguarding.training@elydiocese.org](mailto:safeguarding.training@elydiocese.org), Telephone number: 01353 652744, Hours of work 9am-2pm Monday to Friday

# DIOCESE OF ELY

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## SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

JULY 2024

### Safeguarding Department

Etheldreda House  
206 Lancaster Way Business  
Park, Witchford Ely CB6 3NX

Duty Phone: 01353 652747  
[www.elydiocese.org/safeguarding](http://www.elydiocese.org/safeguarding)



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- PSO Networking Meeting 10 July 2024
- Empowering Children Resources and Video
- Online Spaces for Victims/Survivors During General Synod
- Evensong and Bishop's Garden Party
- What to do if a new PSO is appointed
- Local Safeguarding Board Partnership
- Parish Websites
- PSO National Group
- Bell Ringers new Code of Conduct
- Parish Safeguarding Drop-ins
- Contact the Team

## PSO meeting

**10.00 - 12.00 on 10 July 2024**

The next meeting is fast approaching, and we are very pleased to announce we will have a guest speaker with us for the second half of the meeting.

Amanda Harrison is a Local Authority Designated Office (LADO) in Cambridgeshire. She is also a member of the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Panel (DSAP)

Amanda will talk through her role managing allegations against adults who work or volunteer with children and how this links into the work we do in our parishes and across the diocese.

## Empowering Children Resources and Video

Are you aware of the children's resources co-produced by children and young people for use with their peers? It is so important that children and young people are supported to recognise healthy behaviours, relationships and boundaries and have the confidence to speak out if something doesn't seem right.

These resources give youth workers, leaders of children's groups and Parish Safeguarding Officers an accessible and relevant way to share these important messages with young people and to open conversations. They are designed to be used across worshipping communities within the Church of England, such as churches, schools, chaplaincies and youth groups.

The resources are free to download through the [Safeguarding Training Portal](#). Here is the link to the [Empowering Children](#) video.

## On-line Spaces for Victims/Survivors During General Synod

The General Synod of the Church of England starts on Thursday 4th and runs until Tuesday 9th July. As in previous Synods, the National Safeguarding Team (NST) runs online spaces for victims and survivors to share their views and discuss the proceedings with the Partnership and Engagement Lead, Mr Ioannis Athanasiou.

This [press release](#) provides an oversight of the key topics in this Synod.

The Synod can be followed online in [this link](#). The agenda, sessions and all papers can be accessed in via [this link](#).

In this Synod, there are significant safeguarding items to be discussed in different sessions and it is important that survivors' voices and reflections have their own space. Below you can find information about the days when the safeguarding items will be addressed in the Synod, their relevant papers and when there will be an open space for victims and survivors to attend:

**Sunday 7 July:** a private member's motion relating to the inquiry into allegations of abuse within the Soul Survivor Network (plus an item on the Clergy Conduct Measure)

Follow these links to read [Paper 1](#) and [Paper 2](#) related to this motion.

**Monday 8 July:** a key conversation around the future of safeguarding in the Church and its independence **between 9am and 12pm**. **At that time there will be an online space for victims and survivors** to watch the session livestreamed on Youtube and join Ioannis and others.

#### [The Professor Jay Response Group Report](#)

**Tuesday 9 July:** the legislative business of the Redress scheme will be discussed. Between **9am and 12pm** there will be a similar online space for victims and survivors.

- [The Redress Measure paper](#)
- [The Measure notes](#) and
- [Revision Committee paper](#)

**Thursday 11 July:** an information session is offered to victims and survivors **between 4-5pm** to provide a summary and overview of the conversations and what decisions made during this Synod.

To attend any online discussion space or the information session please email [engage.safeguarding@churchofengland.com](mailto:engage.safeguarding@churchofengland.com) by **Friday 5th July**. The zoom links will be shared with all confirmed attendees before the end of that Friday.

## Evensong and Bishop's Garden Party



A gloriously sunny evening (if a bit chilly) was enjoyed by 50 plus Parish Safeguarding Officers at the annual Bishop's Garden Party

for Parish Safeguarding Officers. The evening commenced with evensong at Ely Cathedral followed by drinks and canapes on the Bishop's lawn. Bishop Dagmar opened the Garden Party with thanks to all the Parish Safeguarding Officers for all their hard work.



## What to do when a new Parish Safeguarding Officer is appointed

We have recently, by chance, become aware of new PSOs in parishes who were feeling rather unsupported and confused as to what their role involved.

Please can we add a reminder to notify the Safeguarding Team of any changes in safeguarding personnel in your parish.

This will mean we can offer support and induction to new PSOs and give them access to the Parish Dashboards and to enable them to process DBS checks.



## Local Safeguarding Partnership Boards

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Partnership Board is committed to providing an effective training programme to all agencies across Cambridgeshire. Research has shown that multi-agency training is highly effective in helping professionals understand their respective roles and responsibilities, the procedures of each agency involved in safeguarding children and adults at risk, and in developing a shared understanding of assessment and decision-making practices. This training is **free** to those working in parishes.

Their current training offer includes:

- Safeguarding Children Training
- Safeguarding Adults Training
- Disclosure and Barring Workshops
- Domestic Abuse and Safeguarding
- Substance Misuse and Safeguarding Training
- Other Safeguarding Training

[Cambridge and Peterborough Multi Agency Training](#)

## Parish Websites

We are aware that periodically dioceses, parishes and cathedrals are approached by (we believe) a group of survivors and informed that they are not compliant with Safeguarding Practice Guidance, because they do not have a clear statement of safeguarding arrangements on the front page of their parish website. The calls state that the parish priest might be subject to a CDM complaint and insurance cover is invalidated because of this alleged non-compliance.

Just to confirm, it is not essential to have full safeguarding details on the home page of the website. Over the many years since the PSH was written, this may no longer be feasible as parish websites often contain much more information than they did only a few years ago.

It is perfectly acceptable for the word 'Safeguarding' to be a link from the homepage, either across the top or in an easily accessible drop-down menu. The link should be clearly visible on the homepage, but the whole information does not need to appear on the home page itself, as long as it is available when someone clicks on the link.

Clicking that link should take someone to a further page which contains more detailed safeguarding information, including contact details for the Parish Safeguarding Officer and a clear statement of the parish's commitment to safeguarding, and if possible, a link to the Diocesan Safeguarding website.

## Parish Safeguarding Officer National Group

The PSO National Group was established in July 2023 to develop and implement strategies to strengthen the learning and support offered to PSOs. It consists of parish safeguarding officers; diocesan safeguarding professionals; parish clergy and lay roles and is administered by the National Safeguarding Team.

The PSO National Group has made a video featuring PSOs, introducing the use of the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard. PCCs will find this a useful tool to support the shared responsibility for safeguarding in parishes. Full Video: [The Safeguarding Dashboard](#)

## Bell Ringers - Code for Ringing

The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers has developed a template code of conduct. It takes the form of a Code for Ringing that can be freely used and adapted by dioceses, parishes and ringing societies who wish to develop their own codes for bell ringing or indeed other volunteer activity.

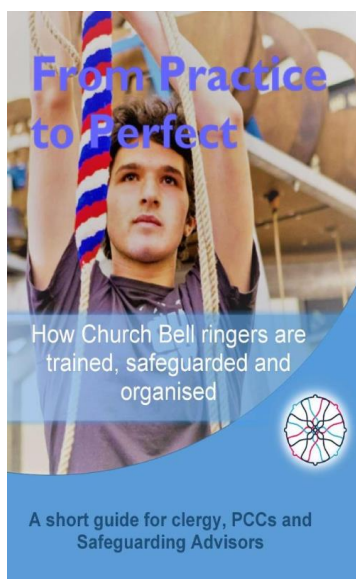
The Code for Ringing sets out in simple language the values of the ringing community, establishing a clear position on good practice both inside and outside the tower.

["From Practice to Perfect": an informative guide](#)



This pamphlet, also produced by the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers, provides PSOs and DSAs with an introduction to church bell ringing, how ringing is organised and the range of activities that ringers perform. It complements guidance that the Council gives to ringing societies about the need for them to be more pro-active in the way they engage with their DSAs and PSOs.

Both documents can be found on the DSAs' page of the [Council's website](#).



## Parish Safeguarding Drop-ins

Come and meet the Safeguarding Team either in person or virtually to discuss areas of Safeguarding for which you feel you need support or further information. Tea and coffee will be available if you are able to attend in person.

10.00-11.30am at Etheldreda House, 206 Lancaster Way Business Park Witchford CB6 3NX

Mon 16 September

Mon 7 October

Wed 6 November

Wed 4 December

Please book via the Training pages of the [Safeguarding pages of the Website](#)

## Contact the Team

### Safeguarding Cases and Incidents

#### DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING ADVISER

Rebecca Boswell,

Email: [rebecca.boswell@elydiocese.org](mailto:rebecca.boswell@elydiocese.org),

Telephone number: 01353 652731,

Mobile Number: 07904 487912,

Hours of work 9am-5pm Monday to Friday

#### ASSISTANT DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING ADVISER

Sharon Gage (part-time),

Email [sharon.gage@elydiocese.org](mailto:sharon.gage@elydiocese.org),

Telephone number: 01353 652706,

Mobile Number: 07507 741295,

Hours of work 9.30am -2.30pm Monday to Thursday

#### ASSISTANT DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING ADVISER

Lisa Pearson (part-time),

Email: [lisa.pearson@elydiocese.org](mailto:lisa.pearson@elydiocese.org),

Telephone number: 01353 652738,

Mobile Number: 07990 581267,

Hours of work 9am-5pm Monday to Thursday

### Training, Criminal Record Checks (DBS) and Parish Safeguarding Officer Support

#### DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING TRAINING AND PARISH SUPPORT CO-ORDINATOR

Sarah King, E-mail: [sarah.king@elydiocese.org](mailto:sarah.king@elydiocese.org),

Telephone number: 01353 652735,

Mobile Number: 0777 666 1798,

Hours of work 9am-5pm Monday to Friday

#### SAFEGUARDING ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT - DBS CHECKS

Jackie Williamson (part-time),

E-mail: [safeguardadmin@elydiocese.org](mailto:safeguardadmin@elydiocese.org),

Telephone number: 01353 652721,

Hours of work 9am-5pm Tuesday and Wednesday

#### SAFEGUARDING ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT - TRAINING

Kelly Nott (part-time), E-mail:

[safeguarding.training@elydiocese.org](mailto:safeguarding.training@elydiocese.org),

Telephone number: 01353 652744,

Hours of work 10am-2pm Monday to Friday

# DIOCESE OF ELY

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## SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2024

### Safeguarding Department

Etheldreda House

206 Lancaster Way Business  
Park, Witchford Ely CB6 3NX

Duty Phone: 01353 652747

[www.elydiocese.org/safeguarding](http://www.elydiocese.org/safeguarding)



The Church of England  
Diocese of Ely

# Diocese of Ely Safeguarding Newsletter

A quarterly publication produced by the Diocese of Ely Safeguarding Department to help advise and guide our parishes and church leaders on a range of safeguarding related matters.

Remember, you can contact the team and find a range of supporting materials on the [Safeguarding Pages](#) of the website.

## In this Edition

- PSO meeting - 9 October 2024
- Moral Injury and Church Related abuse
- Time to Refresh your Notice Boards
- Clewer Initiative - Modern Slavery
- Safeguarding Sunday - 17 November 2024
- PSO and DBS Administrators - Change in Personnel
- Calling the Duty Phone
- Training Modules - BSL and Advanced Accessibility Versions
- Parish Safeguarding Dashboards Upgrade
- PSO Evensong and Garden Party 2025
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## PSO Meeting - 10am - 12pm Wednesday 9 October 2024

The next meeting will be held on 9 October via Zoom.

[Register here to receive the Zoom link](#)

We are happy to announce we will be joined by Vickie Crompton, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Partnership Manager, who will speak to us on domestic abuse awareness, where to find support, how to support someone and the resources available.

## Moral Injury and Church Related Abuse

**Moral injury and church-related abuse: Responding creatively through the visual arts, music & poetry**

This presentation, from the Moral Injury Webinar Series (hosted by the International Centre for Moral Injury at Durham University), is likely to be of use to anyone working with survivors of institutional abuse and anyone interested in the arts as a way through trauma.

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bh4M93oldAo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bh4M93oldAo)

## Time to Refresh Your Notice Boards

When did you last review information displayed on your notice boards? Are there other areas information could be displayed? Often in sensitive situations, putting posters in private spaces like toilets will give people the opportunity to read them without fear of being overlooked.

Here are some ideas for posters you could display:

- Whistleblowing Poster
- Safe Spaces Posters
- Promoting a Safer Church Posters
- National Standards Posters

You can find all of these posters here:  
[elydiocese.org/safeguarding-templates-resources#Templates](http://elydiocese.org/safeguarding-templates-resources#Templates)

Posters and resources from Children Safeguarding Partnership:  
[safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk/children-board/resources-for-practitioners/](http://safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk/children-board/resources-for-practitioners/)

Posters and resources from Adult Safeguarding Partnership  
[safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk/adults-board/resources-for-practitioners](http://safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk/adults-board/resources-for-practitioners)

Posters on Domestic Abuse  
[cambsdasv.org.uk/web/posters\\_for\\_free\\_download](http://cambsdasv.org.uk/web/posters_for_free_download)

If you need any of these printing send an email detailing which you want, and we will send them out to you.

## The Clewer Initiative - Modern Slavery

The [Clewer Initiative](#) is enabling Church of England dioceses and wider Church networks to develop strategies to detect modern slavery in their communities and help provide victim support and care.

There is a Modern Slavery training module on the [Church of England's Safeguarding Training Portal](#).

### PSO Newsletter

In response to feedback, the Clewer Initiative have launched a special newsletter for Parish and Cathedral Safeguarding Officers to help equip PSOs with the tools and resources to respond to modern slavery through their roles. To sign up for the newsletter and to find more resources, visit the Parish

Safeguarding Officers (PSO) page on their website.

[theclewerinitiative.org/resources/resources-for-parish-safeguarding-officers](http://theclewerinitiative.org/resources/resources-for-parish-safeguarding-officers)

## Safeguarding Sunday 17 November 2024

It's time to start encouraging leaders within our churches to think about what they may do to promote Safeguarding Sunday.

Lisa Pearson, Assistant Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser has produced [this video](#) detailing what it is all about and how your parish church can become actively involved.



Please forward this information to your communications teams, colleagues and church leaders; the [Safeguarding Sunday Resources](#) pack really does have everything anyone would need to prepare for the day.

You can also contact [deborah.toni@churchofengland.org](mailto:deborah.toni@churchofengland.org) for further information.

## Parish Safeguarding Officers, DBS and Dashboard Administrators - Changes in personnel

Please let [Sarah King](#), in the Safeguarding Team, know as soon as possible if there are changes to personnel acting as Parish Safeguarding Officer, DBS Administrators or Parish Safeguarding Dashboard and Hub Administrators.

Informing the Safeguarding Team of these changes enables us to update our records and to provide ongoing support to those in these important positions in the parish.

## Calling the Safeguarding Duty Phone

Recently there have been a number of calls to the Duty Phone relating to training or DBS queries. Please can we remind you that the Duty Phone is only to be used for new safeguarding concerns.

If you need to contact the Safeguarding Team regarding DBS, training, safer recruitment, Dashboard or Hub queries you can find our contact details on the [Diocesan Website](#) and at the end of this newsletter.

Please do not send new safeguarding concerns via e-mail to any of the DSAs, as due to other work commitments, holidays etc. the DSA may not be able to respond. Please use the Duty Phone to ensure you receive a quick response.

## Training modules - BSL and Enhanced Accessibility Versions

On the [Church of England's Safeguarding Training Portal](#) you will find two additional versions of the Basic Awareness module. The first is an Enhanced Accessibility version which uses simpler language throughout and presents the full script for each slide (rather than summarised points) for easier screen-reader integration. The second addition version of Basic Awareness is signed by a qualified British Sign Language interpreter.

The Foundation Module also has an Enhanced Accessibility version available.

## Parish Safeguarding Dashboards Upgrade

Recently there have been two significant developments regarding safeguarding in the Church of England:

First, the House of Bishop's safeguarding guidance is gradually being replaced by a new Safeguarding Code. This code is more explicit that clergy and PCCs must comply with the mandatory requirements.

Second, the Church of England has published five National Safeguarding Standards, against which parishes are asked to evaluate their progress.

To support parishes with these changes, the *Safeguarding Dashboard* was upgraded on Monday 23 September.

The aim is to help clergy and PCCs:

- To more easily distinguish between [mandatory requirements](#) and good practice.
- To evaluate the progress that a parish has made towards the [safeguarding standards](#).

Further information can be found [here](#).

## PSO Evensong and Garden Party

Please put **Wednesday 11 June 2025** in your diaries. The evening will start with Evensong in Ely Cathedral at 5.30pm followed by a Garden Party in the Bishop of Ely's Garden. Invitations will be sent out nearer the time.



## Contact the Team

### Safeguarding Cases and Incidents

New concerns via the Duty Phone  
**01353 652747**

DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING ADVISER  
 Rebecca Boswell  
 Email: [rebecca.boswell@elydiocese.org](mailto:rebecca.boswell@elydiocese.org)  
 Telephone number: 01353 652731  
 Mobile Number: 07904 487912  
 Hours of work 9am-5pm Monday to Friday

ASSISTANT DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING ADVISER  
 Sharon Gage (part-time)  
 Email [sharon.gage@elydiocese.org](mailto:sharon.gage@elydiocese.org)  
 Telephone number: 01353 652706  
 Mobile Number: 07507 741295  
 Hours of work 9.30am -2.30pm Monday to Thursday

ASSISTANT DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING ADVISER  
 Lisa Pearson (part-time)  
 Email: [lisa.pearson@elydiocese.org](mailto:lisa.pearson@elydiocese.org)  
 Telephone number: 01353 652738  
 Mobile Number: 07990 581267  
 Hours of work 9am-5pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday

### Training, Criminal Record Checks (DBS) and Parish Safeguarding Officer Support

DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING TRAINING AND PARISH SUPPORT CO-ORDINATOR  
 Sarah King, E-mail: [sarah.king@elydiocese.org](mailto:sarah.king@elydiocese.org)  
 Telephone number: 01353 652735  
 Mobile Number: 0777 666 1798  
 Hours of work 9am-5pm Monday to Friday

SAFEGUARDING ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT - DBS CHECKS  
 Jackie Williamson (part-time)  
 E-mail: [safeguardadmin@elydiocese.org](mailto:safeguardadmin@elydiocese.org)  
 Telephone number: 01353 652721  
 Hours of work 9am-5pm Tuesday and Wednesday

SAFEGUARDING ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT - TRAINING  
 Kelly Nott (part-time)  
 E-mail: [safeguarding.training@elydiocese.org](mailto:safeguarding.training@elydiocese.org)  
 Telephone number: 01353 652744  
 Hours of work 10am-2pm Monday to Friday