

DIOCESE OF ELY

SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2025

Safeguarding Department

Etheldreda House

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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 [Diocese of Ely Safeguarding pages of the website by clicking here.](#)

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Parish Safeguarding Officer Network and Training meeting

The date of the next meeting is Monday 27 January, starting at 10am.

Lisa Pearson, Assistant Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser and Cathedral Safeguarding Adviser will deliver a presentation on Managing Risk in a Church Context.

The presentation will provide an insight into how risk is identified and managed within the church context, grooming behaviours and the role of reference group members in relation to supporting a parish Church Safety Plan.

Please confirm your attendance by booking via the [Diocesan Training Portal](#)

Learning and Development Framework

The latest version of the *Safeguarding Learning and Development Framework* was approved by General Synod in July 2024.

The contents of the original 50-page document have been added to the [Church of England website](#), and it came into force on 1 January 2025.

Graeme Pringle from Clearly Simpler, (Parish Safeguarding Dashboards and Hubs) has condensed everything of relevance to a parish into just **six pages**...
<https://www.safeguardingdashboards.org.uk/safeguarding-training>

These six pages also contain:

- An explanation as to why each Safeguarding Pathway is important.
- Additional notes of clarification that have been agreed with Lisa Clarke (the author of the Framework)
- A quick summary of any changes in the requirements

Spiritual Abuse Webinars provided by Replenished



Replenished has planned some introductory webinars between February and April 2025

These lunchtime webinars are likely to fill quickly. They are free but with the option to donate. Please click on the following link to view the webinars available [Replenished Webinars](#)

Topics include:

- Introduction to Spiritual Abuse
- Impact of Spiritual Abuse
- Providing Quality Support: Welcoming Survivors Well, Key Principles, Supporting through Safeguarding.
- Creating Healthy Faith Cultures and Reflecting on Social Power and Influence and using this well.

Making safeguarding Referrals to the Safeguarding Team

Making Safeguarding Referrals - Please call the Safeguarding Duty Messaging Service: **01353 652747**

When making a referral by calling the Safeguarding Duty Message Service, please leave a message with your name, telephone number and a brief explanation of the reason for your call. The team member on duty will be alerted to your message and will call you back to discuss your safeguarding referral, offering professional advice and support and together with you agree a plan to manage the next steps.

In a safeguarding emergency please contact the Police on 999

Out of hours: To report a safeguarding concern when the Diocesan Office is closed, or when Diocesan Safeguarding Team members are unavailable, you can call the **Safeguarding Duty Telephone Number: 01353 652747**, which will forward your call to our partners at the '[thirtyone:eight](#)' Helpline. Let them know that you are calling from the Diocese of Ely. (Please note that the Helpline is not available between Midnight and 7.00am.)

It is really important you use the Duty Phone number rather than ringing a Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser either direct by telephone or e-mail to ensure a prompt response. There are times when the Safeguarding Advisers are either attending meetings, delivering training or on annual leave and therefore a response might not be received on the same day or week.

The Safeguarding Advisers run a Duty System so the Duty phone is monitored and call responded to as soon as possible.

Bishop's Garden Party and Evensong for Parish Safeguarding Officers



Bishop Dagmar, Acting Bishop of Ely, will host this year's garden party for Parish Safeguarding Officers, and their

guest. The Garden Party will be held in the Bishop of Ely's garden following the Evensong service on Wednesday 11 June at 5.30pm. Invitation will sent out shortly.

Safeguarding Team Departures

For personal and family reasons, our Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, Rebecca Boswell, has resigned and will leave us mid-March when we will say farewell. We are indebted to her for steering us through the complex matters of Safeguarding for the last nine years. Work on recruitment has begun, in cooperation with the National Safeguarding Team and the Regional Safeguarding Lead for the Eastern Region.

Please be assured the remaining members of the Safeguarding Team will continue to provide advice, support and training as normal.

StreetLink

[StreetLink](#) is a platform that connects people rough sleeping in England and Wales to support provided by local authorities and charities. This includes anyone who is sleeping outside, preparing to bed down, or sleeping somewhere not designed for habitation, such as a car. To make these connections, the platform relies on alerts submitted by members of the public and people sleeping rough.



Safeguarding Contact Details Listed on Parish Websites

Please ensure your parish website only provides the Duty phone number as a means to make referrals to the Safeguarding Team. Your website should not provide contact details for individual Diocesan Safeguarding Team members.

New Way to Access the Leadership Training Module

Although the Safeguarding Team are still delivering this module via Zoom or face to face at Etheldreda House the booking system and the completion of the pre course work and final task for the Leadership as all administered via the [Church of England Safeguarding Training portal](#).

Guidance on how to access the course can be found on the Safeguarding pages of the [Diocesan website](#)

Future Developments and Projects

The Parish Safeguarding Handbook is due to be updated during 2025. Although the information relating to the Safer Recruitment and People Management and Safeguarding Training information is out of date the other sections are still relevant and provides very useful information. All current policies and practice guidance document can be found in the [Safeguarding E-manual on the Church of England website](#)

Team Around the Parish. The Safeguarding Team are looking at additional ways to support PSOs and Parishes. Members of the Safeguarding Team have been working with the

Mission and Ministry Department in developing a scheme call Team around the Parish. This will be a scheme to support parish where there may be multi department involvement looking to work collaboratively rather than having a number of separate interventions and providing the support tailors to potentially a number of issues within one parish.

PSO Peer Support at Deanery Level. The benefit of the peer support groups would be to Get fresh ideas, gain a different perspective, share tips and resources, access new information, and build confidence.

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,
 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,
 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,
 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 Officer

Sarah King,
 E-mail: 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,
 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,
 Telephone number: 01353 652744,
 Hours of work 10am-2pm Monday to Friday