

SAFEGUARDING



WELCOME

Welcome to the Autumn 2024 Safeguarding Newsletter! It was great to see so many of you attend our latest Safeguarding Briefing held via Zoom on Thursday 26th September. We hope you found the briefing helpful and informative. Please note that Safeguarding Briefings are available for all to attend – including clergy, Parish Safeguarding Officers, DBS Recruiters, Readers, churchwardens, PCC members - you are all very welcome! The 2025 Safeguarding Briefing dates are all available at in this newsletter (no booking required).

IN THIS ISSUE:

INTRODUCING SALLY HODGES - SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY -
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING STANDARDS WORKSHOPS -
J9 INITIATIVE - CASE STUDY - UPDATES & NEW PRACTICE
GUIDANCE - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - AND MORE!



SAFEGUARDING CONFERENCE

Since our last newsletter, we held our annual Diocesan Safeguarding Conference on Saturday 8th June at Christ Church, Worksop. The day was a great success and was well attended by many across the Diocese. If you weren't able to attend this year's conference, please don't worry – we are providing monthly workshops on each of the Safeguarding Standards from January-June 2025, more details on how to book at the end of this newsletter.

A big thank you to the team at Christ Church Worksop for hosting the event and assisting us with making the event a success! Next years' annual Diocesan Safeguarding Conference will be held on **Saturday 7th June 2025** – venue to be confirmed.

CULTURE, LEADERSHIP & CAPACITY

INTRODUCING SALLY HODGES

We recently welcome Sally as the new DSAP Chair. A qualified social worker, Sally has many years experience in all aspects of safeguarding in both adults and children's services. Sally has been a Director of Children's Services in a number of authorities, and Chief Executive of a children's Trust. She has chaired both adults and children's safeguarding boards in various places in the country and chaired a number of improvement boards in areas that are in special measures. She is currently Chair of Lincolnshire DSDAP and a children's improvement board in a local authority in the South of England.



HOW MANY PSO'S CAN ONE PARISH HAVE?

We are frequently asked by parishes whether or not they can have more than one PSO – and the answer to this is yes, absolutely! We are seeing many parishes build 'safeguarding teams', consisting of a PSO supported by an Assistant PSO, or having a PSO for Children and a PSO for Vulnerable Adults. Many parishes who have adopted this approach feel the role is more manageable, particularly for PSO's who have other roles in church and / or responsibilities outside of church, and they feel less alone and better supported having another PSO to discuss safeguarding with. Do feel free to speak to a member of the safeguarding team if you'd like to explore this option further in your church.

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY - 17TH NOVEMBER

If you haven't already, it's time to start planning what your church is doing to celebrate this years' Safeguarding Sunday on 17th November 2024.

What is it all about?

Every year, thousands of churches across the country unite to mark Safeguarding Sunday. It's a chance to listen and to talk together about how places can be created that are safer for everyone.

The theme and focus for this year is – 'Let's talk about it'. It's time to have open and honest conversations about what we've got wrong and what we're getting right. It's an opportunity to talk about how we can work together to prevent abuse and create a world where every child and adult can feel and be safe.

Everything needed to plan what needs to be done whether for a few minutes or a whole service is in the pack provided by Thirtyone:eight and **[is available here.](#)**



Churches who take part in Safeguarding Sunday see:

- **GREATER** positive awareness and understanding of safeguarding among church members.
- An **INCREASE** in the number of people feeling able to talk about what's happened to them for the first time.
- **MORE** people coming forward to volunteer and to help with running activities.
- An **INCREASED** number of people completing safeguarding training and criminal record checks.
- And the number of Safeguarding Leads feeling supported in their role by the church is **BIGGER**.

We are looking for a church for a member of the Diocesan Safeguarding Team to visit on Safeguarding Sunday – please do let us know if you would like us to attend!

PREVENTION

PARISH DASHBOARDS UPDATE

For parishes who are using the Parish Dashboards to monitor parishes' 'Mandatory Requirements' in relation to safeguarding compliance, you will have noticed the addition of 'Safeguarding Standards' to your Dashboards. This addition is designed as a self-evaluation framework to monitor parishes' progress towards each Standard. Some of the information is carried over from actions parishes' have already completed within the 'Mandatory Requirements' section, so you may be pleasantly surprised to see that your parish is already working towards some of the standards! **Clearly Simpler, developers of the Parish Dashboards, have created a helpful video which explains the reason for the upgrade. Watch here.**

NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING STANDARDS

The focus of this years' Diocesan Safeguarding Conference was on the National Safeguarding Standards. We spent time throughout the day reflecting on each of the five standards and developing action plans as to how each of the standards should be embedded at parish level. If you weren't able to attend the conference (or if you did and would still like a refresher!) we are offering a series of workshops from January – June 2025 on each of the Standards:

- **Introduction to the National Safeguarding Standards**

Thursday 30th January, 6.30-8pm

- **Standard 2: Prevention**

Thursday 27th February, 6.30-8pm

- **Standard 3: Recognising, Assessing and Managing Risk**

Thursday 27th March, 6.30-8pm

- **Standard 4: Victims and Survivors**

Thursday 24th April, 6.30-8pm

- **Standard 5: Learning, Supervision and Support**

Thursday 22nd May, 6.30-8pm

- **Standard 1: Culture, Leadership and Capacity**

Thursday 26th June, 6.30-8pm

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK ONTO THESE SESSIONS](#)

An overview of the National Safeguarding Standards can be found in the **[Summer 2024 Safeguarding newsletter](#)**.

Resources and materials are accessible via the **[National Church of England website](#)** including leaflets, posters and self-audit tools.



SAFEGUARDING HUBS

During the last briefing, we spent time sharing experiences of using the 'Safeguarding Hubs' – a suite of tools created to support parishes with safer recruitment and people management. Feedback was extremely positive:

“Love, love, love the hub! It’s so easy to use and keeps everything in one place.”

“Positive experience. Pleased to ditch the spreadsheets for 3 parishes.”

“It’s lots of work getting the information on but we can see that it’s going to be worthwhile.”

If your parish isn’t yet benefitting from using the Safeguarding Hub, [you can find more information here.](#)

[Please complete this online form](#) if you would like access or require any support with use of the Parish Dashboards or Safeguarding Hubs.

RECOGNISING, ASSESSING & MANAGING RISK

NEW PRACTICE GUIDANCE:

'Responding to, assessing and managing safeguarding concerns and allegations against Church Officers'

This practice guidance document is being updated and will be replaced with Safeguarding Code of Practice on Managing Safeguarding Concerns and Allegations. The new guidance is currently out for consultation and we hope to provide an update on this by the end of 2024.

NEW GUIDELINES FOR CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH MINISTRY IN PERSONAL HOMES

The Church of England has produced some easy and accessible guidance for those who minister to children, young people and their families. Where events like Bible studies, pizza nights and Christmas quizzes can't take place on church premises, these guidelines will help those working with children, young people and their families to navigate the necessary safeguarding considerations of hosting the event in a personal home, and ensure that all events are well planned and safe for all.

[VIEW THE GUIDANCE HERE](#)



VICTIMS & SURVIVORS

THE 'J9' INITIATIVE - TRAINING FOR PARISHES

We are very excited to have developed links with domestic abuse charity, J9. J9 is named in memory of Janine Mundy, a mother of two, killed by her estranged husband in June 2003 whilst on police bail. The J9 initiative is designed to raise awareness and provide the skills to recognise abuse and the confidence to respond to disclosures, opening the door to safety and support.

The J9 domestic abuse initiative is designed to create safe spaces in the community for those experiencing domestic abuse. The J9 training covers how to recognise and respond to domestic abuse and aims to increase confidence so community members know how to signpost individuals discreetly and safely. Once J9 training is completed, branded badges, posters and stickers will indicate to survivors that it is a safe space to access support.

We would love to see as many parishes as possible across the Diocese engage in this vital training and become approved J9 safe spaces. A J9 representative will be attending our next Safeguarding Briefing on Thursday 23rd January to discuss the initiative in more detail and answer any questions you may have.

The J9 Training will take place on the following dates and are bookable via the Diocese Learning Hub:

- **Thursday 27th February, 10-11.30am**
Jubilee House

[BOOK HERE](#)

- **Tuesday 25th March, 5.30-7pm**
Zoom

[BOOK HERE](#)



LEARNING, SUPERVISION & SUPPORT

UPDATE TO TRAINING/DBS MATRIX

The Training/DBS Matrix has been updated to clarify the requirements for Eucharist Assistants giving communion in homes vs. Eucharist Assistants in church only. **The updated matrix is available via the Diocesan website here.**

2025 SCHEDULES

The 2025 Leadership and Domestic Abuse Awareness schedules are now available via the Diocesan website or the links below:

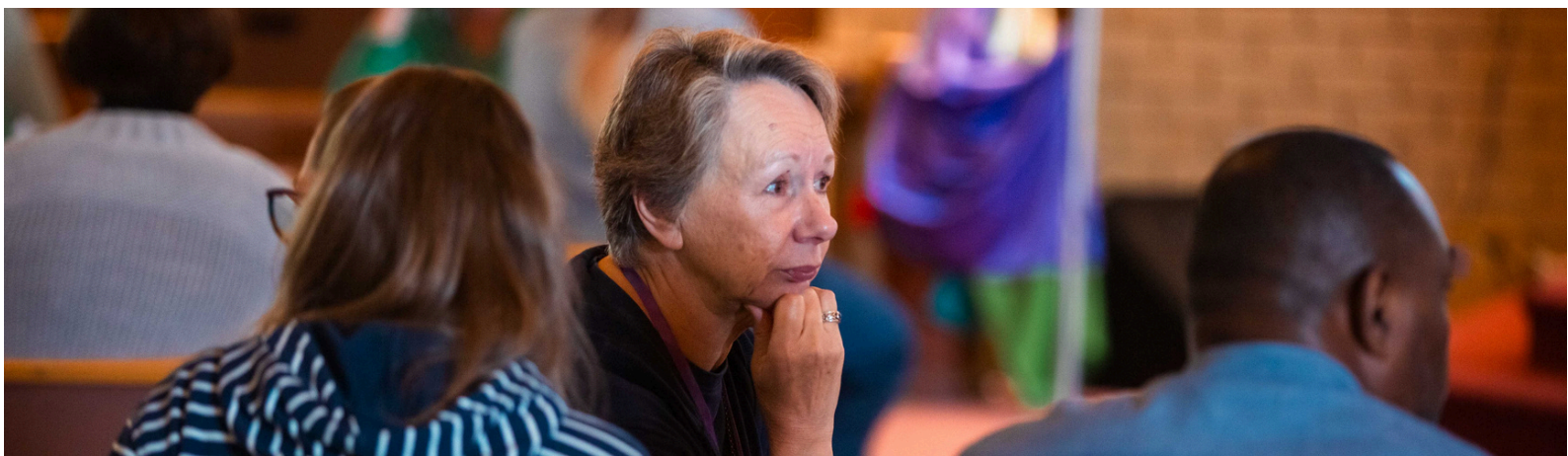
- [2025 Leadership Schedule](#)
- [2025 Domestic Abuse Awareness Schedule](#)

Spring term courses are now available to book. Please follow the booking guidance in each schedule.

NEW 'EFFECTIVE RECRUITMENT & SELECTION' WORKSHOP

This workshop has been designed for parishes to access with the aim to provide recruiters with practical guidance for the safer recruitment of volunteers and employees. A pre-requisite of accessing this workshop is the completion of the [Church of England 'Safer Recruitment and People Management' e-learning](#).

The first delivery of this workshop will take place on **Thursday 14th November 6:30-8pm**. Places are bookable via the Learning Hub - **[click here to book](#)**.



CASE STUDY

We recently received feedback from an attendee of the Safeguarding Leadership course who has suggested we circulate case studies to parishes within our termly newsletters for PCC's / Leadership Teams to discuss and use as a tool to develop their safeguarding practice and responses. We think this is an excellent idea and will attach a case study to each newsletter moving forwards, providing the responses to the questions in the next edition of the newsletter. We thought it would be best to start with the case study used at the Safeguarding Conference as this generated some great discussion. **[You can read the case study here.](#)**



UPCOMING TRAINING DATES

WORKSHOPS

- **Responding Well to Welfare Concerns vs Safeguarding Concerns**

Thursday 28th November, 6.30-7.30pm - [**BOOK HERE**](#)

- **DBS Eligibility**

Tuesday 12th November, 1.30-3pm or 6.30-8pm - [**BOOK HERE**](#)

- **Effective Recruitment and Selection**

Thursday 14th November, 6.30-8pm - [**BOOK HERE**](#)

2025 BRIEFINGS

- **Diocesan Safeguarding Briefings - 7-8.30pm on Zoom**

Thursday 23rd January

Wednesday 7th May

Tuesday 30th September

NO BOOKING REQUIRED. ZOOM DETAILS:

- **Link:** <https://southwell-anglican-org.zoom.us/j/5857993391?pwd=SGU3Mk1lS1k4Q0hjUmpWaEtrczdOZz09>
 - **Meeting ID:** 585 799 3391
 - **Passcode:** 82KBeW
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DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING CONFERENCE

- **Saturday 7th June, 9am-4pm (venue TBC)**