



Safeguarding News and Update

Creating a Safe Cathedral

NEWS

JOYFULLY PROCLAIMING THE LOVE OF GOD THROUGH WORSHIP, OUTREACH, WELCOME AND CARE

First of all, thank you. Thank you, for all that you already do to keep Ely Cathedral a safe place...

Thank you to those hundreds of people who have attended the 2016 *Cathedral Safeguarding Training* and all those who through their ministry, whether as staff or volunteers make us a friendly and caring Christian community for those who work or worship here, and those who visit. We seek to create a culture where everyone is included, respected, listened to, and taken seriously and work hard to ensure the safeguarding of children and young people, and adults who may be vulnerable for any reason.

As a Cathedral we follow recommended safeguarding practice in recruiting, training and supporting our ordained and lay ministers, our employees and our volunteers. We follow the House of Bishops' Policy, 'Protecting All God's Children' (2010) and the Diocese of Ely Safeguarding Policy (2012) on which our policy is based.

We work closely with the Diocese of Ely, Police and Social Care in order to protect people from harm. We will co-operate fully with any enquiries and will respond quickly to any complaints.

We regularly review and update our safeguarding policy in consultation with the Diocese of Ely, and following the advice of the Church of England, and we welcome comments from those using our services on how we could improve our awareness and safeguarding practices. The latest Cathedral Safeguarding Policy (2016) can be downloaded from the Cathedral website, just go to the **Safeguarding Button** at the top of the homepage.

This issue has affected the whole church, and the Archbishop of Canterbury has recently commented that *'There has to be a complete change of culture and behaviour' in how we approach it*.



He goes on to say that there is a profound theological point to reflect upon. *'We are not doing all this, we are not seeking to say how devastatingly, appallingly, atrociously sorry we are for the great failures there have been, for our own sakes, for our own flourishing, for the protection of the church. But we are doing it because we are called to live in the justice of God, and that we will each answer to Him for our failures in this area. And that accountability is one that we must take with the utmost seriousness'*.

Q&A Who is an 'Adult at risk of abuse or neglect'?

This may be a person who: *is elderly and frail due to ill health, physical disability or cognitive impairment *has a learning disability *has a physical disability and/or a sensory impairment *has mental health needs including dementia or a personality disorder *has a long-term illness/condition *misuses substances or alcohol.

The Diocese of Ely also recognizes that people may have 'temporary' periods of vulnerability, for example through illness, bereavement, marriage break-up, loss of job. In these cases people may not seek outside help, but may turn to a friend, fellow congregation member, or minister for support.



The principle of 'well being' is intrinsic to safeguarding and the aim is to ensure adults have choices about how they live, and promotes improving the life of those adults about whom there is concern.

Designated Safeguarding Persons

We now have four '*designated Safeguarding Persons*' who you can speak to if you have a question or concern. Contact details can be found on the back of this newsletter, and on notices around the cathedral and chapter house.

The Goddard Inquiry

You will have heard about this in the media- but what is it- and how does it affect the Church of England? The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse will investigate whether public bodies and other non-state institutions have taken seriously their duty of care to protect children from sexual abuse in England and Wales. The Inquiry will identify institutional failings where they are found to exist and demand accountability for past institutional failings. It will support victims and survivors to share their experience of sexual abuse. And make practical recommendations to ensure that children are given the care and protection they need. The Church of England is one such 'institution' which is being investigated.

Safeguarding Training

From January 2017, there will be termly Safeguarding training sessions for all new staff and volunteers. There will be sessions on a weekday morning, evening and Saturday morning to enable everyone to attend.

On behalf of the Chapter, thank you to those Cathedral Volunteers and Staff who have already attended the training. We are required to update all staff and volunteers every 3 years. This is important in the current climate. For more information about the next training sessions contact The Cathedral Safeguarding Administrator is Andrew Dunn, Tel: 660320 email: A.Dunn@elycathedral.org

Cathedral Safeguarding Group

The new **Cathedral Safeguarding Group** meets twice a year to review safeguarding policies and procedures across the Cathedral, in consultation with the Diocese of Ely, and external advice and expertise. If you have a general operational issue or concern relating to Safeguarding that you would like to be discussed, please get in touch.

Safer Recruitment

Whenever new staff or volunteers are recruited we have to follow the Church of England's *Safer Recruitment Practice Guidance* 2016.

This means that we must conduct appropriate interviews, take up references, and ensure that the volunteer or staff member are suited to the role they are taking on and understand the expectations of that role. Importantly, new volunteers or staff **should not begin work** until the appropriate Safeguarding Checks have been carried out.

FACTS

- Over 49,000 children were identified as needing protection from abuse last year (NSPCC)
- 1 in 3 Children have been a victim of cyberbullying (NSPCC)
- 90% of sexually abused children were abused by someone they knew (NSPCC)

All volunteers and staff are required to complete a **Confidential Declaration Form** and references **must** be obtained before starting.

These have to be renewed every **5 years**. So please do cooperate if your Confidential Declaration form needs to be renewed. We have been advised by the Diocese that anyone who refuses to complete or renew this form, should not continue in their role.

Some roles in the cathedral will require volunteers and staff to obtain a **Disclosure and Barring Service Check** (or DBS), this has replaced what was known as a CRB check.

Again, volunteers and staff should not begin their work until these checks have been completed.

As soon as possible after starting they should sign up for the next available Cathedral Safeguarding Training Session. If you are unsure just get in touch and we will be happy to help. **The Cathedral Safeguarding Administrator is Andrew Dunn Tel: 660320 email: A.Dunn@elycathedral.org**



Good Safeguarding *integral to the mission of the Church*

The Bishop of Coventry, Christopher Cocksworth, stresses that this is a task for the whole church and that attention should be given to significant theological questions about humanity, sin, grace, forgiveness, reconciliation and the Church itself. *"Making space for grappling with the issues that arise here is essential if the church is going to be able to speak about God and about the gospel both when it is seeking to do safeguarding well and when it is reacting to situations where something has gone badly wrong."* A new theological resource has recently been published by the Church of England's Faith and Order Commission, for use in local congregations. **The Gospel, Sexual Abuse and the Church: A Theological Resource for the Local Church** notes that safeguarding from abuse and responding well to it needs to be grounded in Christian theology and so should be part of the Church's regular ministry of preaching and teaching. "Good safeguarding is integral to the mission of the Church," it states.

Who can I talk to at the Cathedral?

Designated Safeguarding Persons at Ely Cathedral



Victoria Johnson (Cathedral Clergy, Safeguarding Co-ordinator).
Telephone 01353 660302
Email: v.johnson@elycathedral.org



Jessica Martin (Cathedral Clergy).
Telephone 01353 660304
Email: j.martin@elycathedral.org



Stephen Bourne (Cathedral Administrator, Non-Clergy)
Telephone: 01353 660308
Email: s.bourne@elycathedral.org



Jan Payne (Cathedral Licensed Lay Minister, Non-Clergy)
Telephone: 07780 674563
Email: J.Payne@elycathedral.org



Who can I talk to outside the Cathedral?

Safeguarding Officer for the Diocese of Ely Sarah King, Tel: 01353 652735 Email: sarah.king@elydiocese.org

Safeguarding Advisor for the Diocese of Ely
Rebecca Boswell Tel: 01353652731
Email: rebecca.boswell@elydiocese.org

NSPCC Telephone: 0800 800 5000

Cambridgeshire Children's Social Care
Telephone: 0345 045 5203

Out of hours emergency Duty Team (for Adults at risk)
Telephone: 01733 234 724

Cambridgeshire Constabulary Telephone: 111 (in an emergency call 999)

Police Child Abuse Investigation Unit Telephone: 101

Women's Aid and Refuge National Helpline (24 hr)
Telephone: 0808 2000 247

Stop it now! Confidential advice Telephone 0808 1000 900

