

Role of the Parish Safeguarding Links taken from Diocese of Derby Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practice Guidance

- The Parish Safeguarding Links (PSL) are the safeguarding leads for children and/or adults within the parish and, with the clergy and licensed ministers, are responsible for promoting this safeguarding policy, procedure and guidance and related documents within the Parish and ensuring that the PCC approves and adopts the documents annually,
- PSLs should ensure that the '**Diocese of Derby Safeguarding: What to do if you have concerns...**' flowchart is displayed prominently in all churches and church buildings **and** anywhere regular activities, involving children or adults, take place under the auspices of the Church.
- They should ensure that any safeguarding concern is dealt with by the Parish in accordance with the policies of the Church of England and this guidance. In doing so they will ensure that any actions taken by the Parish are agreed, **in advance**, with the Diocesan Safeguarding Team (DST).
- PSLs need to report annually to their Parish Church Council (PCC) prior to the APCM (and at other times as requested) including a review of safeguarding activity in the previous year and any plans to promote effective safeguarding activity in the Parish over the coming year (PSL proforma) **(see section 5.3.16)**.
- They do not need to be an elected member of the PCC but may be co-opted. They need attend sufficient PCC meetings to enable them to advise the PCC on any safeguarding implications that arise on any agenda items discussed.
- They should collate information regarding those in their Parish who require safeguarding training and liaising with the DST to arrange access to training. The PSLs will maintain local training records which they will share with the DST as required.
- The PSLs should draw to the attention of the PCC any issues arising from Activity Risk Assessments completed either by Church Groups or external groups hiring premises, requiring remedial action.
- Along with the Incumbent and Church Wardens, the PSL will lead on completing the parish Self-Audit tool every 5 years or after 12 months' of a new Incumbent's Installation, and report the findings to the PCC

The PSL should ensure that:

- DBS checks and other aspects in the national practice guidance on **Safer Recruitment 2016** (see Section 5.2) are carried out for all relevant volunteers, leaders, and others as appropriate;
- all volunteers have signed a contract and at least one of the written references must be followed up with direct contact to ensure its accuracy in line with '**Safeguarding Contract and Code of Conduct for all those who work with children and/or adults within the Church**' <http://www.derby.anglican.org/safeguarding>
- all relevant volunteers, staff and post-holders (e.g. churchwardens, PCC members and parish officers) have signed to say they have read the '**Safeguarding in the Parish: A Reference Guide 2016**' and that they are able to access the '**Diocese of Derby Policy, Procedures and Practice Guidance**' 2016 and are willing to use them in any work they do within the church.

