

Easter Safeguarding Newsletter

My team and I would like to wish you all a happy and peaceful Easter. We know this is a very busy time for many of you and we hope you find time to be with those you love. On a personal note, as many of you know I recently experienced the loss of my much-loved father. I wanted to pass on my most sincere thanks for the huge numbers of emails, phone calls and kind messages I have received. These have really helped me at a difficult time. This Easter I'm also thinking of those of you who have lost loved ones and are continuing to find your way forwards.

The Safeguarding Office will be closed this Easter from Thursday 28 March until Wednesday 3 April. Cover will be provided by 31:8, our out of office service on 0303 003 1111.

I will be on leave from March 28 until Monday 15 April having some time off with my family. We are also having a short break from our training delivery in Easter as the fabulous Jacqui is celebrating her upcoming wedding.

DBS Eligibility Training Opportunity

The DBS Outreach team are offering some training for DBS assessors which can be accessed for free. Whilst this is not church specific it will be incredibly helpful for those who missed our earlier training provided by 31:8. <u>Access the free training</u> Disclosure & Barring Service

Making Recruitment Safer

Train the Trainer

We are pleased to announce a new date for Train the Trainer. This will take place Wednesday 19 June 10am - 1pm. <u>Click here to book your place</u>.

This course is suitable for anyone interested in delivering Basic Awareness and Foundation training locally. It will equip you with the information and confidence to arrange and deliver training, as well as guidance on what to do next, and helpful hints from our trainers.

Dashboards Survey

To ensure that we are providing the best possible support it is important for us to know which parishes are already using dashboards and who might need a bit of extra support getting on board. As such we would be grateful if you, or the individual who is / will be responsible for overseeing dashboards, would complete a short survey which will take just a couple of minutes to complete. This will help shape the support provided to you by the team.

Complete the survey

Guidance for owners / editors of Multiple Parish Dashboards

In our previous newsletter we mentioned the possibility of joint Benefice Dashboards for groups of smaller parishes. Unfortunately following further investigation this is not possible. However, if you are the owner of two or more dashboards you can update multiple dashboards at the same time.

Find out how you can update multiple dashboards

NSPCC Learning

NSPCC Learning has published a Helplines insight briefing on barriers for professionals when reporting child abuse and neglect. It is based on contacts to the NSPCC Helpline and NSPCC Whistleblowing Advice Line in 2022/23 by people working or volunteering with children and young people. The briefing identified gaps in knowledge and confidence for some professionals including believing they needed to wait for permission to report concerns. There were also fears around sharing concerns, including worries about disrupting or breaking up families and fears for personal safety. Some professionals described organisational issues such as a lack of safeguarding processes and concealing of abuse.

The briefing contains links to further information on recognising and responding to signs of abuse, what happens after a referral is made to statutory agencies, information for policy and guidance in local areas and safeguarding in faith communities.

Find out more about <u>Barriers for professionals to reporting abuse and neglect on the NSPCC website.</u>

Wells Cathedral

Did you know the Diocesan Safeguarding Team also provides safeguarding services to Wells Cathedral? If you are a Cathedral volunteer, you can contact me or Jo with any safeguarding concerns. Jo works from Wells Cathedral one day a week.



Diocese of Bath and Wells - Safeguarding team



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Out of hours cover

Please contact the safeguarding Helpline on 0303 003 1111 during out of hours (It operates 5pm - midnight on Mon-Fri; 7am - midnight on Sat and Sun), on bank holidays and other absences.