

Safeguarding Statement: Parish of South Shoebury

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of South Shoebury takes seriously its responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of children and vulnerable adults.

This Safeguarding Statement applies to all who make up the church 'workforce' which includes all clergy, holders of Bishop's licence or permission, those commissioned or authorised by the Bishop, those, paid or unpaid, who hold positions of responsibility in a parish and work with children or vulnerable adults, and those with representational parish ministry, for example; churchwarden, organist, server & choir members

For the purposes of this document the term 'Parish' is used to denote the PCC and Incumbent who are together responsible for ensuring that diocesan safeguarding policies and procedures are implemented.

For the purposes of this document a child is anyone under the age of eighteen years.

Policy

1. The South Shoebury PCC has adopted the Church of England National Safeguarding Team Policy and Practice Guidance.

Links to the relevant national policies can be found on the Diocese of Chelmsford's website <https://www.chelmsford.anglican.org/safeguarding/safeguarding-policy-and-practice-guidance#policy>

2. The Parish Safeguarding Representative at South Shoebury is Sandra Baines and has been appointed by the PCC.

Statement of Commitment

The PCC will develop a safeguarding culture that:

- Creates an environment where there is awareness and vigilance about the signs, symptoms and impacts of abuse.
- Enables and encourages all concerns or allegations to be raised in order to protect children and adults from harm.
- Ensures all those who work or volunteer on behalf of the church with children and adults achieve the standards required by this policy.
- Holds to account those in the church community who disregard the safety and well-being of children and adults.

To bring this about we will:

- Formally adopt the Diocese of Chelmsford Safeguarding Policy.
- Review the implementation of the Diocese of Chelmsford Safeguarding Policy annually
- Invite our PSR(s) to attend at least one PCC meeting each year. (At this meeting the PSR will provide a report on Safeguarding for the parish).
- Ensure that all those authorised to work with children and vulnerable adults are appropriately **recruited** according to safer recruitment practice and are adequately supported.

- Ensure that all those authorised to work with children and vulnerable adults are **trained** appropriately for their roles, including Diocesan Safeguarding Training.
- Provide appropriate insurance cover for all activities undertaken in the name of the church, which involve children or vulnerable adults.
- Ensure that an **Activity Plan** and **Risk Assessment** is completed and reviewed (at least once a year) for each activity, which is associated with either children or vulnerable adults and run in the name of the church.
- Comply with Data Protection Principles¹ – specifically with reference to storing information about the ‘church workforce’, including volunteers, who have completed a confidential declaration and/or undergone DBS checks and for Safeguarding Agreements of offenders and others who may pose a risk.

The most important point to bear in mind is, if in doubt about any safeguarding matter contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team (DST) whose job it is to offer advice, guidance and support in all situations in which a child or adult may be at risk. For this purpose the DST can be contacted at any time on;

01245 294444

Parish Safeguarding Representative (PSR)

Name: Sandra Baines

Contact Details: 01702 294043; 07756 855033; email sandrabaines@hotmail.co.uk

Diocesan Safeguarding Team

Contact Details: 01245 294444 (24/7) or email: safeguarding@chelmsford.anglican.org

Safeguarding contact details for Southend Borough Council

Children’s Services: 01702 534706; email LSCB@southend.gov.uk

Adult Services: 01702 534340; email SAB@southend.gov.uk

National Helplines

Childline: 0800 1111

NSPCC: 0808 500 8000

Domestic Violence Helpline: 0808 200 0247

MACSAS (Ministers and clergy sexual abuse survivors): www.macsas.org.uk

Mencap Learning Disability Helpline: 0808 808 1111

VOICE UK (For people with learning disabilities who have experienced crime or abuse): 0808 802 8686

StopItNow! (For anyone who may need help preventing abuse, even in themselves): 0808 100 0900

Women’s Aid (Seeking to end domestic violence against women and girls): www.womesaid.org.uk

Samaritans: 116123

¹See ICO for http://ico.org.uk/for_organisations/data_protection

Parish Safeguarding Checklist

At South Shoebury we recognise that the few who are determined to harm children or adults, deliberately seek out groups or organisations where they can meet children or other vulnerable people. The Church is particularly vulnerable to these people. Creating and maintaining a safeguarding culture will discourage them from becoming involved for the wrong reasons and make it difficult for them to harm or abuse children or adults if they do.

In order to assist with the creation of a safeguarding culture the PCC (or equivalent charitable body) will:

Appoint:

- At least one Parish Safeguarding Representative (PSR)² to work with the Incumbent and the PCC to implement the Diocese of Chelmsford Safeguarding Policy and associated procedures.

Display:

- A formal statement of adoption of the National Safeguarding Policy and Statement of Commitment. This should be signed on behalf of the PCC. (A copy of the formal statement should be kept with the PCC minutes and reviewed annually).
- Contact details for the Parish Safeguarding Representative (PSR).
- Information about where to get help with Child and Adult Safeguarding issues and with Domestic Abuse – these should include local and national numbers and contact details for the relevant local authority safeguarding teams.
- Contact details for the Diocesan Safeguarding Team – including phone, email and website details.
- Provide access to a hard copy of the Church of England's National Team's Safeguarding Policy Manual

The PCC additionally will:

- Formally adopt the National Safeguarding Policy.
- Review the implementation of the National Safeguarding Policy annually. (
- Invite the PSR to attend at least one PCC meeting each year. (At this meeting the PSR should report on Safeguarding for the parish).
- Ensure that all those authorised to work with children and vulnerable adults are appropriately **recruited** according to safer recruitment practice and are adequately supported.
- Ensure that all those authorised to work with children and vulnerable adults are **trained** appropriately for their roles, including Diocesan Safeguarding Training.
- Provide appropriate insurance cover for all activities undertaken in the name of the church, which involve children or vulnerable adults.
- Ensure that an **Activity Plan** and **Risk Assessment** is completed and reviewed (at least once a year) for each activity, which is associated with either children or vulnerable adults and run in the name of the church.

² (Please see separate Information Sheet for more detail about the role of the PSR).

- Comply with Data Protection Principles³ – specifically with reference to storing information about the ‘church workforce’, including volunteers, who have completed a confidential declaration and/or undergone DBS checks.

³See ICO for http://ico.org.uk/for_organisations/data_protection