



**DIOCESE OF  
LICHFIELD**



The Church of England around Staffordshire, northern Shropshire and the Black Country

## SAFEGUARDING

### Good Practice Guidelines IN LICHFIELD DIOCESE

#### WHAT TO DO IF... ..

You have concerns about possible abuse (including allegations):

- 1 In an emergency, respond immediately.
- 2 Consult the person to whom you are responsible
- 3 Decide together whether to seek advice or to make an immediate referral.
- 4 Keep a record of what happened, your concerns and your actions.
- 5 Tell your minister and/or safeguarding co-ordinator.

A child, young person or adult wishes to disclose they have been abused:

- 1 Listen,. Keep listening.  
Do not question or investigate. Do not promise confidentiality; tell them we need to share this. Assure them they are not to blame.
- 2 Tell them what you are going to do and that they will be told what happens.
- 3 Make careful notes of what is said, record dates, times, events and when you are told.
- 4 Report it to the person to whom you are responsible and your minister or safeguarding co-ordinator.
- 5 Only tell those who need to know.
- 6 If a child is in imminent danger report to the Police or Social Service.

#### THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Treat everyone with respect, setting a positive example for others.
- Respect personal space and privacy.
- Ensure and actions cannot be misinterpreted by someone else.
- Challenge unacceptable behaviour.
- Do not put anyone, including yourself, in a vulnerable or compromising situation.
- Do not have inappropriate physical or verbal contact with others.
- You must not keep allegations or suspected abuse secret.

#### RESOURCES

**Protecting all God's Children** (2010, CHO)

**Promoting a safer church** (2006, CHO)

#### NSPCC

Many useful resources, including research studies & fact sheets. Tel: 0800 800 500

[www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

#### Stop It Now

A freephone confidential helpline for people with concerns about child sexual abuse which gives advice, support and information. Tel:0809 1000 900

[www.stopitnow.org.uk](http://www.stopitnow.org.uk)

[www.lichfield.anglican.org/safeguarding](http://www.lichfield.anglican.org/safeguarding)

Promoting

# a safer church

The care and protection of children, young people and adults involved in Church activities is the responsibility of everyone who participates in the life of the Church.

## House of Bishops Safeguarding Policy for children, young people & adults

### OUR COMMITMENTS

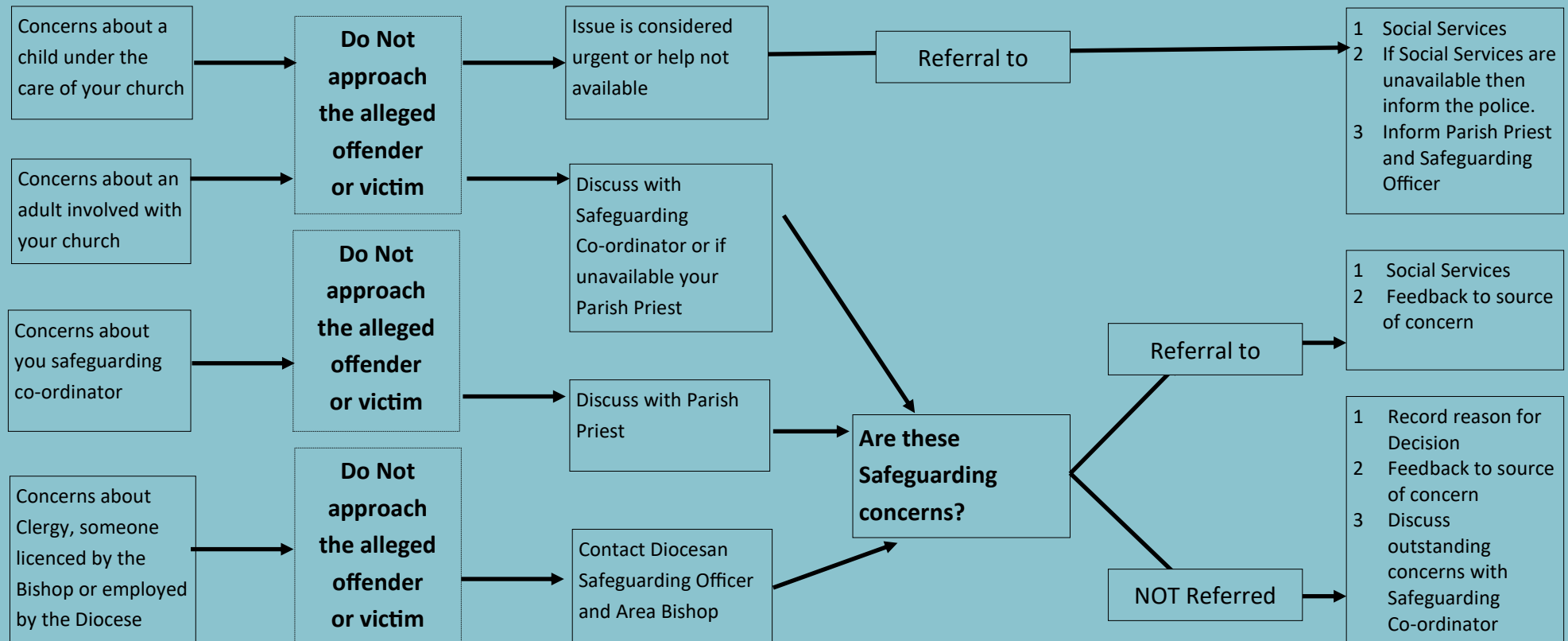
- Promoting a safer environment and culture
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children and vulnerable adults
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse or other affected persons
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns/ allegations of abuse and other affected persons
- Responding to those that may pose a resent risk.



**THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND**

[www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding](http://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding)

# IN THE EVENT OF A SAFEGUARDING ISSUE IN YOUR CHURCH



## Useful Numbers/contacts

**St Alkmund's Safeguarding Officer:** Mrs Meriel Edge 01948 663 261

**Parish Priest:** Revd Canon Dr Judith M Hunt, Rector 01948 667253

**Churchwarden** Mr John W Stokes

**Diocesan Safeguarding Officer for Children** Kim Hodgkins 01543 306 030

Email: kim.hodgkins@lichfield.anglican.org

**Diocesan Safeguarding Officer for Adults** Neil Spiring 01543 306 030

Email: neil.spiring@lichfield.anglican.org

**Nearest Social Service Office** SHREWSBURY 01743 225 702

**Childline** 0800 1111

**Minister and Clergy Sexual Abuse Service** 08088 010 340 [www.macsas.org.uk](http://www.macsas.org.uk)

**Church Child Protection Advisory Service** 01322 660 011

PO Box 133 Swanley Kent BR8 7UQ

**Domestic Violence Support Refuge/Women's Aid** 0808 2000 247 [www.womensaid.org.uk](http://www.womensaid.org.uk)

**Parentline** 0808 800 2222

**Samaritans** Counselling for those in despair or suicidal

0845 790 9090 [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org) or 116 123

**Victim Supportline** 0845 303 0900

**NAPAC**—National Assoc. for People Abused in childhood:

0808 801 0331 [www.napac.org.uk](http://www.napac.org.uk)

**NSPCC:** 0808 800 5000

**Stop It Now:** 0808 1000 900

**Family Lives:** 0808 800 2222

**Action on Elder Abuse:** 0808 808 8141

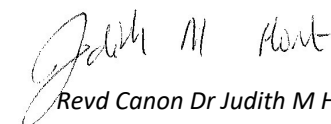
**IF THERE IS AN IMMEDIATE RISK OR DANGER PLEASE CONTACT THE POLICE ON 101 OR IF AN EMERGENCY 999**

**FOR OUT OF HOURS EMERGENCY SUPPORT please call 0845 120 4554.**

For further information see the Lichfield Diocesan website:

[www.lichfield.anglican.org/safeguarding](http://www.lichfield.anglican.org/safeguarding)

**STATEMENT:** The Parochial Church Council of St Alkmund's Church, Whitchurch has adopted the *House of Bishops' 'Promoting a Safer Church'; safeguarding policy statement.*

  
Revd Canon Dr Judith M Hunt, Rector

# Promoting a safer church



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**Parish Priest:** Revd Canon Dr Judith M Hunt, Rector: 01948 667253

**Church Warden:** Mr John W Stokes 01948 663194

**Diocesan Safeguarding Officer for Children** Kim Hodgkins  
01543 306 030 Email: [kim.hodgkins@lichfield.anglican.org](mailto:kim.hodgkins@lichfield.anglican.org)

**Diocesan Safeguarding Officer for Adults** Neil Spiring  
01543 306 030 Email: [neil.spiring@lichfield.anglican.org](mailto:neil.spiring@lichfield.anglican.org)

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