

safeguarding

DIOCESE
OF
CHICHESTER
SAFEGUARDING
NEWSLETTER
SPRING 2017



Welcome to the latest edition of the Diocesan Safeguarding Newsletter.

This newsletter outlines some very significant developments in the safeguarding work of the Diocese; you will need to know about these developments, so please make time to read this newsletter carefully!

The first development is the introduction of 'Simple Quality Protects'. SQP is a tool which will greatly assist parishes to improve their safeguarding provision and practice, and will also enable the Diocese to demonstrate the very real progress we are making towards the goal of ensuring that our local churches are as safe as they possibly can be.

SQP was launched at the Diocesan Synod event on 20th May, alongside a greatly revised safeguarding website. This newsletter announces that launch, and the next page is dedicated to explaining what SQP is and giving an overview of how it will work. The SQP section of the new website gives much more detail though, including a very easy-to-follow User Guide, so please familiarise yourself with the information contained there.

The second development is the introduction of new safeguarding training modules, alongside the

requirements, outlined in the Church of England's Practice Guidance for safeguarding training, that people be trained to the appropriate level for the role they hold in our parishes.

There are two main aspects to the development of safeguarding training that you need to be aware of. Firstly, two foundation modules are available online, via e-learning. This will make it easier for a large amount of people to complete these modules at the same time. We will still be offering face-to-face training delivery as well, but the flexibility of being able to choose whether to attend a training event, or complete the training online, will make it much easier for a large amount of people across the Diocese to access this training.

The second aspect is the need to ensure that people are trained to the right level. For clergy in particular, this is now a statutory requirement, under the 'Duty to give due regard' to House of Bishop's safeguarding policy and guidance. The section on training on the third page of this newsletter gives more detail about this vital area.

Finally, this newsletter outlines an exciting initiative undertaken by Sussex Police - 'Operation Signature' - which focuses on financial fraud in Sussex. As the article on page 4 of this newsletter

makes clear, fraud is a very widespread crime targeting primarily (although not exclusively) elderly people. Operation Signature is an important initiative by Sussex Police, as it seeks to safeguarding people who are most likely to be targeted by this highly damaging form of crime. The article outlines some of the ways in which our parishes can use the resources provided by Signature to 'get the message out', helping elderly people to protect themselves.

2017 will be an important year for safeguarding in this Diocese. Good safeguarding enables mission and ministry, helping us to serve our communities with confidence. The initiatives outlined in this newsletter - especially Simple Quality Protects - will help us continue to build a very strong foundation of good practice in every parish.

Please enjoy the newsletter, and watch this space for more developments!

The Safeguarding Team

Simple Quality Protects.	2
Safeguarding Training.	3
The Safeguarding Team	3
Operation Signature	4

Simple Quality Protects

Simple Quality Protects (SQP) is an exciting new initiative that was introduced at Diocesan Synod in May 2017. SQP is a tool that tells you what you need to have to minister safely in your churches, will help you put those things in place, and will enable you to demonstrate that you have achieved a high standard of safeguarding provision.

There are four themes that will form the core of SQP:

1. Safer Activities
2. Safer Practices
3. Safer Structures
4. Safer People

As well as these four themes, there are three Levels to SQP. Level 1 is the 'foundation' level that represents the essentials of good practice. Levels 2 and 3 build on this foundation, moving from 'good practice' to 'best practice'. Whilst we have been creating the Diocese of Chichester version of SQP, we have thought of Level 1 as being about developing practice, and Levels 2 and 3 as being about developing an increasingly safe culture.

At this point we will be launching Level 1, to give every parish the opportunity to ensure they have the fundamentals of good safeguarding practice in place. Later in the year we will launch Levels 2 and 3.

SQP is entirely web-based. All of the resources necessary for churches to work through SQP will be included in the Diocesan safeguarding website; in fact, they will be included within the SQP tool itself. Because of this, our SQP tool will enable churches to improve their practice whilst assessing it: SQP is designed to help churches out, not catch them out! We are very mindful of how busy people in our parishes are, and how many things there are to do, so we do not want to unnecessarily add to those burdens. SQP will be rigorous, but it will not be onerous, and it should help churches meet the challenge of developing a consistent safeguarding culture without having to go and hunt down the resources themselves.

One of the most consistent things people in parishes express to us is the desire to have a clear list of what is needed at parish level to ensure that their practice and provision is safe. "How do we know what we need to do?", "How do we do it?", and "How do we know when we've done it?" - these are all quite common questions we are asked. SQP is our solution to these issues!

We are introducing SQP because it is vital that we are all able to demonstrate that our work is safe. This is why the Diocese have purchased the license to administer SQP; as an external award, SQP is recognized by other organisations as a verified sign of good practice. All the Local Safeguarding Children Boards and Safeguarding Adults Boards across Sussex recognize SQP, and churches who have attained the SQP Levels will be able to confidently assert that their safeguarding provision is adequate. It may be helpful to think of SQP as like a safeguarding 'kitemark' scheme (indeed, we will produce a certificate and a logo that churches and parishes can use on their noticeboards and websites).

In order to complete SQP, it is recommended that parishes form a small sub-group of the PCC, go through the SQP tool once to ascertain what they currently have in place, and then go through it again to gradually build a comprehensive set of safeguarding provision that will allow them to meet the SQP Levels. Once a parish has completed a Level, a member of the Safeguarding Team will verify that the Level has been achieved and the parish will be granted the Level award.

Our target is that each parish aims to achieve Level 1 by Easter 2018. We think that some will find this relatively straightforward (the tool is designed so that this is indeed the case) and will proceed to Levels 2 and 3 in the same year, but we have given nearly a year for Level 1 because we want to make sure that every parish achieves this. Having such a level of verified safeguarding attainment across the Diocese will be an obvious benefit, and will support the wider strategy of the Diocese on a number of levels.

Simple Quality Protects - What Do I Do Next?

1. Your PCC should form a small SQP sub-group
2. The sub-group should read the instructions under the Simple Quality Protects section of the new website: <https://safeguarding.chichester.anglican.org>
3. Then: Register for SQP and begin!

Safeguarding Training

There have been a number of developments in safeguarding training, at both a diocesan and national level. The new CofE Safeguarding Training and Development Framework provides a clear structure for safeguarding training across our churches.

There are four key safeguarding modules that will form the framework of safeguarding training in the CofE:

- 'C0' - This is a 'core' module that contains basic messages about safeguarding. It is an e-learning module and can be delivered to groups or even congregations. C0 is designed to raise awareness across churches, and the emphasis is that 'safeguarding is everyone's responsibility'.
- 'C1' - this is the 'foundation module' that everyone who works/volunteers with children and adults in our parishes needs to complete. It is delivered in this Diocese either through group training sessions, or via e-learning.
- 'C2' - this is a leadership module, for clergy and for lay leaders who lead groups involving children or vulnerable adults, or who have responsibility for implementing good safeguarding practice. *Please note: C2 is an additional module*
- 'C3' - This is the core module for clergy in the Diocese. *(Completion of BOTH C1 and C2 within a three-year period is the equivalent of C3. We are not running C3 separately).*

Our volunteer training team have delivered over one hundred training sessions since January 2014, and will continue to deliver the 'C1' training across the Diocese. 'C2' will be delivered by the Diocesan Safeguarding Team and some members of the volunteer team. There will also be specialist modules (for instance about domestic abuse) which will be delivered by the Safeguarding Team, although they will not be available until next year.

We hope this update is helpful, and gives you a sense of what we are doing to continue to build our safeguarding training provision across the Diocese.

Further details about our safeguarding training dates can be found here:

<http://safeguarding.chichester.anglican.org>

The Safeguarding Team:

Colin Perkins, Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser
Morag Keane, Assistant Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser

We undertake a variety of tasks that all add up to making church a safer place for vulnerable adults and children. These tasks include assisting the local authority with child and adult protection investigations and carrying out risk assessments with sex offenders then helping draw up agreements to enable them to attend church without risk to themselves or others.

Email: Colin.Perkins@chichester.anglican.org or call 01273 421021 / 07500 771210

Email: Morag.Keane@chichester.anglican.org or call 01273 421021 / 07881 580310

Gemma Wordsworth, Independent Sexual and Domestic Violence Adviser

IDSVA, Independent Domestic and Sexual Violence Advisor. Gemma provides emotional and practical support to those who have experienced abuse, and can also provide advice and assistance to churches who are supporting people in this situation.

Email gemma.wordsworth@chichester.anglican.org or call 01273 421021 extn 151 / 07468 698990.

Kim Nash, Safeguarding Administrator
Micaela Mitchell, Safeguarding Administrator

Kim and Micaela are responsible for ensuring all clergy in the Diocese have valid DBS checks, and establishing a registration process for churches to join CCPAS in order to conduct DBS checks for parish personnel. Kim also organises safeguarding training across the Diocese. Email

kim.nash@chichester.anglican.org or on 01273 425680.

micaela.mitchell@chichester.anglican.org or on 01273 421021 (please note that Micaela's hours are Mon-Thur, afternoons only)

Training - What Do I Do Next?

1. If you are in leadership in a parish, lay or ordained, where your responsibilities involve implementing safeguarding practice, you need to have completed C1 and C2, within the last three years. Please book on if you haven't!
2. If you are on a rota working or volunteering with children or adults, but not in leadership, you need to have completed C1 within the last three years. Again - please book!

Operation Signature

Operation Signature is an initiative by Sussex Police to respond to the issue of Fraud and other similar financial crimes, which target a huge amount of people - predominantly elderly - and which are a major problem in Sussex.

Nearly 1 in 5 people fall victim to fraud every year. There are lots of different types of fraud, including:

- Mail fraud: bogus mail informing people of things like lottery wins are used to extort money
- Investment fraud: the victim is offered the opportunity to invest in schemes which are bogus
- Romance fraud: the fraudster meets the victim on a dating site and then extorts money from them
- Courier fraud: a 'courier' turns up on a victim's doorstep, who is convinced to hand over cards and PIN numbers
- Fraud 'recovery': fraudsters approach a victim for a second time, claiming to be able to recover the money extorted originally

All of these types of fraud can happen 'at a distance' - usually using postal, telephone or email services. According to the police, they are often run from abroad, meaning the opportunities to prosecute offenders are very limited.

Research conducted on behalf of the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner indicates that 1 in 5 elderly people in Sussex are frightened to answer the telephone. Fraud is the most common type of crime effecting people over the age of 75. Once someone has been victimised once, they are 80% more likely to be targeted again - this is a crime where repeat victimisation is very common.

Isolated elderly people - especially in relatively affluent areas that may not experience high rates for other crime types - are particularly vulnerable. Risk factors include a recent

bereavement, illness or operation, and also any recent financial gain such as receiving compensation or an inheritance.

Operation Signature has three strands: Identify, Protect, and Support. They have a number of ways to assist people who are being targeted, but it is in the area of the first strand - Identify - that the church can be of most assistance.

So, what can we do? Firstly, please make yourself aware of the Operation Signature website, which has a number of very useful resources:

<https://sussex.police.uk/advice/protect-yourself-and-others/fraud/operation-signature/>

(You can just put 'Operation Signature' in your search engine too!)

Secondly, use these resources to raise awareness in your church. Make people aware of the Operation, and of the issue of fraud.

Thirdly, if there is someone in your church who you believe may be a victim of fraud, please get in touch with Operation Signature directly, via their email address:

operation.signature@sussex.pnn.police.uk

We will continue to provide updates about the work of Operation Signature; this is an important way in which we can cooperate closely with Sussex Police in helping to make our communities safer, and to work together to protect the people we minister to.

