

## SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER - July 2013

Emailed to clergy, licensed lay ministers, parish safeguarding officers and church wardens.

**WELCOME ...** to the Newsletter for Safeguarding Children and Adults who may be vulnerable.  
You can find a printer-friendly version of this and previous Newsletters at:  
[www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/safeguardingnews](http://www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/safeguardingnews)

### **Safer Recruitment 23rd July 2013**

*Following my Newsletter no 11 of 11<sup>th</sup> June 2013, please now note these updates.*

#### **1 DBS Application Form Section e55**

On 29 May 2013, the DBS advised that applicants completing e55 of the application form should treat the question as: *'Do you have any unspent convictions, cautions, reprimands or warnings?'* Following feedback and consultation with the Ministry of Justice (MoJ), the DBS advise that when completing e55 on the application form applicants should now treat this question as if they were being asked:

*'Do you have any convictions, cautions, reprimands or final warnings which would not be filtered in line with current guidance?'*

*Accordingly, I have now amended the online guidance on the Peterborough Diocese Safeguarding pages. Please see: [www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/downloads/safeguarding/crdguide.pdf](http://www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/downloads/safeguarding/crdguide.pdf)*

#### **2 Confidential Declaration Form**

The MoJ suggest that employers should use the following question as a template for its own recruitment processes:

*'Do you have any convictions, cautions, reprimands or final warnings that are not "protected" as defined by the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 (as amended in 2013) by SI 2013 1198'.*

*Accordingly, I have now amended question 1 of the confidential declaration form of the online guidance on the Peterborough Diocese Safeguarding pages. Please see: <http://www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/code-of-practice/safer-recruitment-toolkit>*

### 3 New Safer Recruitment Policy June 2013

The Church of England and Methodist Church have published an “almost final version” of a new national joint Safer Recruitment Policy. This policy is designed to be used “without amendment at the level of parish, church or circuit” - “ although additional references to local arrangements can be inserted as an attachment”. As a result, this policy will replace the current Peterborough Safer Recruitment Guidance. When the new policy is available on line, I will let you know. In the meantime please continue to use the guidance on the Safeguarding web pages.

You can view the policy on the main Church of England website at:

[www.churchofengland.org/media/1783455/safer%20recruitment%20guidance%20final%2013-6-13.pdf](http://www.churchofengland.org/media/1783455/safer%20recruitment%20guidance%20final%2013-6-13.pdf)

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## General Synod Apology

**Extract from speech to General Synod July 2013 from the Rt Revd Paul Butler, Bishop of Southwell and Notts, Chair of the Churches National Safeguarding Committee.**

"The Commissaries exposed serious failures in the Diocese of Chichester but in doing so exposed much wider institutional failings which affect every Diocese. For far too long the institution, and notably those in most senior positions, either disbelieved the stories that survivors told us or believed them but tried to hide the truth away or remove the offender elsewhere vaguely hoping that 'the problem' would go away. We can make all the excuses that we like about society being different in previous decades; or our understanding of abuse being so much better. We can note that our policies were different then and we followed those policies. But these take nothing away from the fact that we failed to listen properly; we did not acknowledge the wrong done; and we protected the institution at the expense of the person abused. We cannot do anything other than own up to our failures. We were wrong. Our failures were sin just as much as the perpetrators sinned. By failing to listen or act appropriately we condemned survivors to live with the harm when we should have been assisting them into whatever measure of healing might be possible” –

“The motion recognises this is only a step on the journey because it points to the raft of legal changes that we believe are required to improve the Clergy Discipline Measure and other matters in regard to how we respond well to abuse perpetrated by church leaders”

For the full text go to <http://www.churchofengland.org/clergy-office-holders/child-protection-safeguarding/speech-from-bishop-paul-butler-at-july-2013-synod.aspx>

### Don't forget!

You can get information about many of your safeguarding queries on line at

[www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/safeguarding](http://www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/safeguarding)

Or ring **Garry Johnson, Safeguarding Officer**, on 01733 887000,  
[garry.johnson@peterborough-diocese.org.uk](mailto:garry.johnson@peterborough-diocese.org.uk)