



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
SUFFOLK

RECENT UPDATES

March 2023

Welcome to the third edition of Safeguarding eNews.

Welcome to our new eNews for Spring 23. We have been very busy in the last few weeks as we have been reviewing the content of our Safeguarding website pages, we are in the process of updating our content and you may have already seen some updates - keep a look out for more! We would welcome any suggestions on how we can make our website pages more user friendly.

We have also been busy meeting many of you! We have attended a couple of deanery synod meetings which have gone well. It is lovely to meet you and the team is still keen to meet more Safeguarding Officers, either via zoom or in person! Our suggestion would be that this is arranged across your deanery, so that you can also meet others who have taken on the safeguarding role. If you are interested in arranging a meeting, then please email safeguarding@cofesuffolk.org

We hope that you found the previous editions helpful, but as always, we would welcome your comments/ideas on how we can improve our communication with you.

Team News

After many years working for the Diocese Sally Fitch made the decision to retire at the end of February. Sally wanted us to convey her thanks and appreciation for all the work that the Safeguarding Officers take on in the parishes. We wish Sally a long and happy retirement. We will be recruiting a new administrator in due course, in the meantime please direct any queries to safeguarding@cofesuffolk.org



Contact Details

Safeguarding Trainers



Lisa Hicks | lisa.hicks@cofesuffolk.org

Work mobile | 07485 329226

I work with Mark to co-ordinate and deliver training throughout the diocese. Although some of our courses are delivered online, we are increasingly getting back into Churches and church halls to deliver face-to-face training. As I am based in the West of the County, you will mainly find me delivering training in the western area which is the Archdeaconry of Sudbury. I also work alongside Mark to deliver training in Ipswich. I work part-time, 17.5 hours a

week. I normally work Mondays plus any other day, evening or weekend that best fits with your training requirements.



Mark Bee | mark.bee@cofesuffolk.org

Work mobile | 07483 006378

As part of the Diocese Safeguarding Team, I work with Lisa to co-ordinate and deliver training throughout the diocese. This is a job share of 17.5 hours a week. I normally work Wednesdays and Thursdays plus any other day, evening, or weekend that best fits with your training requirements. I am based in Beccles where I am part of the Ministry Team there as a second-year curate. I largely am delivering training in the eastern area which is the Archdeaconry

of Suffolk. I also work alongside Lisa to deliver training in Ipswich. Much of the time our courses are delivered online, but we are now also arranging more face-to-face sessions as well.

Diocesan Safeguarding Officer



Karen Galloway | safeguarding@cofesuffolk.org

Work mobile | 07785621319

My job is to help you to assess and take the right action in relation to any safeguarding concerns you have. I am happy to talk through situations even if you are not sure that it is a safeguarding concern - it is much better to have a chat about it than worry about what you should or shouldn't do! If I can't deal directly with the matter, I often know of an organisation who can help. Please feel free to ring

me or email me. Other aspects of my role include offering management support to the rest of the safeguarding team and implementing new policies and procedures as they are developed by the National Church.

Assistant Diocesan Safeguarding Officer



Catherine Banthorp | safeguarding@cofesuffolk.org

Work Mobile | 07394 568403

My role is to work alongside, and support Karen in helping assess and take the right action in relation to any safeguarding concerns you have. Like Karen, I am happy to talk through a situation even if you are not sure that it is a safeguarding concern and I do believe having a chat is always helpful. My working days are usually Monday -Wednesday 9am - 5pm.

DBS three-year renewal

Thank you to everyone who has started to review the DBS checks for their parish in the move from the five year to three-year renewal.

A reminder that we have until **January 2024** to ensure that everyone has an in-date DBS certificate to conform to the three-year renewal cycle.

When starting applications could you please remember to use the drop-down menu to indicate the correct role for the application. We mention this as we have recently had a few Archdeacon checks completed in error.

If someone decides to step down from a role and you have started their DBS application, please let us know so that we can withdraw it. In addition, if one of your Readers or Elders steps down from their role please inform us so that we can keep our records and our DBS checks up to date.

Easter Events



Please remember if you plan to take any photos of Easter events you will need to have obtained written permission. The link [here](#) will take you through to the page where you can find the relevant templates.

Training

All training events for the year are now on Eventbrite. We have offered a range of times and days of the week. If someone is struggling to find an available course, please email safeguarding.training@cofesuffolk.org as we often have last minute cancellations.

Lisa has put together a 'How To' guide for accessing and booking courses using Eventbrite, which can be found [here](#).

As a reminder- it is the individuals' responsibility to update their training every three years and to keep their Safeguarding officer informed.

We have held two Volunteer Trainer Information events, if you are interested in becoming a volunteer trainer please contact Catherine, Lisa or Mark.

We are looking at how to deliver the Domestic Abuse Course face-to-face as an alternative to the current online provision. We recognise that this can be a sensitive subject for many people and doing this online, alone, can be extremely difficult. If anyone would like support, please contact either Catherine or Karen.

Safeguarding Dashboard



If you haven't already done so, you may wish to consider signing up to use this safeguarding tool. Please contact safeguarding@cofesuffolk.org to do so.

Information recorded on the Dashboard guides Safeguarding Officers through the policy and procedures that should be in place in Parishes. There is also a facility to print off an action plan which can be used to report to PCC meetings.

No personal information is required to populate this tool.

Thank you to everyone who is already using this and Congratulations to all the parishes which have reached the top level - Level Three.

Safe Spaces - New Provider

As of Monday 9 January, Safe Spaces is now being delivered by the new service providers – [First Light](#). The service now has extended opening hours and a new email address (the service [website](#) remains the same).

Monday to Friday 9.00am – 9.00pm

Saturday 9.00-1.00pm

Sunday 1.00-5.00pm

0300 303 1056

safespaces@firstlight.org.uk

Thank you

Thank you for all your continued hard work and dedication in meeting the challenges of Promoting a Safer Church. We hope that you all have a Happy and Peaceful Easter.

Loving God, we pray that this church may be a place of welcome, security and compassion. Keep us watchful yet caring, trusting yet ready to question, that all who worship here may do so in safety and in the knowledge of your love, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Important Information

Reporting a concern:

If you have information about a safeguarding situation where a child or adult is in immediate danger or requires immediate medical attention call the emergency services on 999. Do not delay.

If you have a concern, suspicion or allegation of abuse by observation, victim disclosure, abuser disclosure, report by another person or anonymous communication please contact:

- Our email address, safeguarding@cofesuffolk.org
- [Karen Galloway](#), Diocesan Safeguarding Officer on 07785 621319 (available 9.00am to 5.00pm)
- Bishop's Office: 01473 252829.

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