**Briefing for Incumbents, PCC’s & Parish Safeguarding Officers**

**Parish Safeguarding Training – Revised Training Guidance**

**June 2021**

Introduction

In 2019 we received a major update to the Training & Development Framework. The Framework introduced a number of changes, which included:

* Changes to what used to be the ‘C’ (now Core Pathway) modules. The C0 module is now called Basic Awareness, the C1 module is called Foundation & the old C2 & C3 modules were rolled into a new Leadership module.
* The Basic Awareness module & the Foundation module were rewritten & are available on line.
* The expectation is that most people who need to complete Basic Awareness and the Foundation module will do so ***on line***.
* The single Leadership module is for both clergy & lay leaders. It is expected that attendees will have completed the Basic Awareness & Foundation modules before attending the Leadership module.
* There will be no update course (this was proposed but never really happened) – people will simply redo the highest level of training they previously completed every three years.

We barely had time to develop these new models before the first lockdown. Since then much more church activity has moved on line, & the latest guidance reflects this.

The new Guidance – April 2021

The new Guidance builds on the developments brought forward in 2019. We strongly advise that incumbents & PSO’s look at the whole document which is attached to this briefing note, but the headlines are:

* The Leadership module is now clearly intended to be a reflective rather than an information giving exercise. It is presented in two 90 minute sessions, with some preparation work before part one, some reflection between parts one & two, & some post course work & feedback.
* It is now aimed at, “those people who play a lead role in shaping the culture of the church body concerned”. It will always include incumbents, Authorised & Recognised Lay Ministries, & PSO’s. It might include, if they are leading church communities, clergy with PTO or churchwardens – so leaving local communities & their PCC’s some discretion.
* We can deliver the Leadership module on line, or face to face (we have tried out both) or in a combination of the two.
* The expectation remains that those who need them will access the Basic Awareness & Foundation modules on line.
* You will see within the guidance that the Safeguarding & Learning Development Framework has the Core Pathways at its heart. We expect however to see some specialist input on Domestic Abuse, Safer Recruitment, & for specific roles such as PSO’s & PTO.

Next Steps

The revised guidance is uploaded to our diocesan website together with this briefing note & can also be found on the Church of England website under ‘Safeguarding’.

We are now looking at Core Pathway priorities:

* Putting together a programme for Leadership training to commence in the autumn. Although the categories of leaders required to undertake this training are fewer, please be aware that after the lockdowns there is a backlog of people needing to refresh & quite a number of new people coming into local roles.
* We therefore ask that if you need to train or refresh, you recognise that this might not be by the date it is formally required. Our priorities have to be those training for ordination or lay ministry (such as ALTP & Pioneers) who must be trained to progress.
* Reviewing & making available the training materials for the Basic Awareness & Foundation modules to enable local delivery if face to face training is needed.

As staff return to our offices we will be putting in place a new booking system for training – please check the safeguarding training pages on our diocesan website. We shall also be flagging up opportunities in the e-news.

With thanks,

Joanna Van Lachterop,

Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser

June 2021