

Transforming Lives and Communities

Calling on our churches to help spread the word

Wiltshire Council's fostering team are being put under increasing pressure by Covid-19.

Even before the start of the present pandemic, there were approaching 500 children in care and a strong need to recruit at least 100 more foster families.

Coronavirus has only added to both totals.

Now the charity Homes for Good is asking churches to help spread the word and help them find foster homes for these children.

Clare Walker, regional manager in the South West for the children's charity says:

"The Covid-19 pandemic has been challenging for all of us, and some have experienced profound loss.

"But alongside the news of new cases, second peaks, tests and vaccines, there are also shocking headlines of domestic violence cases rising by 20%, of more than 2 million children living in hugely vulnerable situations exacerbated by lockdown, and of just 5% of children known to be at risk attending school.

"Wiltshire and other local authorities are reporting to Home for Good that safeguarding referrals are significantly down, which is hugely concerning.

"All are preparing for a significant rise in referrals as lockdown ends and all children return to school. This will put huge pressure on children's services and more foster homes will be needed."

"We have a window to act now, so that we are ready."

The main webpage is [here](#).

How your church can respond:

1. Download a short video from Krish Kandiah, to use in Sunday services and online.
2. Share the webpage via your social media channels, church emails, WhatsApp, and however your church communicates.
3. Share in any community/ prayer groups.
4. Use Home for Good Father's day resources which can be found [here](#).
5. Email clare.walker@homeforgood.org.uk for more information.