

Keeping us Safe

From your Diocesan Safeguarding Advisers

Dear all,

Despite the challenges COVID-19 is presenting for everyone, Heather Bland and I wanted to remind all parishes that the Safeguarding Team from Church House, whilst working remotely from home, continue to be available for advice and support with regards any Safeguarding concerns that may occur in your local church.

Just as a reminder, we work as part of a job-share arrangement. Our contact details and working hours are listed below:

Heather Bland works 9am-5pm, Monday-Wednesday inclusive.

Heather should be the first point of contact for urgent safeguarding advice from 8am-9pm on Mondays and Tuesdays and from 8am until 12pm on a Wednesday (via email heather.bland@salisbury.anglican.org or mobile 07500 664800), after which she will handover to Jem Carter as below.

Jem Carter works 9am-5pm Tuesday-Friday inclusive.

Jem is the first point of contact for urgent safeguarding advice from 12pm on Weds through until 5pm on a Friday. He is also available on an 'on call' basis until 9pm on Wednesday and Thursday evenings (via email jem.carter@salisbury.anglican.org or mobile 07469 857888). Jem also provides dedicated Safeguarding support to Salisbury Cathedral.

An external Safeguarding service provider 'thirtyone:eight' continues to provide out of hours cover from 5pm on a Friday until 8am the following Monday – Tel 0303 0031111.

In an emergency 'life at risk' situation the relevant emergency services should be notified via 999.

In addition to the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisers (DSAs), our training lead Jonathan Whiter is liaising closely with the National Safeguarding Team (NST) regarding the development of virtual Safeguarding training courses, supported by platforms such as Microsoft Teams and Zoom. It is anticipated these will be available in the next few months. Further information and detail will be circulated once confirmed.

Adrian Smale continues to work in his Safeguarding role providing vital administrative support and coordination of DBS processes. DBS queries should be routed via his safeguarding.admin@salisbury.anglican.org email address.

The NST is also helping us with the latest advice for these unprecedented times.

[Think Safeguarding](#) provides a useful summary of this and, more crucially, links to important topics such as online worship and the use of volunteers.

Latest from the National Safeguarding Team [here](#).

Please can all Parish Safeguarding Officers and PCCs take the time to review its content? If you have any queries, do make contact with us.

Whilst our churches are closed our new ways of worship, the vulnerability of some congregation members, coupled with the additional pressure of an extended period of 'lockdown' presents some real additional Safeguarding challenges, which we must all be alive to.

Thank you for your support – please stay safe.

Jem Carter and Heather Bland

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