

ADVENT 2014



Diocese of Portsmouth

SAFEGUARDING OFFICE NEWSLETTER

PROTECTING ALL IN OUR CARE

The Safeguarding Team in Portsmouth are:

Welcome to our ADVENT Newsletter..

Angela McGrory - Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator Tel: 023 92 816396

Jane Green - Safeguarding Administrator (With responsibility for Parish Safeguarding Representative Recruitment & Induction) Tel: 023 92 816396

Soraya Ciccarone - PA to Safeguarding Coordinator & Diocesan Financial Secretary Tel: 023 92 816396/023 92 825430

The Diocesan Safeguarding Commission

Accountability

The Commission is accountable to the Bishop/ Congregation Leader & Trustees of the Diocese/ Religious Congregation.

Function

The Commission which meets bi-monthly has a regulatory, advisory & supportive role at strategic level in all matters relating to Child Protection in the Diocese, to include those religious congregations which are not affiliated to CoR (Conference of Religious).

Commission Members

The composition of the Commission satisfies the level of professional expertise laid down by Lord Nolan and the more recent Cumberlege Report:-

Dr Lorna Duggan (2000) - Chair of Commission & Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist in Developmental Disabilities/Clinical Director at Vista Healthcare

Dame Kate Burke MBE (2005) - Retired Social Worker/ Project Manager Catholic Children's Society (Reading)

Paul O'Driscoll (2007) - Probation Manager

Rev David Sillince BA (2010) - Parish Priest at St Boniface, Southampton

Margaret Muncaster (2010) - Retired Senior Health Service Manager

Paul Neary (2010) - Retired Senior Probation Officer & Assistant to Episcopal Vicar for Vocations

Shella Hughes (2013) - Diocesan Trustee

Fiona Matthews (2013) - Consultant Clinical Psychologist NHS Professionals

Jackie Rowlands (2014) - Multi-Agency Public Protection Coordinator with Hampshire Police.

Sister Elizabeth McCormack (2014) - Sisters of Christian Education based in Farnborough and Commission Religious link

Canon Dominic Golding (1994) (2013) - Vicar General

Rev John Lee (2013) - Clergy Advisor for Safeguarding: Parish Priest at St Joseph's, Maidenhead; Coordinating Pastor for Great Park Pastoral Area and Director for Chaplaincies in the new framework for Collaboration

Right Rev Dom Cuthbert Brogan OSB (2013) - Abbot of Farnborough and Commission Religious link

Hello Everyone...

I wish to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of our Safeguarding Reps for your continued support in this very important ministry. I appreciate that it is not the easiest of roles to fulfil but without each of you carrying out this role there would be no safely recruited volunteers for children's liturgy, sacramental programmes and no-one cleared to visit the sick and housebound. It is the vital behind the scene role that enables our activities with Vulnerable groups to continue. Please do ensure if you are coming up against any resistance that you do let me know in order that I can assist and allow you to get on with the role that you have been appointed to do. It is hard when paperwork is continually changing & policy constantly being reviewed. If you are unsure of any procedure please do not hesitate in calling the office. We are here to support you... Please use us!!

I hope that you and your families will have a Happy peaceful Christmas and I look forward to working alongside you in the new year.

Best wishes for the Festive Season

Angela & the Safeguarding Team

Special Well Dones....

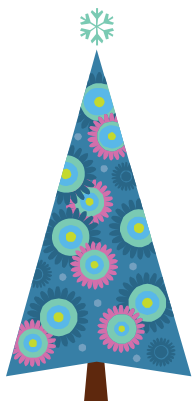
To Dr Nick O'Rourke and Sue Round two of our safeguarding reps (together with their priests) who have worked particularly hard in the last couple of months in turning round some highlighted safeguarding weaknesses in their parishes...WELL DONE

And also Val Grieve and Jackie Power (Ascott) who recently held a safeguarding awareness weekend in their parish and having a visual display and speaking at Masses across the weekend...WELL DONE

Goodbye....

I am sorry to announce that we will be saying Goodbye to our Safeguarding Commission Chair in January. Dr Lorna Duggan is leaving the Diocese to embark on a new stage in her life in Australia. We have been blessed in the Diocese to have such an amazing and committed commission Chair since 2007. Lorna was on the Commission for several years before becoming Chair and has also been a member of the National Safeguarding Commission. We wish Lorna all the best for the future and thank her for many years of service to this valuable ministry.

Following on from this... We will be recruiting for a new Chair in the New Year.



New Reps Appointed in the Last 6 Months..

A Warm WELCOME to:-

Christine Thomson – St David's, East Cowes

Kath Oldham – English Martyr's Didcot/St John Evangelist Wallingford

Diana & Jeanne Agacy – St. Boniface, Southampton

John Sleet – St. Laurence, Petersfield

Marion McGuire – St. Joseph's, Bracknell

Barbara Reed & Colleen Smith – The Annunciation, Netley

Please Remember re DBS

It is important that our reps ensure that volunteers have completed the safe recruitment process before commencing their ministry in Church. This process is not complete until you are advised by the safeguarding office that this is the case. This is done by update on SafeSys changing an individuals status to **cleared**. I have become aware that in some cases recently reps have accepted an individual producing their certificate as the process being complete when in fact enquiries were still in hand regarding the individual concerned. If you are not accessing SafeSys to get this information you will need to contact Jane in the office to establish what stage in the process an individual is at.



AUDIT Update



I hope to commence parish audits in the New Year. These are to allow us to identify where support and training is needed in order to ensure that all are working at the same level and standard in safeguarding. We are not looking at catching anyone out but only at identifying exactly what is happening in each parish in order that where there is need we can then provide assistance.

Recent meetings with our Reps and Clergy following priest moves have identified issues that would have been discovered at audit and each of these issues have been addressed with some minor re-arrangement rectified.

The idea is to look forward to better safeguarding and not back at areas of weakness.

E-Bulk

Portsmouth Diocese has withdrawn as a pilot Diocese for this project but it is hoped that we will be using EBulk for DBS checks towards the later part of next year... We will keep you updated....

The Safeguarding Office will be closed from 1200hrs on Tuesday 23rd December until 0900hrs on Monday 5th January 2015. Please refer any urgent matters during this period to the Police or Social Services.

