



Poole Missional Communities

**‘Promoting a Safer Church’**

**Safeguarding Policy**

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Revised & Approved at Annual General Meeting: 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021

## **Safeguarding Policy for Poole Missional Communities**

Poole Missional Communities accepts and adopts in full the contents of The Church of England's Safeguarding Policy for children, young people and adults, ["Promoting a Safer Church"](#).

We will work towards implementing all its requirements by working closely with the Diocese of Salisbury Safeguarding team.

The purposes of this safeguarding action plan is to ensure procedures are in place and people are clear about their roles and responsibilities regarding children, and adults who may be at risk of abuse or neglect in our care and using our premises. To be read in conjunction with 'House of Bishops' safeguarding guidance'.

At Poole Missional Communities we recognise that the few who are determined to harm children or adults, deliberately seek out groups or organisations where they can meet children or other vulnerable people. The Church is particularly vulnerable to these people. Creating and maintaining a safeguarding culture will discourage them from becoming involved for the wrong reasons and make it difficult for them to harm or abuse children or adults if they do.

In order to assist with the creation of a safeguarding culture Poole Missional Communities will:

### **Appoint:**

- At least one appropriately experienced designated Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the Leader and Trustees. This PSO should be a lay person. The PSO will also be the DBS administrator for PMC officers who work with children or vulnerable adults. The PSO should be supported, trained and given a copy of the parish safeguarding policy and procedures.

### **Safer Recruit, Support and Train:**

- Ensure that all PMC officers who work with children, young people and/or vulnerable adults are:
  - recruited following the House of Bishops' Safer Recruitment practice guidance;
  - aware of and work to House of Bishops' safeguarding guidance (includes both policies and practice guidance);
  - attend diocesan safeguarding training when required to do so;
  - carry out regular refresher meetings to remind people of what to do in the event of a disclosure or incident.
- Provide appropriate insurance to cover for all activities undertaken in the name of Poole Missional Communities which involve children and vulnerable adults;

### **Display:**

- A formal statement of adoption of the House of Bishops 'Promoting a Safer Church';

safeguarding policy statement'. This should be signed on behalf of the Trustees.

- Contact details of the PSO and any other leaders.
- Contact details for the Diocesan Safeguarding Team – including phone, email and website details.
- Information about where to get help with child and adult safeguarding issues, domestic abuse and key helplines.

**Respond:**

- Create an environment, which is welcoming and respectful and enables safeguarding concerns to be raised and responded to openly, promptly and consistently;
- Have a procedure in place to deal promptly with safeguarding allegations or suspicions of abuse in accordance with the relevant policy and practice guidance and in consultation with the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser;
- Report all safeguarding concerns or allegations against PMC officers to the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser;
- To ensure that known offenders or others who may pose a risk to children and/or vulnerable adults are effectively managed and monitored in consultation with the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser;
- Comply with all data protection legislation especially in regard to storing information about the 'PMC workforce'. Including volunteers and any safeguarding records;
- Ensure that an "activity risk assessment" is completed and reviewed regularly for each activity, which is associated with either children or vulnerable adults, and run in the name of Poole Missional Communities.

**Review and Report Progress:**

- The PSO should regularly report on safeguarding in the community. Safeguarding should be a standing agenda item at each trustee meeting. In the trustee's annual report will be a statement which reports on progress and a statement as to whether or not the trustee's have complied with the duty to have "due regard" to the House of Bishops' guidance in relation to safeguarding.