

# Safeguarding Newsletter

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## District Safeguarding Officer

Helen Bolton  
07498 800427  
mands@dso.methodist.org.uk

## District website



[Manchester & Stockport District Safeguarding \(mandsmethodists.org.uk\)](https://mandsmethodists.org.uk)



# Safeguarding Sunday reminder



To register: [Safeguarding Sunday resource pack \(thirtyoneeight.org\)](https://thirtyoneeight.org)

The theme for this year is: 'One Church, one day, one message.'

Please consider registering your church and joining thousands of other churches across the UK to highlight the importance of creating safer places for all and to take the opportunity to thank and pray for those who have stepped up to coordinate safeguarding in our churches so we can protect vulnerable people together.

Safeguarding is an outworking of our faith in a loving and just God – the God who calls us to speak up on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves and to defend the rights of the vulnerable (*Proverbs 31:8*).

If you register with Thirtyone:eight you will receive age-appropriate and inclusive resources, using language that children can understand to explore safeguarding issues safely.



Safeguarding Sunday  
20<sup>th</sup> November 2022

# Connexional Updates

## New Consent Forms - Use of Photography or Video

Updated consent forms for the use of photography and video are now available on the website: Forms ([methodist.org.uk](http://methodist.org.uk)). There are two consent forms, one for parents and carers, and one for young people thirteen and over.

These forms have been updated to ensure that our consent obligations are increased and to include reference to our privacy policy as well as to reflect a change in legal age of young person's consent.

For young people thirteen and over, both the young person and the parent or carer will be asked for consent, while for those twelve and under, a parent or carer will need to consent on their behalf.

**[Use of Photography and Video - Information Sheet and Consent Form for Young People \(13 and Over\) - Updated May 2022](#)**

**[User of Photography and Video - Information Sheet and Consent Form for Parents and Carers - Updated May 2022](#)**

## Frequently Asked Questions – Advanced Module online

**[AM Online - Frequently Asked Questions \(\[methodist.org.uk\]\(http://methodist.org.uk\)\)](#)**

A Frequently Asked Questions page has been added to the AM Online 2021 Edition (Participants) Training and contains answers to some of the most commonly received queries regarding AM online module.



## Latest news from the DBS Service

[Latest News from the Disclosure and Barring Service \(DBS\) \(methodist.org.uk\)](https://www.methodist.org.uk)



Disclosure &  
Barring Service

On this page of the Methodist website you will find all the latest news and updates for:

### DBS ID Checking Guidelines

Guidance to help you validate the identity of a DBS check applicant and a new lead/counter signatory.

### DBS new customer webchat service

This provides a way for customers to get answers to ordinary questions in real time from customer service staff, without having to call the customer contact centre

The service will operate Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm, and is available to answer general customer questions, to anyone completing a task such as applying for a DBS check, making a barring referral, or logging into the Update Service.



### Animated guide to DBS checks

The video and leaflet look at a number of different subjects, including:

- the different types of DBS check, and how to apply
- what type of information may be included on DBS certificate
- what countries DBS covers
- the DBS Barred Lists

[A guide to DBS checks - YouTube](#)

[Quick Guide to DBS Checks.pdf \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

And don't forget.....

### DBS Online Webinar:

**Thursday 14th July 10.00 – 11.30**



You are warmly invited to join this online webinar, where Matt Tuckey from Due Diligence Checking will be sharing a DBS update on:

- The role of the verifier
- DDC and what we do
- Support and assistance available
- Recent changes with the DBS
- Eligibility
- Blemished disclosure process
- Frequently asked questions by Methodist verifiers
- Real life case studies for overcoming barriers in the process.



It is also an opportunity for you to ask him any questions you may have.

**To register**, just email Helen at [mands@dso.methodist.org.uk](mailto:mands@dso.methodist.org.uk) with your name and any questions you may have in advance (even if you cannot attend).

*Please pass this invitation on to anyone in your church or circuit who may be interested in joining us*

## Methodist Conference

### Safeguarding Committee Report

#### [Conference 2022 Agenda Volume 1 \(methodist.org.uk\)](https://methodist.org.uk)

The Revd Henry Lewis's report to Conference speaks of the ongoing actions undertaken to strengthen the Church's safeguarding work and response to the IICSA report on safeguarding within religious organisations, particularly in respect of safer recruitment, training and policy development.

It also recognises the impacts of the proposed District boundary reviews and the intention to align, for example, stationing committees, learning network areas and safeguarding sectors.

## Update

The Conference voted not to receive proposals which aimed to reduce the number of districts and subsequent resolutions were withdrawn. A number of districts have already started work on boundary changes and these will be considered by the Methodist Council.

### New ways of Oversight and Trusteeship

The Methodist Conference has approved new processes of oversight and trusteeship aimed towards reflecting more accurately the size of the church and reducing the weight of administration on districts and circuits.

The Conference voted to reduce the size and duration of the Conference and also to establish a new trustee body, the Connexional Council, which will replace the Methodist Council and the Strategy and Resources committee.

The Connexional Council will be the charity trustee body and have general control and management of the Connexional administration of the Methodist Church, reporting annually to the Charity Commission.

It will consist of around twenty people in order to be small enough to be agile and flexible and large enough to allow different views and balance.

The number of Conference representatives will drop from 306 to 225.

# Safeguarding News

## Extension of position of trust provisions

The “position of trust” offences within sections 16 – 19 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 have been extended to include those that lead activities in sporting and religious settings..

Those who conduct certain activities within a religious context frequently have significant influence over a young person’s spiritual and religious development, often against a background of emotional vulnerability or immaturity.

This leads to extremely high levels of trust, influence, power and authority and religious leaders are well established, trusted and respected in the community.

See: [Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022: positions of trust factsheet - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

## Safeguarding for Trustees of User-led Organisations (ULO)

This guide, published by SCIE February 2022, is about safeguarding responsibilities as a trustee of a user-led organisation (ULO). Trustees have a duty of care to staff, service users and volunteers and need to be assured that good safeguarding practice is in place in the organisation.

The guidance includes:

- The role of all trustees regarding safeguarding.
- The law on safeguarding children, young people, and adults with care and support needs.
- Having a safeguarding strategy, policies, and procedures including reporting safeguarding concerns and management of allegations made against trustees, staff, and volunteers.
- Identifying a safeguarding lead and what the role should involve.
- Using a risk assessment to identify where safeguarding can be improved.
- Developing an open, honest culture
- The importance of good record keeping.
- Reporting to regulatory bodies such as the Charity Commission.



- Partnership working with other organisations and agencies.
- Staff training on safeguarding and whistleblowing.
- How to monitor safeguarding activity.

### **[Safeguarding for Trustees of User-led Organisations \(ULOs\) | SCIE](#)**

Listen to a mini podcast - **[Safeguarding Training for Trustees](#)**

## **Online safety for 11-18s**

CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) has created a new website for children aged 11-18 that has information on socialising online, online safety, relationships, and what to do if worried about something that has happened online.

It has also updated its toolkit of activities which schools, youth work and other educational settings in the UK can use to educate young people about online safety.



### **[The internet, relationships & you](#)**

**[The internet, relationships & you: toolkit for 11-18s](#)**

## **Wellbeing resources**

The South West Grid for Learning (SWGfL) has published resources about the digital wellbeing of children and young people. The guidance aims to assist professionals, parents and carers in supporting children's wellbeing online. It looks at the impact of exposure to abuse or online harm on a child's digital wellbeing and provides information on the role of digital technologies in relation to welfare.

**[Story - Introducing our digital wellbeing hub!](#)**

**[Resources - Digital wellbeing](#)**



## Impact of immigration

Greater Manchester Immigration Aid Unit has published a report looking into the impacts of the reporting condition on families, children and young people in Greater Manchester who have migrated to the UK.

'Reporting' requires people who are on 'immigration bail,' after being released from detention by the Home Office on immigration matters, to regularly sign in at an immigration reporting centre.

The effects of reporting include:

- living with uncertainty
- feeling helpless
- a negative impact on mental wellbeing
- a negative impact on parenting



Greater Manchester  
**IMMIGRATION AID UNIT**

[The impact of reporting conditions on children and young people](#)

## What to watch.....



Hard hitting documentary looking at these high-profile individuals who we now know were serial abusers, getting away with it in plain sight.

[\*\*My5 - National Treasure, National Disgrace: Savile, Harris & Hall - Season NaN - Episode 1 / 2021 \(channel5.com\)\*\*](#)



Another documentary looking at the star whose eccentricity and philanthropy hid a shocking unseen side of his character,

[\*\*Watch Jimmy Savile: A British Horror Story | Netflix Official Site\*\*](#)



BBC Three investigation into the renowned rap DJ, hearing from six Black women who accuse him of sexual misconduct, predatory sexual encounters and unwanted touching. Warning: contains very strong language and upsetting scenes

[\*\*BBC iPlayer - Tim Westwood: Abuse of Power\*\*](#)



Exploration of the crime of coercive control and what needs to be done to stop this insidious domestic abuse.

[\*\*Tonight - Controlled by My Partner? the Hidden Abuse - Tonight - ITV Hub\*\*](#)



Actor, Gerald Kearns, who plays Andy Woodward in the

A powerful and inspiring drama about Andy Woodward, one of the first footballers to come forward with allegations of sexual abuse in the national game at the hands of Barry Bennell

*CAUTION: Contains strong language and disturbing scenes. Deals with Sexual Abuse.*

[\*\*BBC iPlayer - Floodlights\*\*](#)

*drama. Note the old Bury FC  
shirt!!*



BBC Panorama investigates why only one per cent of reported rapes in England and Wales result in a conviction. It follows two child victims of rape who are now adults and explores the difficulties they face on their journey through the criminal justice system. It also explores challenges around obtaining robust evidence of historic child sexual abuse and reasons why children may not report abuse or deny it took place.

**[Beyond  
reasonable  
doubt:  
Britain's rape  
crisis](#)**

***If you have any suggestions for content of future Safeguarding Newsletters please let Helen know***