

## Past Cases Review 2 (PCR2)

### Information for Incumbents and Parishes

As part of ongoing scrutiny of past cases across the Church of England, all dioceses are required to independently review all outstanding files relating to Clergy and Church Officers. This process is called Past Cases Review 2 (PCR2).

As a matter of justice for those who have been affected by abuse perpetrated by individuals in positions of trust within the Church, and to fulfil our safeguarding responsibilities as outlined by the House of Bishops' instructions, the Diocese of Oxford is embarking on a comprehensive safeguarding review during 2020.

### What is involved?

Every parish is expected and required to take part in this process, alongside other church institutions within the Diocese.

In January 2020 all Incumbents will receive a letter from the Acting Bishop of Oxford requiring them to check that:

- All known instances of concern about the behaviour of clergy and church officers within their parish(es), both current and non-recent, have been notified to the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA); and,
- Any instances that have not been notified, are reported immediately.

This information needs to be returned securely to the DSA by 2 March 2020

- By post, marked **F.O.A. PCR2 Administrator, Diocesan Safeguarding Team, Church House Oxford, Langford Locks, Kidlington OX5 1GF**
- Documents sent by email should be password protected and sent to **safeguarding@oxford.anglican.org** with a subject line of **F.A.O. PCR2 Administrator**. Send a second email with the same subject line without the attachment but including the document password.

Information is not being requested about ordinary members of the congregation or those attending church activities who do not hold an official role in the church.

Where a parish is in vacancy, or the Incumbent is otherwise absent, it will be the responsibility of the Area Dean, working with the Church Wardens, to ensure that this work is completed.

### **Support to help parishes**

The letter from the Acting Bishop of Oxford includes links to all the resources required to complete this task. Those leading reviews in parishes/benefices who are unsure about the type of information to be collated, or how to record it, should contact the Diocesan Safeguarding team for advice: **01865 208290**

To help you fulfil the review, you may also find these documents helpful.

- [Overview of PCR 2](#)
- Frequently Asked Questions

### **Safeguarding Resources**

Safeguarding can be an area of uncertainty and anxiety for us all, not least because it requires us to consider the unthinkable. But safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. The following links and resources are offered to help you talk about safeguarding in your parish/benefice:

- **NSPCC** - [a wide range of material is available](#) from the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children about safeguarding best practice.
- **Thirty One:Eight** is the UK's only independent Christian safeguarding charity. Whether you have only 5 minutes or a whole service to dedicate to safeguarding, they have produced some [great materials you can use](#).
- **MACSAS** - Minister and Clergy Sexual Abuse Survivors – have published [links to a number of safeguarding materials and support organisations](#).

## Communications guidance

Please communicate the review and promote an independent helpline, run by the NSPCC, in your parish. You may use or adapt the following text for parish newsletters, emails and pew sheets.

Our churches and church-related activities must be safe for all, with safeguarding policies and practices that promote a safer church.

We need to be certain that all known cases of concern about the behaviour of our clergy or church officers towards children and adults have been considered and dealt with appropriately.

Every church in the Diocese, including our own, is now undertaking a comprehensive review as part of the national *Past Cases Review 2* (PCR2). You can find out more about PCR2 on the Diocese of Oxford website: [oxford.anglican.org/pcr-2](https://oxford.anglican.org/pcr-2)

If you have information or need to make a disclosure regarding church-related abuse, please make direct contact with the Safeguarding Team at the Diocese of Oxford on **01865 208290**.

If you have lived experience of abuse from within the Church of England, you may prefer to call the dedicated telephone NSPCC helpline, which is independent of the Church. Call **0800 80 20 20**

The NSPCC helpline is also available to anyone wishing to provide information or to raise concerns regarding abuse within the Church of England. The helpline is there for you whether you are reporting issues relating to children or adults or seeking to whistleblow about poor safeguarding practice. Your call is confidential, and your concerns will be taken seriously.