

## Bude & Holsworthy Circuit Safeguarding

Circuit Superintendent Minister – Rev Martin Keenan (01409 259850) [martin.keenan@methodist.org.uk](mailto:martin.keenan@methodist.org.uk)

Circuit Safeguarding Officer – Mrs Debbie Stokes (01409 261465)

Circuit DBS Verifier & Admin – Mr Tim Stokes (07960 449188) [stokes-tim@hotmail.com](mailto:stokes-tim@hotmail.com)

PEMD District Executive Safeguarding Officer – Mrs Chrissie Slaney (07794 133797) [safeguarding@pemd.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@pemd.org.uk)

**In the first instance please try and contact one of the Circuit Safeguarding Names mentioned above. If you have any imminent concerns regarding the safety or well-being of any child or vulnerable person please contact the police on 999 or your local social services. Please ensure you inform the Superintendent Minister and Circuit Safeguarding Officer of any communications you have held with outside agencies.**

**The links below will assist you in contacting the correct agency:**

Children and Young People: <https://new.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/child-protection>

Vulnerable Adults: <https://new.devon.gov.uk/adultsocialcareandhealth/keeping-safe/>

Other Useful Links:

Childline - <http://www.childline.org.uk/Pages/Home.aspx>

NSPCC Advice - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk>

Action for Children - <https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk>

The Methodist Church Safeguarding - <http://www.methodist.org.uk/ministers-and-office-holders/safeguarding>

Plymouth & Exeter Methodist District - <http://www.pemd.org.uk/index.php/safeguarding>

## **Our Circuit Policy.**

The Bude & Holsworthy Circuit is committed to ensuring that all of its places of worship and its activities fully comply within the law and spirit. People's safety is our priority and we take this seriously. We meet and review regularly with safeguarding on every agenda.

*(please put link here to our circuit policy which is also attached)*

## **THE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE SAFEGUARDING OFFICER SHOULD ALWAYS BE INFORMED IF ANY ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING THINGS OCCUR:-**

- ▶ There has been an incident where an adult member or child has been or is being abused or mistreated by someone connected with the church, such as a member of staff, volunteer or trustee (church council member).
- ▶ There has been an incident where someone has been abused or mistreated and this is connected with the activities of the church.
- ▶ Allegations have been made that such an incident may have happened, regardless of when the alleged abuse or mistreatment took place.
- ▶ There are grounds to suspect that such an incident may have occurred.
- ▶ Where there is a current allegation of abuse against a child or children (under 18).
- ▶ Where someone in the church has been suspended or dismissed from work, or investigated or arrested for allegations of abuse against children.
- ▶ Where a child is, or children are, considered to be at risk of harm or at significant risk of harm.
- ▶ Where a person who is a member or regular attendee is known to have been convicted of sexual offences against children, or is currently or has been recently (in the past year) subject to investigation for any offence against a child, or where there have been investigations or convictions for domestic violence

***Creating Safer Space Foundation Module*** - Who Needs To Attend. (This list was approved by the Methodist Conference 2012, where it formed an appendix to the *Creating Safer Space* report.)

In order to fulfill our Safeguarding Policy, the Plymouth & Exeter District will enforce the requirement of the Methodist Conference that the following office holders must complete the Creating Safer Space Foundation Module:

## **ATTENDANCE PROVISION**

From Appendix 2 Safeguarding Report, The Methodist Conference 2012

## **Foundation Module**

## **Core List – Required Attendance**

- ◇ Presbyters with an active preaching or pastoral ministry
- ◇ Deacons with an active preaching or pastoral ministry
- ◇ Pre-ordination students and probationers
- ◇ Lay employees and volunteer workers with pastoral responsibility
- ◇ Pastoral visitors
- ◇ Anyone working with 0-18 year olds in the name of the church
- ◇ Anyone working in activities targeted at adults who are vulnerable (eg luncheon club for the housebound)
- ◇ Church stewards
- ◇ Circuit stewards
- ◇ Local preachers
- ◇ Worship leaders
- ◇ Those training for local preaching or worship leading
- ◇ Church and circuit safeguarding representatives
- ◇ Choir/music group/drama leaders – where there are 0-18 year olds or vulnerable adults in the group.
- ◇ District staff especially policy committee members, complaints and discipline, mediators
- ◇ Core teaching staff at Methodist Church Training Institutions
- ◇ Connexional staff with direct safeguarding links e.g. children and youth workers
- ◇ 'Covenant of Care' group members

### Warmly invited but not mandatory

- ◇ Evangelism/mission enablers
- ◇ Leaders of other organisations, working with 0-18yr olds or vulnerable adults, who use church premises
- ◇ Remaining Choir/music group/drama leaders
- ◇ Any other group leaders within the church, who may have adults within their particular group who are vulnerable.
- ◇ Property stewards and other keyholders
- ◇ Caretakers
- ◇ Church/circuit meeting secretaries
- ◇ Church/circuit/district administrators
- ◇ Remaining District and connexional staff
- ◇ Remaining teaching staff at Methodist Church Training Institutions

All those who have not completed the Foundation Module will be suspended from office until such time as the course has been successfully undertaken. The one exception will be for those who are new to one of the roles or offices listed above.

A new office holder will be required to successfully complete the Foundation Module within six months of taking up such a post and if not, be suspended until the training has been completed.