St George's, Leeds APCM 2024 Safeguarding Report

The Parish Safeguarding Officers (Janet Cook, Pauline Rhodes, Di Riley) work with Lizzy Woolf and Eve Ridgeway as a safeguarding team for St George's and Holy Trinity Boar Lane, seeking advice from the Diocesan Safeguarding team as appropriate. The St George's safeguarding team have worked to ensure the PCC has complied with its responsibility to have due regard to the Church of England (CofE) House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance. Administrative support, especially relating to safeguarding training and DBS checks is now provided by Jack Smith as part of his staff role.

As required by the CofE, a general safeguarding update is provided to the PCC at each meeting.

During the last year the St George's safeguarding team has:

- Continued to ensure that all staff and volunteers have appropriate safeguarding training and DBS clearance.
- Advised confidentially on specific safeguarding issues as they have arisen.
- Reviewed and updated the recruitment and safeguarding training requirements for staff and volunteers to ensure that the Church complies with the CofE's Safer Recruitment and People Management Guidance.
- Asked the PCC and Small Group Leaders to undertake the CofE's new safeguarding training on Domestic Abuse.

Lighthouse became a fully independent charity in 2023. Although Lighthouse is still closely affiliated to St George's, the responsibility for its safeguarding has passed from St George's PCC to the Lighthouse trustees. Since the change, the Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSOs) have met regularly with the Lighthouse Safeguarding Officer to facilitate good communication regarding safeguarding.

Di Riley on behalf of the Safeguarding Team

April 2024