

Church of England Past Safeguarding Cases Review

The Church of England is undertaking a second Past Case review into the handling of safeguarding cases. This review was commissioned following a report in 2018 that revealed many shortcomings both in the process and the final outcome of the original Past Case Review that had been commissioned in 2007.

All Parishes have been requested by the Diocese to make their parishioners' aware of this review; as it is important we seek to encourage people to come forward where they have information to disclose.

In the coming months every diocese across the country will be having independent reviewers looking at every safeguarding case file as well as the files relating to church officers, both lay and ordained, past and present. All parishes have been asked to check that all their safeguarding cases have been correctly reported to their diocesan team.

A Key focus for this second review (PCR2) is listening to survivors.

Individuals who wish to make representation to this process, who need to come forward with information or to make any safeguarding disclosures regarding church related abuse are encouraged to make direct contact with the Diocesan Safeguarding Team at safeguarding@chelmsford.anglican.org or to visit chelmsford.anglican.org/pcr2 for further information.

We do recognise that this may not feel safe for those who have lived experience of abuse from within the Church therefore a dedicated telephone helpline 0800 80 20 20 - operated independently from the Church by the NSPCC, has been set up.

Lisbeth Hardy

Parish Safeguarding Officer