**Two Rivers Mission Community**

**Safeguarding policy**

**Reaffirmed 11th November 2022**

From 1st January 2022 responsibility for safeguarding within the Two Rivers Mission Community passes to the new Joint Council (NB. Huntshaw have not joined the joint council but the joint council safeguarding officer will continue acting for Huntshaw until 31st June 2022). PCCs are required to work with the Joint Council to ensure compliance with the Bishops’ safeguarding policy and the Joint Council safeguarding work.

**1 Governance**

**1a. Joint Council**

All elected members of the Joint Council, as trustees of a charity running regulated activities, will be required to:

1. Complete a confidential declaration

All elected members of the joint council will be asked to

1. Undertake an enhanced DBS check
2. Undertake safeguarding awareness and foundation training courses

All members of the leadership team (ex-offico members of the Joint Council) who hold a Bishop’s licence will be required to complete all safeguarding requirements as required by the Diocese.

All members of the leadership team (ex-offico members of the Joint Council) who do not hold a bishop’s licence, as those who may undertake pastoral work or lead activities with children or vulnerable adults, will be required to:

1. Complete a confidential declaration
2. Provide two satisfactory references
3. Undertake an enhanced DBS with barring check
4. Undertake a safeguarding awareness, foundations and leadership course and domestic abuse course
5. Be issued with a job specification and undertake an annual review

**1b. PCCs**

All church wardens will be required to:

1. Complete a confidential declaration

All church wardens will be asked to1

1. Undertake an enhanced DBS check
2. Undertake a safeguarding awareness and foundations course

All PCC members will be required to:

1. Complete a confidential declaration

And be encouraged to:

1. Undertake safeguarding awareness and foundations training
2. **Activities**

**2a. Regulated activity**

*(According to “Regulated activity in relation to children: scope. Factual note by HM Government)*

Parish nurse deacon

*The parish nurse is overseen both as a deacon by the diocese of Exeter and Parish Nursing UK. No further action required*

Parish pastoral visiting teams (supervised by the Parish nurse deacon for the Mission Council)

Leaders required to:

1. Complete a confidential declaration
2. Provide two satisfactory references (new appointees)
3. Undertake an enhanced DBS with barring
4. Undertake a safeguarding basic awareness and foundations course
5. If not covered by a Bishop’s licence be issued with a job specification and undertake an annual review

Workers required to:

1. Complete a confidential declaration
2. Provide two satisfactory references (new appointees)
3. Undertake an enhanced DBS check with barring
4. Undertake safeguarding awareness and foundations training
5. Be issued with a job specification and undertake an annual review

**2b. Other activities specifically run for children and vulnerable adults**

*(But not regulated activities as occurring less than weekly)*

High Bickington After School Club

Newton Tracey Youth Group

Beaford Youth group

Leaders required to:

1. Complete a confidential declaration
2. Provide two satisfactory references (new appointments)
3. Undertake an enhanced DBS
4. Undertake a safeguarding basic awareness and foundations course
5. If not covered by a Bishop’s licence be issued with a job specification and undertake an annual review

Helpers required to:

1. Complete a confidential declaration
2. Undertake an enhanced DBS check
3. Undertake safeguarding awareness and foundations training
4. Be issued with a job specification and undertake an annual review

**2c. Other activities at which children and vulnerable adults may be present**

Church services

Coffee mornings

Church social activities

Bible studies

Alpha course

Other inquirers courses

Leaders and helpers will be encouraged to:

1. Undertake safeguarding awareness training

1 “Even if an individual, as part of their elected role, will be working with children and/or vulnerable adults, the appointment to an elected office is not conditional upon the receipt of satisfactory criminal record checks or references and once elected, the person concerned is validly elected to his/her office[”](https://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding/safeguarding-e-manual/safer-recruitment-and-people-management-guidance/scope-safer" \l "_ftn4" \o ")

Church of England Safer recruitment and people Management Guidance / Scope of the Safer Recruitment and People Management Guidance

1. Explanatory notes

* These notes have been drafted to give ‘due regard’ to the Church of England House of Bishops Safer Recruitment and People Management Guidance.
* To ensure a proportionate and manageable response to risk we have:
  + Brought safeguarding under the control of the Two Rivers Mission Community Council (Joint Council) where the rector, trained safeguarding officer and DBS checker can oversee safeguarding across all parishes. This recognises that some parishes struggle to provide sufficient resources to do this on their own.
  + Ensured that a sufficient portion of members of the Joint Council are properly trained to ensure safeguarding is properly conducted across the whole mission community
  + Ensured that sufficient members of each PCC are properly trained to ensure safeguarding is properly conducted in each parish