

St Mary's Lapworth

PCC Policy on Safeguarding for Adults

This policy has been updated to take account of the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 and the changes it has made to the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006.

- 1) The parish does not appoint any volunteers or paid staff to roles that involve Regulated Activity as defined in the legislation above.
- 2) Pastoral visits that are formally on behalf of St Mary's Church may only be conducted by persons for who has passed through diocesan procedure for DBS Certificates (Disclosure and Baring Service) or the pre 2012 Diocesan CRB procedures.
- 3) It is recognised that vulnerable adults may come to worship in church, or attend parish functions. In such cases they should be accompanied by a relative, friend or carer who will take responsibility for any personal care they may need. Where vulnerable adults attend worship or parish functions the PCC will ensure that they are:
 - a. shown respect and treated in a dignified way
 - b. kept safe
 - c. included and empowered as much as possible
- 4) The parish adopts the guidelines of the Church of England and the Diocese of Birmingham. In particular the parish is guided by the Diocese of Birmingham "Parish Pack for Safeguarding Adults" May 2010, noting that the 2012 legislation prevents some measures from being implemented.
- 5) The incumbent shall be the Parish Lead Person for Safeguarding Adults. In particular the incumbent shall
 - a. advocate this policy at PCC meetings
 - b. check that this policy is followed
 - c. listen to and act upon concerns raised in respect of vulnerable adults
- 6) The PCC shall use DBS Certificates (and older CRB checks) to ensure that it does not engage anyone barred by the DBS to work with vulnerable adults. In line with Diocesan Policy these checks will be repeated very five years.
- 7) Where the PCC discover or suspect abuse (be it physical, emotional, sexual, financial or spiritual) of vulnerable adults, this will be reported to the Bishop's Advisor for Adult Safeguarding.
- 8) This policy to be reviewed annually.

Last reviewed updated - June 2013.