**Holy Trinity Tewkesbury Annual Parochial Church Meeting – Safeguarding Report (April 2022)**

Safeguarding continues to be a key priority in the life of Holy Trinity Tewkesbury. Together with Gloucester Diocese, we are committed to providing training, advice, guidance and support to reduce risk and improve the physical, mental and spiritual outcomes of those we serve.

Holy Trinity continues to have 4 Safeguarding Officers as follows:

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| ***Name*** | ***Role*** | ***Responsible for*** |
| Duncan de Gruchy | PSO | Adults, Children & Young People |
| Liz Williams | Safeguarding Officer | Children |
| Liz Walker | Safeguarding Officer | Adults, Children & Young People |
| Rob Burcombe | Safeguarding Officer | Adults |

Key points to note since the last ACPCM Safeguarding Report (October 2020) include:

* 25 members of Trinity (Staff & Volunteers) have accessed safeguarding training sessions. Despite the numerous reminders through the weekly newsletter, this only equates to 33% of those adults with a safeguarding responsibility identified on the Church database. Ensuring all adults (staff and volunteers) are adequately trained not only helps to support them in their roles but is key to helping to reduce the risk of harm to the children, young people and vulnerable adults we serve. This needs to become a key action to address in the coming year.
* All previous safeguarding concerns reported have been successfully resolved.
* There are no current safeguarding concerns that PSO is aware of.
* Previous PSO has resigned the post and now been replaced. A huge thank you is extended to Julie Northcott for her time and commitment into developing safer working practices and care, guidance and support to those dealing with safeguarding concerns. However, due to the very recent nature of this change, it should be noted that this report may not be as comprehensive and reflect all that has taken place across all areas of Holy Trinity.
* An audit (through the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard) of Holy Trinity’s safeguarding practice and processes had started, but not been completed.
* The parish database (containing records of safeguarding training and DBS checks) has continued to be maintained – thank you Helen!
* Safeguarding Policy has been updated with minor changes and is currently being circulated with a view to being agreed at the APCM in April 2022.

Actions moving forward:

* Complete Parish Safeguarding Dashboard and create an action plan from any issues identified
* In line with the Safeguarding Policy, ensure all staff and volunteers who work with children, young people and vulnerable adults have completed the necessary training within the last 3 years.
* Continue to work to develop safer recruitment of volunteers policy and practice in line with the Diocese Safeguarding Handbook expectations (Diocese to support this work)
* Review Adult at Risk Policy to ensure compliance with Diocese Safeguarding Handbook. Then issue this to all church staff and volunteers and seek confirmation of understanding
* Continue management of DBS process
* Develop existing safeguarding training database to include additional fields (eg role, groups the named person is involved with and confirmation of mandatory policies being read and understood) to aid easy identification of training needs
* Develop online safeguarding reporting form and/or make electronic version of form available from church website.
* PSO to attend all relevant training and updates (as identified appropriate to the role on the Diocesan website)
* Author: Duncan de Gruchy, Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO)