

**JOINT STATEMENT OF SAFEGUARDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND AND THE
METHODIST CHURCH OF GREAT BRITAIN**

The Church of England works with other Christian Churches and other agencies in delivering safeguarding. In partnership with the Methodist Church, the following statement of principles appears at the head of each safeguarding policy:

We are committed to:

- the care, nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry for all: children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of children, young people and all adults
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where victims of abuse can report or disclose abuse and where they can find support and best practice that contributes to the prevention of abuse.

To this end...

- We will carefully select, support and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration/membership of the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made, that any adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to offer informed pastoral care to anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry that recognises the importance of understanding the needs of those who have been abused, including their feelings of alienation and/or isolation.
- In as far as we can we will protect survivors of sexual abuse from the possibility of further harm and abuse.
- We will challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision, and referral to the appropriate authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- We will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

The Parochial Church Council of All Saints' Church Hertford concurs with this statement. Guidelines for the reporting of abuse, together with our policies, may be found in the vestry. Agreed by the PCC 8/09/2015