

Anlaby Churches
Responding to Concerns, Incidents
or Allegations Regarding a
Volunteer or Paid Worker within the
Church Community Policy
(Whistleblowing)

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Church of England requires that each local parish has its own Responding To Concerns, Incidents or Allegations Regarding a Volunteer or Paid Worker within the Church Community (Whistleblowing) Policy. This ensures that there is a clear procedure for dealing with this situation within the context of church life.

2. DIOCESE OF YORK PROCEDURE FOR THE HANDLING OF SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS, INCIDENTS AND ALLEGATIONS

It is important that there is a clear procedure for dealing with Safeguarding allegations made against any person within the context of church life. This procedure must not be improvised and must be rigorously followed.

This procedure will be triggered when allegations, concerns or incidents are reported in relation to an ordained member of the clergy, people with Permission to Officiate, office holders, sector ministers and all lay persons, both paid and voluntary, working within the Diocese, an Archdeaconry or a Parish.

3. LOCAL PROCEDURE

Anlaby Churches local procedure is as follows.

1. In the first instance contact the Parish Safeguarding Representative (PSR) for advice.

PSR is Jo Hepworth: Tel. 01482 355824

If she is not available, contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor (DSA, see below).

2. The PSR will support you and contact the DSA. In their absence the Diocesan Secretary should be contacted

Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor: Tel. 01904 699509/07914 668907

Diocesan Secretary: Tel. 01904 699500

3. Write down what you heard or saw in a short report as soon as possible. Do not interpret, exaggerate or embellish the facts. Date and sign your report and give it to the PSR who will store it securely in a locked filing cabinet. It will not be accessible to anyone else in the parish and will be stored in line with the General Data Protection Regulations 2018.

4. It is imperative that nobody at the Anlaby Churches begins any type of investigation in this situation. The investigation **MUST** be carried out by the DSA or another person nominated by them.
- If you become aware of, or are made aware of, an allegation or concern regarding a volunteer or paid worker within the church community you must not attempt to find out who raised the concern or reported the allegation, even if it is made about you, as this would compromise the integrity of future safeguarding concerns or allegations.

4. RELATED DOCUMENTS

4.1 Local Documents

- Anlaby Churches “Logging a Concern about a Child, Young Person or Vulnerable Adult’s Safety or Welfare” Form
- Anlaby Churches “Safeguarding Vulnerable People and Child Protection Policy”
- Anlaby Churches ”Working with Known Offenders Attending Church Policy”
- Anlaby Churches Child Protection Poster
- Anlaby Churches “Responding To Suspicions Or Allegations Of Abuse Or Inappropriate Behaviours Concerning Children, Young People And Vulnerable Adults In The Parishes (Complaints Policy)”

4.2 Central Documents

- All central documents are found on the York Diocese website

Child Protection and Safeguarding Documents

www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/safeguarding