

Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser

OVERVIEW

Our aim is for everyone in the Diocese of Portsmouth to feel that they belong, and are valued for who they are and what they contribute. Together, our people contribute in different ways towards our common purpose and strategy LIVE PRAY SERVE, whichever part of the diocese they work in and whatever their background.

This role has been created to enhance the Diocesan Safeguarding Team capacity due to an increase in case referrals.

POST INTRODUCTION

Take on day-to-day investigative tasks and management of cases in the diocese in collaboration with the other Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser. This will include the following:

- preparation for and attending and contributing to Core Group meetings.
- interviewing survivors, witnesses and respondents
- accurately recording actions taken.
- reviewing of documentary evidence and the writing of investigation reports.

THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

The ideal candidate should have:

Essential

Education & Qualifications:

- Relevant professional qualification or equivalent (for example, social care or criminal justice), with current professional registration where applicable.
- Level 3 or above training accreditation in child or adult protection with ability to demonstrate transferrable knowledge across the client groups, or equivalent professional experience.

Knowledge/Experience:

- Extensive experience of safeguarding of children and adults at a local level including strategic development of safeguarding capabilities and practice.
- Experience of working with a range of statutory and non-statutory organisations in managing or contributing to safeguarding, including the managing of allegations against employees, office holders and volunteers
- Practitioner/manager experience of working with victims or survivors of abuse and adults with mental health issues.
- In-depth knowledge of the statutory framework in relation to safeguarding children and adults.
- Experience of complex investigations.
- Experience of communications and external stakeholder management on safeguarding issues.

Skills/Aptitudes:

- Understanding of operating at a senior level in the broader safeguarding field including its social and political context.
- Strong verbal communications skills and ability to produce clear written records and reports.
- Ability to work sensitively with survivors, those who are subject to allegations and/or those that may pose a risk.
- Ability to manage and analyse complex and sensitive information and assess risk.
- Demonstrable ability to be a member of a wider team as part of a church institution and to work collegially with specialist and non-specialist colleagues.
- Ability to deliver or contribute directly to the delivery of safeguarding training to safeguarding professionals as well as other stakeholders

Personal Attributes:

- Confidence and ability to work with senior people at a diocesan level, including senior church leaders, external safeguarding experts and other stakeholders.
- A proven ability to develop and sustain relationships at all levels both inside and outside the Church.
- A proven ability to maintain the highest standards of confidentiality and work sensitively with those affected by safeguarding issues.
- In sympathy with the aims of the Church of England.
- Some understanding of how safeguarding operates within the Church of England.

Circumstances:

The post-holder will be based in Portsmouth on a 0.6fte basis. Some flexible working is required e.g. travel around the diocese and work at weekends. In addition, there is scope for flexible working at home subject to negotiation.

Desirable:

Knowledge/Experience:

- Experience of contributing to and/or leading on case review processes such as Serious Case Reviews, Domestic Homicide Reviews, Serious Untoward Incident Reviews or Significant Incident Learning Processes, MAPPA reviews etc.
- Experience of working on safeguarding issues at national as well as local/regional level.
- Experience of designing and/or leading case review processes and identifying and disseminating lessons to be learnt.
- Detailed understanding of Church of England structures and safeguarding policies and practice guidance.