

**South East District Safeguarding Officer:**

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## South East Safeguarding Newsletter No.1

**Dear Safeguarding Officers, Ministers & Superintendents,**

**Hello, and welcome to the first edition of the South East Safeguarding newsletter. I began my role as District Safeguarding Officer (DSO) in July this year, and have so far come across a number of queries regarding a range of topics relating to safeguarding within the Church. Through regular newsletters I aim to provide answers to these queries, and to make sure that key information is shared around the District.**

**Let me know if you have a query, would like to give feedback about what is working well in your area, or whether you have any training needs which aren't currently being covered.**

**I look forward to working with you to further promote safeguarding around the District.**

*Philippa*

### DATA PROTECTION

THE GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION WILL APPLY IN THE UK FROM 25<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2018.

GUIDANCE FOR PROCESSING, PUBLISHING AND RETAINING DATA IN ACCORDANCE WITH GDPR WILL BE PROVIDED.

IN THE MEANTIME, PLEASE RETAIN ALL SAFEGUARDING RECORDS WHICH ALREADY EXIST, AND CONTINUE WITH YOUR CURRENT PRACTICE REGARDING DATA.

### Did you know.....?

- The updated Leadership Module is due to be rolled out from Easter 2018
- Covenants of Care have been renamed Safeguarding Contracts; there are changes to associated policy
- The DSO should be notified of all situations regarding a safeguarding concern

### TRAINING DATES

#### Train the Trainers:

4<sup>th</sup> November 2017 – Bexhill

7<sup>th</sup> March 2018 - Canterbury

2<sup>nd</sup> June 2018 – Woking

#### Leadership Module

(for those not previously trained)

18<sup>th</sup> January 2018 – TBC

3<sup>rd</sup> February 2018 – TBC

Contact Philippa to book a place

## DBS

The processing of DBS checks has been passed on to Due Diligence Checking. There is a different online system with new login details. The system will be in place from 1<sup>st</sup> November. Lay verifiers need to be added to the system by their Circuit Superintendent.

DBS checks are needed for:

All Ministers  
Local preachers & worship leaders  
Church Stewards  
Pastoral visitors  
Junior Church helpers  
Messy Church volunteers  
Youth workers  
Circuit & Church safeguarding officers  
Any other role which falls into groups 1&2 of Methodist Church DBS guidance, via the website <http://www.methodist.org.uk>