

# Safeguarding at BMCN

## Introduction

BMCN is an autonomous sub-committee of the Brent Tor Parochial Church Council (PCC) and offers its services to anyone, irrespective of denomination or belief. As such, the governance of BMCN falls to the PCC, and this includes oversight of safeguarding and financial matters.

## BMCN Statement of Safeguarding Principles

BMCN, under the auspices of the Brent Tor PCC, fully recognises and accepts the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy Statement "[Promoting a Safer Church 2017](#)", and commits to complying with the current Church of England and Diocesan safeguarding policies and practice guidance. In so doing we will comply with the secular multi-agency safeguarding procedures relating to children and young people and adults experiencing or at risk of harm, abuse or neglect.

We are committed to:

- **Promoting a Safer environment and culture** within our organisation and in our activities by adhering to safe working practices and acknowledge the principle that safeguarding is everyone's business.
- **Safely recruiting and supporting all** those with any responsibilities related to children, young people and vulnerable adults, including all volunteers and committee members within the organisation, in accordance with the current House of Bishops' Safer Recruitment: Practice Guidance.

We will ensure those appointed are aware of the Diocesan and Parish Safeguarding Policies and are aware of their roles and responsibilities.

We will support them by ensuring they receive relevant and Diocesan approved safeguarding training commensurate with their role and that they are fully aware of and have access to the practice guidance.

- **Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation** in accordance with the statutory child and adult safeguarding procedures and the House of Bishops' safeguarding practice guidance.

We will ensure that any complaint made regarding a vulnerable person, who may have been harmed or is in significant danger, will be reported immediately and we will fully cooperate with statutory agencies during any investigation into allegations concerning a member of the organisation, a service user, or any other person.

- **Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse** and other affected persons insofar as it is within our remit as a Compassionate Communities organisation.

- **Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations** of abuse and other affected persons.

We will work with others to ensure the appropriate support for them and those affected. Where that person is considered to pose a risk to others, we will work with the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor to mitigate any identified risk.

- **Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.**

We will endeavour to offer pastoral care and support whilst ensuring any risk has been assessed and is being managed in accordance with House of Bishops' policy and guidance and in collaboration with the statutory agencies and the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor.

The BMCN Policy for responding to allegations can be found [here](#)

### Safeguarding representative

We will ensure that there is an identified person/s to be the BMCN Safeguarding Representative/s who will be suitably recruited and trained, and is aware of their role and responsibilities, and who will be the point of contact for any concerns. In most cases, this will be the Parish Safeguarding Representative (PSR) for Brent Tor; and if not, they will work in close liaison with the PSR.

### Parish Safeguarding Representative

The PSR for the parish of Brent Tor and for BMCN is Wendy Roderick [email](#) or phone 07368 305833

Alternatively, you can contact the [Diocesan Safeguarding Team](#)

If you are a young person and you feel unhappy about something happening to you, you can call Childline on [0800 11 11](tel:08001111).

In an emergency where life is at immediate danger, call 999

In less urgent situations, you can contact the Devon Multi-Agency Support Hub on [0345 155 1071](tel:03451551071)

### Guidance

Copies of Diocesan and parish guidelines and procedures are held by David Harris and Wendy Roderick – [safeguarding@brentorchurch.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@brentorchurch.org.uk)

### Review

This statement will be formally reviewed annually and a copy shared with the PCC.

### Date of Adoption

The PCC agree and adopt the Brent Tor Policy (of which this is a derivative) at its annual APCM.

The PCC and BMCN shall review this policy annually.

# Responding to Safeguarding Allegations or Concerns

## Introduction

The Brentor and Moor Compassionate Neighbours adhere to the Brent Tor Parish's procedure when responding to any safeguarding allegations or concerns.

The said procedure is reproduced below for convenience and also available at:

<https://brentorchurch.org.uk/responding-to-safeguarding-allegations-or-concerns/>

## Responding to Safeguarding Allegations or Concerns Procedure for Brent Tor Parish

Under House of Bishops guidance, every PCC must have a procedure in place to deal promptly with safeguarding allegations or concerns. This procedure localises the national and diocesan guidance so that church officers are aware of how to respond properly in their local context when they become aware of a safeguarding concern.

All church officers should be up to date on safeguarding training at the appropriate level for their role. From their training they should understand the principles of:

### ***Recognise – Respond – Record – Refer***

***Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility – concerns must always be shared***

As well as being up to date on training, all church officers should have read section 7 of the Parish Safeguarding Handbook and retain a (hard or electronic) copy for reference. Church Officers should always follow the guidance in section 7 in their response to a concern.

Church officers should know who to contact. Appendix 1 of this procedure is a list of the relevant persons a church officer may need to contact in this parish when responding to a safeguarding concern. All church officers should have a copy of this list and up-to-date lists be made available to them regularly, as role changes and address or number changes necessitate.

Relevant Local Authority contact details should be on display in the church buildings and can be accessed on the Safeguarding Contacts page of the Diocese of Exeter website. Church officers are encouraged to note these contact details as well as those of other support services available so as to be able to respond promptly in the event of a concern.

If a church officer is in any doubt as to how to respond to a safeguarding concern, they should consult with the Parish Safeguarding Representative or the Diocesan Safeguarding

Team. Outside of office hours, the statutory services will be able to guide the appropriate response to an urgent concern.

This procedure was approved by Brentor PCC on: 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2024 and is to be reviewed by the newly elected PCC on 21.5.24 and thereafter annually.

## **Appendix 1 – Relevant Parish Safeguarding Contacts**

### **Incumbent/Priest in Charge**

Name: Matthew Godfrey

Contact No: 07341 665510

### **Parish Safeguarding Representative**

Wendy Roderick

Contact No: 07368 305833

Wendy.roderick@brentorchurch.org.uk

### **PCC Designated Safeguarding DBS Verifier / Administrator**

Name: Rob Ormsby

Contact No: 07368 305833

Name: Sam Biggs

Contact No: 07368 305833

Sam.biggs@brentorchurch.org.uk

### **Churchwardens**

Name: David Harris

Contact No: 01822 810845

Name: Helen Harris

Contact No: 01822 810845

churchwardens@brentorchurch.org.uk

### **Other Licensed Ministers** operating in this parish/benefice

Name: Wendy Roderick, LLM

Wendy.roderick@brentorchurch.org.uk

### **Children/Youth/Families Worker**

Name: Amanda Harris, LLM

amanda.harris@brentorchurch.org.uk

### **Pastoral Visiting Team Coordinator**

Name: Helen Harris

Contact No: 01822 810845

churchwardens@brentorchurch.org.uk

**Diocesan Safeguarding Team:** 01392 294975/345910/294969

**Diocesan DBS Coordinator and Safeguarding Training Administrator:** 01392 294929

**Diocesan Safeguarding Email (Non-Urgent Contact):**

[SafeguardingEnquiry@exeter.anglican.org](mailto:SafeguardingEnquiry@exeter.anglican.org)