



I hope everyone is enjoying the summer. I recently attended the District Safeguarding Officer Connexional Day in Westminster. The day in question also became the day of Kings Speech and the opening of parliament so it made for some interesting travel. On the agenda that day was the restructuring of Safeguarding work across the Connexion that will bring about a more regional structure from September 2025, and a review of Safeguarding guidance for LEP's with details of this to be released in the next few weeks.

In the next month we are delivering 2 Face to face Foundation Module courses; in Hethersett on Tuesday 13th August and Lakenheath on Friday 30th August. There are plenty of places still available on both if you or anyone you know require this course.

The next Advanced Module Face to Face course will be delivered at the beginning of Autumn date to be confirmed.

With best wishes,

Neil

Foundation Module 2024

As you may know, our Safeguarding training course materials are updated every 4 years and 2024 sees the release of the new Foundation Module 2024. I have recently been updating our valued District Trainers with the new materials updates, and the view of us all is that the new course is very good. This will start from September 1st 2024.

There will continue to be the option of Face to Face and Online courses to cater for all options.



New President and Vice-President for 2024/25

You can read here about the newly elected President and Vice-President for 2024/25 and watch an introductory video about their focus for the year. Both Helen and Carolyn will be familiar to many in the Safeguarding network. [President and Vice-President 2024/25 - Methodist Church](#)

'Safeguarding, Justice, Dignity and Solidarity' webinar – 19 November 2024

Tuesday 19 November 2024 | 11am – 1pm | via Zoom – further details and booking information to follow. **Note the date of this webinar has now changed.**

Connexional Safeguarding Policy updates

1) Review of Risk Assessment Policy & Procedure

A working group has been meeting to review the risk assessment policy and procedures and the draft policy document will be circulated for wider consultation in the next few weeks. The date of the last review was in 2018 so there have been significant changes in the Church's approach in the last six years.

2) Safer Recruitment Policy

There is need for further clarity on job roles, and which roles require a DBS and at what level. While many churches are keen to have most roles subject to a DBS check, many of the roles do not meet the criteria to qualify and it is not lawful to apply for a level of DBS if the role does not meet the DBS criteria. Further work is to be done on the Safer Recruitment policy to make it clearer.

Don't forget to visit the [Safeguarding pages](#) of the District website for training dates and further information.