

Responding to information that a member of your congregation may pose a risk to others in your church.

If you are informed that:

- a member of the congregation
- or someone wishing to join the congregation

has abused a child, young person, or adult, or is on the sex offenders register, or is not convicted of an offence against children or adults but nevertheless may pose a risk, for example:

- an allegation of abuse against a child or adult has been investigated, but the matter has not proceeded to court, or the person has been acquitted
- a complaint or grievance has been received alleging inappropriate behaviour, which is not criminal.
- a person has demonstrated behaviour which is actually or potentially violent, or a risk to children or adults who may be vulnerable; this may be due to substance misuse, a mental disorder or a disability, or none of those things
- there have been concerns about the persons alleged abusive behaviour to a previous or a present partner

....the Parish or Cathedral Safeguarding Officer must advise the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) immediately so that risk can be assessed and a safe course of action agreed in conjunction with the relevant statutory agencies if involved. If required, a Safeguarding Agreement may be put in place.

GKJ DSA

March 2017