

A relatively quiet year in terms of safeguarding incidents with two which led to a referral. Advice was sought for the Diocesan safeguarding team as appropriate.

Training was undertaken by several PCC members and a few DBS were refreshed. Some training was still outstanding at the end of the year but this has since been addressed.

The safeguarding Dashboard (a Diocesan electronic mechanism to check against progress) was updated at least monthly and as a result the parish has moved to level 2 in terms of mandatory requirements (there are three levels). A new aspect to the Dashboard has been a more detailed safeguarding hub which provides more detailed information about the parish's activities and the roles that volunteers undertake. This provides helpful tracking in terms of DBS that need to be refreshed and training to be completed.

In addition to updating in the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy Statement and the parish's safeguarding policy and procedures, the PCC approved a policy on the recruitment of ex-offenders. Several risk assessments were also approved.

Each PCC report now includes a summary table indicating the status of DBS certificates required and those current. The table also includes up to date information on required training. This enable the PCC to see, at a glance, where actions need to be taken to ensure the parish is compliant with Diocesan expectations.

Steve Beynon
Parish Safeguarding Officer and Lead Recruiter