

Safeguarding Committee summary of safeguarding General Assembly Deliverances, 2000–2018

Introduction and purpose

The following tables list Safeguarding Committee General Assembly deliverances since 2000 by:

(1) Safeguarding **subject** and in

(2) **Chronological** order

These deliverances set standards for best practice in safeguarding – what safeguarding should look like in practice, its structures, policies and procedures. They also identify *instructions* and recommendations for Presbytery and Kirk Session to implement. The goal is to ‘ensure a safe Church for all.’

The information can be used as a checklist, and plan for action, by Safeguarding Coordinators, Kirk Sessions, Session and Presbytery Clerks, Presbytery Safeguarding Contacts and Safeguarding Trainers. The collated deliverances will assist implementation of best practice and save Church members having to plough-through volumes of the Blue Book to find instructions about particular safeguarding subjects. References to Kirk Sessions are highlighted in bold.

Details about the context and meaning of each deliverance can be found in the General Assembly Blue Book for the relevant year. And if further information is required please contact the Safeguarding Service.

The most up-to-date version of this document can be found on the Safeguarding Service webpages, http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/about_us/safeguarding_service/key_publications

Table 1: deliverances by safeguarding subject

Year	Deliverance number	Subject	Wording of deliverance
2015	6	Audit	Instruct Kirk Sessions and Presbyteries to use the Safeguarding Audit Checklist for Congregations and Presbyteries, 2015, revised Safeguarding Service form SG11, for Annual Inspection of Records and Local Church Review. (Section 11.1)
2014	2	Audit	Instruct Presbyteries to ensure that Kirk Sessions and Safeguarding Panels use the Safeguarding Self-Assessment Checklist for Congregations to review and evaluate their safeguarding arrangements (Section 2.1.3 and Appendix 1). In 2015 replaced by the document below.
2017	5	Domestic Abuse	Commend the Report of the Domestic Abuse Working Group and affirm the Domestic Abuse Policy Statement set out in Appendix 1.
2015	4	Domestic abuse	Instruct the Safeguarding Committee to work with other Councils to raise awareness about recognising domestic abuse and providing an appropriate response to support the person affected and their family. (Section 9.5)
2014	6	Information and handbooks – historical	Ask Kirk Sessions and Presbyteries to note the Safeguarding Handbook update in relation to reports of historical

Year	Deliverance number	Subject	Wording of deliverance
		abuse	abuse and the development of the Church's provision for survivors (Section 3.3).
2012	6	Information and handbooks	Instruct Presbyteries to encourage congregations to make full use of the new Safeguarding Handbooks.
2003	4	Information and handbooks	Welcome the updated Child Protection Handbook.
2000	7	Information and handbook	Note with approval the Unit's future plans and welcome the intention of producing a Handbook for Co-ordinators (Section 4).
2012	5	Information and pocket guide	Instruct Presbyteries to instruct Kirk Sessions to ensure that all volunteers and paid staff have a copy of the new 'pocket guide' to safeguarding: <i>Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk: Key Information for Volunteers and Staff</i> .
2017	2	National Safeguarding Agenda	Note the scoping exercise being undertaken by the Committee to identify possible areas for review and development in order that current systems and practice are robust and fit for purpose.
2017	4	National Safeguarding Agenda	Affirm the work undertaken by the Committee in the field of dementia and safeguarding, following the National Safeguarding Conference held in October 2016
2008	5	National safeguarding agenda	Note and approve the Safeguarding Office's continued involvement, on behalf of the Safeguarding Committee, with the Scottish Government in relation to the new and future legislation of a Safeguarding nature.
2008	6	National safeguarding agenda	Note and approve the Safeguarding Office's continued involvement, on behalf of the Safeguarding Committee, with the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP).
2007	5	National safeguarding agenda	Call upon the Scottish Parliament and Executive (1) to recognise and acknowledge the valuable work in the protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults undertaken by professionals in social work, police and health and those working in the voluntary sector and (2) to increase funding to statutory agencies in social work, police and health, and those voluntary organisations involved in the protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults.
2005	2	National safeguarding agenda	Note the increasing demands of compliance with civil law, especially in the light of the Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003.
2003	11	National safeguarding agenda	Note with regret that "grooming" which has been made a criminal offence in England and Wales and which results in the offender being placed on the Sex Offenders Register has not been made an offence in Scotland, and exhort the Scottish Parliament to produce appropriate legislation urgently.
2001	2	National safeguarding agenda	Instruct the Principal Clerk to write to the Deputy First Minister to express the Church's appreciation of the Scottish Executive's decision to provide free criminal record checks in terms of Part V of the Police Act 1997 for volunteers working with children in the voluntary sector (4.1 - 4.6).
2000	5	National safeguarding agenda	Note that the proposed scheme for accessing criminal records checks for volunteers could have significant implications for the Church and encourage members to make representation to their MSPs on this matter (Section 2.3).
2006	4	Policy	Instruct the Safeguarding Committee to devise a complaints procedure, to report it to the General Assembly of 2007 for approval, and to implement it on an interim basis as soon as it has been approved by the Committee.
2004	3	Policy	Encourage congregations to use the Child protection unit as a source of support and advice in cases of child protection.

Year	Deliverance number	Subject	Wording of deliverance
2002	3	Policy	Grant authority for the Joint Boards Group for Child Protection to maintain up-to-date guidance supporting the implementation of the Church's Child Protection Policy, when required.
2000	6	Policy–Child Protection Unit	Approve the recommendation of the Joint Boards Group that the Child Protection unit should continue as at present and note with satisfaction that arrangements have been made for necessary funding (Section 3).
2007	4	Policy–complaints	Note and approve the guidelines on managing Safeguarding related complaints; and instruct Kirk Sessions to establish a written policy using the information in appendix one and instruct 'the Committee to prepare a template to enable Kirk Sessions to carry out this task.
2010	2	Policy–one Church Safeguarding Service	Endorse the decision by the Social Care Council and the Safeguarding Committee to introduce the 'Whole Church Safeguarding Service' and instruct that the service should be fully operational by Summer 2010.
2010	2	Policy–revised statement 2010, Sex offenders and safe inclusion	Endorse the rubric of the Policy Statement revised to reflect changing legislation and to take account of the Report of the Forgiveness and Proportionality Working Group and instruct Kirk Sessions to note the text of 'Ensuring a Safe Church for All'.
2010	3	Policy–Safeguarding Committee	Approve the revised composition of the Safeguarding Committee.
2010	4	Policy–Safeguarding Committee	Instruct the Social Care Council to nominate two of its members to the Safeguarding Committee.
2005	7	Policy–standards	Adopt the list of measures, instructions and recommendations from previous General Assemblies, set out in Appendix II of the Supplementary Report, as the list referred to for the purposes of section 1 of the Act set out in Appendix III of the Supplementary Report.
2005	8	Policy–Standards	Pass an Act anent Child Protection Procedures as set out in Appendix III of the Supplementary Report.
2014	5	Prevention	Instruct the Safeguarding Service to work with other relevant councils on the development of materials and approaches to assist children and young people to protect themselves from harm and abuse, particularly in relation to the use of social media, online games and internet communication (Section 2.6.1).
2003	12	Recruitment	Encourage, in the wider interest of child protection, suitable Church members with an interest and concern for children in serious difficulty, distress and crisis (including victims of child abuse) to volunteer to serve as members of the Children's Hearing system.
2010	6	Resources and PVG Scheme	Instruct the Council of Assembly to ensure appropriate financial resources are made available to implement the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007 in order to accommodate the likely impact of a significant increase in the work of the Safeguarding Office.
2009	6	Resources–General Assembly	Instruct the Council of Assembly to ensure appropriate financial resources are made available to enact the policies and procedures required by the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007.
2009	7	Resources–Presbyteries	Encourage Presbyteries to provide appropriate support and resources to their local Safeguarding personnel.
2015	4	Safe recruitment and PVG Scheme	Note that the Safeguarding Service will share appropriate recruitment information with Safeguarding Coordinators/Safeguarding Panels, acting on behalf of Kirk Sessions, in specific situations. (Section 7.3)
2015	2	Safe recruitment and PVG	Instruct Kirk Sessions to ensure that all volunteers and locally

Year	Deliverance number	Subject	Wording of deliverance
		Scheme	employed staff undertaking Regulated Work, as defined in the Protecting Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act, 2007, join the PVG Scheme by 31 October 2015. (Section 5.3)
2014	3	Safe recruitment and PVG Scheme	Instruct Kirk Sessions to support Safeguarding Coordinators with their task of ensuring that all necessary PVG Scheme applications are processed as required and completed accurately, drawing on the relevant guidance (Section 2.2.4).
2012	2	Safe recruitment and PVG Scheme	Instruct Presbyteries and Kirk Sessions to comply with all guidance issued by the Safeguarding Service in relation to the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007.
2011	3	Safe recruitment and PVG Scheme	Instruct Kirk Sessions to observe all the requirements of The Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007 as now implemented, in particular the implementation of the new Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme.
2009	8	Safe Recruitment	Instruct Safeguarding Committee to publicise as appropriate the list of all congregational posts currently covered by the term "Church Activities".
2003	7	Safe recruitment	Approve the extension of the existing appeals procedure applicable to appeals against relevant decisions of the Child protection Unit to appeals arising against decisions of the Church of Scotland Central Recruiting Agencies.
2003	3	Safe recruitment	Instruct Congregations to use the general title of 'Children's worker in Church of Scotland' on each volunteer application form.
2003	8	Safe recruitment	Note that the Joint Boards' Group continues to explore arrangements for the operation of Criminal Record Checks in the Presbytery of England.
2003	9	Safe recruitment	Pass an Act anent Scottish Criminal Records Office Checks of Ministers and Deacons in terms of the Police Act 1997 as set out in the Appendix to the Report subject to the amendment of section 2 by the deletion of 'C.R.B.S. (Central Registered Body in Scotland)' and the substitution of 'Disclosure Scotland'.
2002	2	Safe Recruitment	Note the new systems for the checking of criminal records of volunteers and employees working with vulnerable adults.
2002	10	Safe Recruitment	Approve the Appeals procedure described in the Appendix to this report and remit to the Selection Committee to bring forward names for the membership of the Appeals panel.
2002	5	Safe Recruitment	Instruct the Child Protection Unit to initiate appropriate systems for the administration of Scottish Criminal Record Office (SCRO) checks for volunteers within its jurisdiction.
2002	6	Safe Recruitment	Instruct all relevant agencies of the Church to develop appropriate policies and systems for the implementation of SCRO checks and to report to the General Assembly of 2003.
2002	7	Safe Recruitment	Instruct Kirk Sessions and Presbyteries to comply with the process for obtaining SCRO checks as described in the report.
2002	9	Safe Recruitment	Instruct the Child Protection Unit to provide advice, guidance and information to congregations and agencies of the Church to assist in the implementation of policies regarding SCRO checks.
2011	4	Safe recruitment & disciplinary procedure	Adopt the new Disciplinary Code for the purposes of the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007 as set out in Appendix 1 and note that this replaces the previous Disciplinary Code applicable to the Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003.

Year	Deliverance number	Subject	Wording of deliverance
2012	4	Safe recruitment & Ministers	Instruct Presbyteries to ensure that ministers within their bounds co-operate fully with the Safeguarding Service and Ministries Council in complying with the Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme as introduced by the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007.
2012	3	Safe recruitment & Pastoral Care	Instruct Presbyteries and Kirk Sessions to ensure that all formally recruited Congregational Pastoral Care Visiting Group members who support 'protected adults', as defined in the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007, have the opportunity to attend safeguarding training in their congregations, and are strongly encouraged to do so.
2011	5	Safe recruitment and appeals procedure	Approve the amended Safeguarding Appeals Procedure set out in Appendix 2.
2005	6	Safe recruitment and the disciplinary code	Adopt the Code set out in Appendix I of the Supplementary Report and instruct Kirk Sessions and congregational office-bearers to implement its terms.
2010	5	Safe recruitment of young workers	Instruct Kirk Sessions to ensure that all persons 16 years or over in leadership positions working with children and young people have Enhanced Disclosure checks.
2004	2	Safe recruitment, and training for Safeguarding Coordinators	Instruct all Kirk Sessions to ensure that recruitment procedures are adhered to and that Child Protection Co-ordinators are appropriately trained to allow them to be accredited as authorised signatories for criminal record checks.
2005	3	Safe recruitment, POCSA 2003	Instruct Presbyteries, when asked by the Safeguarding Office, to ensure that Kirk Sessions are in a position to comply with the Act.
2005	4	Safe recruitment, POCSA 2003	Instruct the Safeguarding Unit to take fullest legal advice on the question of responsibility for the care of children in defined visiting groups such as children's choirs.
2005	5	Safe recruitment, POCSA 2003	Approve the review procedure as described in section 3.4.1.
2003	2	Safe recruitment–Kirk Sessions	Remind Kirk Sessions of the need to comply with the systems relating to the selection and appointment of volunteers and paid staff working with children as contained in the Child Protection Handbook and instruct Presbyteries to monitor Congregations in regard to this.
2007	3	Safe recruitment–overseas	Instruct the Committee in consultation with appropriate agencies to establish a policy and procedures for the effective vetting of those who have recently come from abroad and who apply to work on a paid or voluntary basis with Vulnerable Groups.
2001	3a	Safe Recruitment–policy and procedure	a) that such checks for volunteers working at congregational level should be carried out only via the Church's Child Protection Unit.
2001	3b	Safe Recruitment–policy and procedure	b) that the Joint Boards Group are authorised to take all necessary steps to effect registration on behalf of the Church with the proposed central registered body.
2001	3c	Safe Recruitment–policy and procedure	c) that Child Protection unit will institute suitable procedures for the processing of applications for checks and the results thereof and also for applications where criminal records cannot be accessed (4.1 - 4.6).
2018	2	Safeguarding Church Law	Pass the Safeguarding Act as set out in Appendix 1 to the Report.
2018	3	Safeguarding Church Law	Thank the Legal Questions Committee for their support in bringing the Safeguarding Act to the General Assembly 2018.
2013	5	Safeguarding Panels	Remind Presbyteries of their duty of care to Safeguarding Panel members.

Year	Deliverance number	Subject	Wording of deliverance
2013	6	Safeguarding Panels	Instruct the Safeguarding Committee to consult with Presbyteries about their future support for Safeguarding Panels and report to General Assembly in 2014.
2011	2	Safeguarding Panels	Remind Kirk Sessions who have not already done so of the need to establish a Safeguarding Panel as instructed by the General Assembly 2010, and of their duty of support for the work of Safeguarding Panels recognising the confidential nature of their work.
2009	2	Safeguarding Panels	Instruct Kirk Sessions to adopt and use the Safeguarding Panel Model to manage confidential safeguarding matters.
2017	6	Sex Offenders and Safe Inclusion	Note the Committee's ongoing work in the area of Managing Those Who Pose a Risk of Harm.
2013	2	Sex Offenders and safe inclusion	Commend to the whole Church the update report on <i>Managing the Safe Inclusion of Those Who Pose a Risk</i> .
2013	3	Sex Offenders and safe inclusion	Endorse the extension of Covenants of Responsibilities to include those who pose a risk to adults.
2013	4	Sex Offenders and safe inclusion	Support the development of a proportionate approach to the long-term management of Covenants of Responsibilities.
2010	3	Sex Offenders and safe inclusion	Instruct the Committee to continue to raise the awareness of the Report of the Forgiveness and Proportionality Working Group ' <i>For of such is the Kingdom of Heaven</i> ' and provide appropriate training and support to congregations in the implementation of the policy in the Forgiveness and Proportionality report.
2009	4	Sex Offenders and safe inclusion	Instruct Kirk Sessions to adopt the 'integrating those who pose a risk' policy.
2009	5	Sex Offenders and safe inclusion	Instruct the Safeguarding Committee to prepare a Code of Good Practice for integrating those who pose a risk in congregations and to distribute it to Kirk Sessions as soon as possible.
2008	10	Sex Offenders and safe inclusion	Instruct the Group to bring a report, including guidelines and outlines of processes, to the General Assembly of 2009.
2008	8	Sex Offenders and safe inclusion	Re-affirm that primary responsibility of the Church to children and young adults and vulnerable groups is their safety, which will mean the imposition of appropriate restrictions in congregations upon those who have committed sexual offences.
2007	2	Sex Offenders and safe inclusion	Instruct the Committee to seek discussion with members of the Worship and Doctrine Task group to discover a Theology of Forgiveness and Proportionality relating to sex offenders seeking to return to worship in congregations.
2002	4	Standards	Authorise the Joint Boards Group to revise the Church of Scotland Code of Good Practice for the Protection of Children and Young People and issue it to all congregations for implementation and to report thereon to the General Assembly of 2003.
2002	8	Standards	Instruct Presbyteries to ensure compliance by Kirk Sessions via superintendence and inspection duties.
2003	10	Standards and handbook– Europe and Jerusalem	Instruct the Presbyteries of Europe and Jerusalem to comply with the standards of good practice in matters of Child Protection as described in the Church of Scotland Child Protection handbook.
2006	2	STANDARDS, information and training	Instruct Kirk Sessions to maintain records and retain evidence that every individual working with children and young people is familiar with the Fact file and encourage all Kirk Sessions to attend a basic Child Protection Training Course.

Year	Deliverance number	Subject	Wording of deliverance
2011	6	STANDARDS, quality assurance, and handbooks	Note the arrangements for the production and distribution of a new Safeguarding Handbook, replacing the previous Child Protection Handbook, commend its use across the Church and endorse the new Code of Good Safeguarding Practice set out in Appendix 3.
2001	3e	Standards–Presbytery inspection of safeguarding records	Remind Presbyteries of their responsibilities in terms of superintendence of congregations, instructions of previous General Assemblies and general responsibilities as outlined in section 2 (2.3 - 2.4).
2017	3	Training	Instruct Presbyteries to ensure that all Kirk Sessions within their bounds keep a record of the number of people who have undertaken all types of Safeguarding training and submit an annual return to the Safeguarding Office by January 31 each year indicating numbers who have done so in the preceding calendar year.
2015	3	Training	Instruct Kirk Sessions to ensure that all volunteers and locally employed staff undertaking Regulated Work, as defined in the Protecting Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act, 2007, join the PVG Scheme by 31 October 2015. (Section 5.3)
2014	4	Training	Instruct Presbyteries to ensure that they maintain a sufficient number of Safeguarding Trainers and a Presbytery Safeguarding Contact (Section 2.3.2).
2002	11	Training	Instruct the Joint Boards Group for Child Protection to urge and encourage Presbyteries where necessary to appoint and have trained, if not already trained, trainers locally; and if such local trainers should require training, for the Board to make the necessary arrangements to train the Presbytery Trainers as soon as can possibly be arranged by a National Trainer and report such diligence to the General Assembly of 2003.
2010	7	Training–Kirk Sessions	Instruct Presbyteries and Kirk Sessions that appropriate Safeguarding training (as determined by the Safeguarding Office) must be undertaken by those involved as Presbytery Trainers, Congregational Co-ordinators, Kirk Sessions and others.
2008	3	Training–Kirk Session	Instruct Presbyteries to ensure Kirk Sessions are enabled to make best use of the new Safeguarding Kirk Session Training Package made available by the Safeguarding Office.
2000	4	Training–Safeguarding Coordinator and volunteers	Urge all Co-ordinators and volunteers to participate in appropriate training.
2006	3	Training–Safeguarding Coordinators	Instruct that all co-ordinators must have undertaken Training, and have a signatory code by the end of 2006, to fulfil the requirements of the Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003.
2003	5	Training–Safeguarding Coordinators	Instruct Kirk Sessions to insist that all Child Protection Co-ordinators attend appropriate Church of Scotland approved training when appointed to their position.
2003	6	Training–Safeguarding Coordinators	Instruct Kirk Sessions to ensure that all Child protection Co-ordinators attend training in the new processes related to Criminal Record Checks.
2009	3	Training–Safeguarding Panels	Instruct Kirk Sessions to ensure that members of the Safeguarding Panel attend child protection training.

Table 2: deliverances in chronological order

Year	Deliverance number	Subject	Wording of deliverance
2018	1		Receive the Report
2018	2	Safeguarding Church Law	Pass the Safeguarding Act as set out in Appendix 1 to the Report.
2018	3	Safeguarding Church Law	Thank the Legal Questions Committee for their support in bringing the Safeguarding Act to the General Assembly 2018.
2018	4	Safeguarding Volunteers	Thank all of those volunteers who give of their time to promote and embed good Safeguarding practices across the Church.
2017	1		Receive the report.
2017	2	National Safeguarding Agenda	Note the scoping exercise being undertaken by the Committee to identify possible areas for review and development in order that current systems and practice are robust and fit for purpose.
2017	3	Training	Instruct Presbyteries to ensure that all Kirk Sessions within their bounds keep a record of the number of people who have undertaken all types of Safeguarding training and submit an annual return to the Safeguarding Office by January 31 each year indicating numbers who have done so in the preceding calendar year.
2017	4	National Safeguarding Agenda	Affirm the work undertaken by the Committee in the field of dementia and safeguarding, following the National Safeguarding Conference held in October 2016
2017	5	Domestic Abuse	Commend the Report of the Domestic Abuse Working Group and affirm the Domestic Abuse Policy Statement set out in Appendix 1.
2017	6	Sex Offenders and Safe Inclusion	Note the Committee's ongoing work in the area of Managing Those Who Pose a Risk of Harm.
2016	1		Receive the Report.
2016	2	Audit	Encourage Kirk Sessions to have Safeguarding as a standing item of business at their meetings and to receive reports from their Safeguarding Coordinator(s).
2016	3	Audit	Note the plan to engage with the systemic review of Safeguarding in the Church.
2016	4	Safe recruitment and PVG Scheme	Instruct Kirk Sessions to ensure that everyone engaged in Regulated Work is a member of the PVG Scheme.
2016	5	Finance – Boys' Brigade and Girls' Brigade	Encourage congregations to cherish their youth organisations, in particular both Boys' and Girls' Brigade , and urge the Committee to ask the Council of Assembly to consider the cost involved in the safeguarding process to be one carried by the Church.
2016	6	Training	Remind congregations of the importance of ongoing Safeguarding Training and encourage the use of the valuable resource of Safeguarding Trainers within Presbyteries.

Year	Deliverance number	Subject	Wording of deliverance
2016	7	Domestic abuse	Acknowledge the work on Safeguarding aspects of Domestic Abuse and await a report in 2017.
2016	8	Prevention	Note the resource being set up called 'keepingsafe.church' for encouraging children to be safe online .
2016	9		Acknowledge the ongoing, complex work which is involved throughout the Church to keep vulnerable people safe.
2016	10	National safeguarding agenda	Endorse the principles behind the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 as a way of promoting the health and wellbeing of children, whilst recognising that the named person provision is a matter which is controversial and calls for further clarity around implementation.
2016	11	National safeguarding agenda	Instruct the Church and Society Council, the Safeguarding Committee and the Social Care Council to continue to engage with the Scottish Government and other interested parties in the development of implementation procedures and interpretation guidelines arising out of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 and report back to the 2017 General Assembly.
2015	2	Safe recruitment and PVG Scheme	Instruct Kirk Sessions to ensure that all volunteers and locally employed staff undertaking Regulated Work, as defined in the Protecting Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act, 2007, join the PVG Scheme by 31 October 2015. (Section 5.3)
	3	Training	Instruct Kirk Sessions to ensure that all volunteers and paid staff who are members of the PVG Scheme attend safeguarding training. (Section 6.1)
	4	Safe recruitment and PVG Scheme	Note that the Safeguarding Service will share appropriate recruitment information with Safeguarding Coordinators/Safeguarding Panels, acting on behalf of Kirk Sessions, in specific situations. (Section 7.3)
	5	Domestic abuse	Instruct the Safeguarding Committee to work with other Councils to raise awareness about recognising domestic abuse and providing an appropriate response to support the person affected and their family. (Section 9.5)
	6	Audit	Instruct Kirk Sessions and Presbyteries to use the Safeguarding Audit Checklist for Congregations and Presbyteries, 2015, revised Safeguarding Service form SG11, for Annual Inspection of Records and Local Church Review. (Section 11.1)
2014	2	Audit	Instruct Presbyteries to ensure that Kirk Sessions and Safeguarding Panels use the Safeguarding Self-Assessment Checklist for Congregations to review and evaluate their safeguarding arrangements (Section 2.1.3 and Appendix 1).
	3	Safe recruitment and PVG Scheme	Instruct Kirk Sessions to support Safeguarding Coordinators with their task of ensuring that all necessary PVG Scheme applications are processed as required and completed accurately, drawing on the relevant guidance (Section 2.2.4).

Year	Deliverance number	Subject	Wording of deliverance
	4	Training	Instruct Presbyteries to ensure that they maintain a sufficient number of Safeguarding Trainers and a Presbytery Safeguarding Contact (Section 2.3.2).
	5	Prevention	Instruct the Safeguarding Service to work with other relevant councils on the development of materials and approaches to assist children and young people to protect themselves from harm and abuse, particularly in relation to the use of social media, online games and internet communication (Section 2.6.1).
	6	Information and handbooks – historical abuse	Ask Kirk Sessions and Presbyteries to note the Safeguarding Handbook update in relation to reports of historical abuse and the development of the Church's provision for survivors (Section 3.3).
2013	2	Sex Offenders and safe inclusion	Commend to the whole Church the update report on <i>Managing the Safe Inclusion of Those Who Pose a Risk</i> .
	3	Sex Offenders and safe inclusion	Endorse the extension of Covenants of Responsibilities to include those who pose a risk to adults.
	4	Sex Offenders and safe inclusion	Support the development of a proportionate approach to the long-term management of Covenants of Responsibilities.
	5	Safeguarding Panels	Remind Presbyteries of their duty of care to Safeguarding Panel members.
	6	Safeguarding Panels	Instruct the Safeguarding Committee to consult with Presbyteries about their future support for Safeguarding Panels and report to General Assembly in 2014.
2012	2	Safe recruitment and PVG Scheme	Instruct Presbyteries and Kirk Sessions to comply with all guidance issued by the Safeguarding Service in relation to the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007.
	3	Safe recruitment & Pastoral Care	Instruct Presbyteries and Kirk Sessions to ensure that all formally recruited Congregational Pastoral Care Visiting Group members who support 'protected adults', as defined in the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007, have the opportunity to attend safeguarding training in their congregations, and are strongly encouraged to do so.
	4	Safe recruitment & Ministers	Instruct Presbyteries to ensure that ministers within their bounds co-operate fully with the Safeguarding Service and Ministries Council in complying with the Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme as introduced by the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007.
	5	Information and pocket guide	Instruct Presbyteries to instruct Kirk Sessions to ensure that all volunteers and paid staff have a copy of the new 'pocket guide' to safeguarding: <i>Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk: Key Information for Volunteers and Staff</i> .
	6	Information and handbooks	Instruct Presbyteries to encourage congregations to make full use of the new Safeguarding Handbooks.
2011	2	Safeguarding Panels	Remind Kirk Sessions who have not already done so of the need to establish a Safeguarding Panel as instructed by the General Assembly 2010, and of their duty of support for the work of Safeguarding Panels recognising the confidential nature of their work.

Year	Deliverance number	Subject	Wording of deliverance	
	3	Safe recruitment and PVG Scheme	Instruct Kirk Sessions to observe all the requirements of The Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007 as now implemented, in particular the implementation of the new Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme.	
	4	Safe recruitment & disciplinary procedure	Adopt the new Disciplinary Code for the purposes of the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007 as set out in Appendix 1 and note that this replaces the previous Disciplinary Code applicable to the Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003.	
	5	Safe recruitment and appeals procedure	Approve the amended Safeguarding Appeals Procedure set out in Appendix 2.	
	6	STANDARDS, quality assurance, and handbooks	Note the arrangements for the production and distribution of a new Safeguarding Handbook, replacing the previous Child Protection Handbook, commend its use across the Church and endorse the new Code of Good Safeguarding Practice set out in Appendix 3.	
2010	2	Policy—revised statement 2010, Sex offenders and safe inclusion	Endorse the rubric of the Policy Statement revised to reflect changing legislation and to take account of the Report of the Forgiveness and Proportionality Working Group and instruct Kirk Sessions to note the text of 'Ensuring a Safe Church for All'.	
	3	Sex Offenders and safe inclusion	Instruct the Committee to continue to raise the awareness of the Report of the Forgiveness and Proportionality Working Group ' <i>For such is the Kingdom of Heaven</i> ' and provide appropriate training and support to congregations in the implementation of the policy in the Forgiveness and Proportionality report.	
	5	Safe recruitment of young workers	Instruct Kirk Sessions to ensure that all persons 16 years or over in leadership positions working with children and young people have Enhanced Disclosure checks.	
	6	Resources and PVG Scheme	Instruct the Council of Assembly to ensure appropriate financial resources are made available to implement the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007 in order to accommodate the likely impact of a significant increase in the work of the Safeguarding Office.	
	7	Training—Kirk Sessions	Instruct Presbyteries and Kirk Sessions that appropriate Safeguarding training (as determined by the Safeguarding Office) must be undertaken by those involved as Presbytery Trainers, Congregational Co-ordinators, Kirk Sessions and others.	
	Joint report of the Social Care Council and the Safeguarding Committee			
	2	Policy—one Church Safeguarding Service	Endorse the decision by the Social Care Council and the Safeguarding Committee to introduce the 'Whole Church Safeguarding Service' and instruct that the service should be fully operational by Summer 2010.	
	3	Policy—Safeguarding Committee	Approve the revised composition of the Safeguarding Committee.	
	4	Policy—Safeguarding Committee	Instruct the Social Care Council to nominate two of its members to the Safeguarding Committee.	
	2009	2	Safeguarding Panels	Instruct Kirk Sessions to adopt and use the Safeguarding Panel Model to manage confidential safeguarding matters.
3		Training—Safeguarding Panels	Instruct Kirk Sessions to ensure that members of the Safeguarding Panel attend child protection training.	
4		Sex Offenders and safe inclusion	Instruct Kirk Sessions to adopt the 'integrating those who pose a risk' policy.	
5		Sex Offenders and safe inclusion	Instruct the Safeguarding Committee to prepare a Code of Good Practice for integrating those who pose a risk in congregations and to	

Year	Deliverance number	Subject	Wording of deliverance
			distribute it to Kirk Sessions as soon as possible.
	6	Resources–General Assembly	Instruct the Council of Assembly to ensure appropriate financial resources are made available to enact the policies and procedures required by the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007.
	7	Resources–Presbyteries	Encourage Presbyteries to provide appropriate support and resources to their local Safeguarding personnel.
	8	Safe Recruitment	Instruct Safeguarding Committee to publicise as appropriate the list of all congregational posts currently covered by the term "Church Activities".
2008	3	Training–Kirk Session	Instruct Presbyteries to ensure Kirk Sessions are enabled to make best use of the new Safeguarding Kirk Session Training Package made available by the Safeguarding Office.
	5	National safeguarding agenda	Note and approve the Safeguarding Office's continued involvement, on behalf of the Safeguarding Committee, with the Scottish Government in relation to the new and future legislation of a Safeguarding nature.
	6	National safeguarding agenda	Note and approve the Safeguarding Office's continued involvement, on behalf of the Safeguarding Committee, with the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP).
	7	Historical Abuse	Affirm the Church's commitment in partnership with social service organisations to ongoing pastoral care of survivors of sexual abuse and their families and re-assert the commitment of the Church to create a safe environment for children and vulnerable adults in congregations.
	8	Sex Offenders and safe inclusion	Re-affirm that primary responsibility of the Church to children and young adults and vulnerable groups is their safety, which will mean the imposition of appropriate restrictions in congregations upon those who have committed sexual offences.
	10	Sex Offenders and safe inclusion	Instruct the Group to bring a report, including guidelines and outlines of processes, to the General Assembly of 2009.
2007	2	Sex Offenders and safe inclusion	Instruct the Committee to seek discussion with members of the Worship and Doctrine Task group to discover a Theology of Forgiveness and Proportionality relating to sex offenders seeking to return to worship in congregations.
	3	Safe recruitment–overseas	Instruct the Committee in consultation with appropriate agencies to establish a policy and procedures for the effective vetting of those who have recently come from abroad and who apply to work on a paid or voluntary basis with Vulnerable Groups.
	4	Policy–complaints	Note and approve the guidelines on managing Safeguarding related complaints; and instruct Kirk Sessions to establish a written policy using the information in appendix one and instruct 'the Committee to prepare a template to enable Kirk Sessions to carry out this task.
	5	National safeguarding agenda	Call upon the Scottish Parliament and Executive (1) to recognise and acknowledge the valuable work in the protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults undertaken by professionals in social work, police and health and those working in the voluntary sector and (2) to increase funding to statutory agencies in social work, police and health, and those voluntary organisations involved in the protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults.
	2	Standards, information	Instruct Kirk Sessions to maintain records and retain evidence that

Year	Deliverance number	Subject	Wording of deliverance
2006		and training	every individual working with children and young people is familiar with the Fact file and encourage all Kirk Sessions to attend a basic Child Protection Training Course.
	3	Training–Safeguarding Coordinators	Instruct that all co-ordinators must have undertaken Training, and have a signatory code by the end of 2006, to fulfil the requirements of the Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003.
	4	Policy	Instruct the Safeguarding Committee to devise a complaints procedure, to report it to the General Assembly of 2007 for approval, and to implement it on an interim basis as soon as it has been approved by the Committee.
2005	2	National safeguarding agenda	Note the increasing demands of compliance with civil law, especially in the light of the Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003.
	3	Safe recruitment, POCSA 2003	Instruct Presbyteries, when asked by the Safeguarding Office, to ensure that Kirk Sessions are in a position to comply with the Act.
	4	Safe recruitment, POCSA 2003	Instruct the Safeguarding Unit to take fullest legal advice on the question of responsibility for the care of children in defined visiting groups such as children's choirs.
	5	Safe recruitment, POCSA 2003	Approve the review procedure as described in section 3.4.1.
	6	Safe recruitment and the disciplinary code	Adopt the Code set out in Appendix I of the Supplementary Report and instruct Kirk Sessions and congregational office-bearers to implement its terms.
	7	Policy–standards	Adopt the list of measures, instructions and recommendations from previous General Assemblies, set out in Appendix II of the Supplementary Report, as the list referred to for the purposes of section 1 of the Act set out in Appendix III of the Supplementary Report.
	8	Policy–Standards	Pass an Act anent Child Protection Procedures as set out in Appendix III of the Supplementary Report.
2004	2	Safe recruitment, and training for Safeguarding Coordinators	Instruct all Kirk Sessions to ensure that recruitment procedures are adhered to and that Child Protection Co-ordinators are appropriately trained to allow them to be accredited as authorised signatories for criminal record checks.
	3	Policy	Encourage congregations to use the Child protection unit as a source of support and advice in cases of child protection.
2003	2	Safe recruitment–Kirk Sessions	Remind Kirk Sessions of the need to comply with the systems relating to the selection and appointment of volunteers and paid staff working with children as contained in the Child Protection Handbook and instruct Presbyteries to monitor Congregations in regard to this.
	3	Safe recruitment	Instruct Congregations to use the general title of 'Children's worker in Church of Scotland' on each volunteer application form.
	4	Information and handbook	Welcome the updated Child Protection Handbook.
	5	Training–Safeguarding Coordinators	Instruct Kirk Sessions to insist that all Child Protection Co-ordinators attend appropriate Church of Scotland approved training when appointed to their position.
	6	Training–Safeguarding Coordinators	Instruct Kirk Sessions to ensure that all Child protection Co-ordinators attend training in the new processes related to Criminal Record Checks.

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	7	Safe recruitment	Approve the extension of the existing appeals procedure applicable to appeals against relevant decisions of the Child protection Unit to appeals arising against decisions of the Church of Scotland Central Recruiting Agencies.
	8	Safe recruitment	Note that the Joint Boards' Group continues to explore arrangements for the operation of Criminal Record Checks in the Presbytery of England.
	9	Safe recruitment	Pass an Act anent Scottish Criminal Records Office Checks of Ministers and Deacons in terms of the Police Act 1997 as set out in the Appendix to the Report subject to the amendment of section 2 by the deletion of 'C.R.B.S. (Central Registered Body in Scotland)' and the substitution of 'Disclosure Scotland'.
	10	Standards and handbook– Europe and Jerusalem	Instruct the Presbyteries of Europe and Jerusalem to comply with the standards of good practice in matters of Child Protection as described in the Church of Scotland Child Protection handbook.
	11	Lobbying	Note with regret that "grooming" which has been made a criminal offence in England and Wales and which results in the offender being placed on the Sex Offenders Register has not been made an offence in Scotland, and exhort the Scottish Parliament to produce appropriate legislation urgently.
	12	Recruitment	Encourage, in the wider interest of child protection, suitable Church members with an interest and concern for children in serious difficulty, distress and crisis (including victims of child abuse) to volunteer to serve as members of the Children's Hearing system.
2002	2	Safe Recruitment	Note the new systems for the checking of criminal records of volunteers and employees working with vulnerable adults.
	3	Policy	Grant authority for the Joint Boards Group for Child Protection to maintain up-to-date guidance supporting the implementation of the Church's Child Protection Policy, when required.
	4	Standards	Authorise the Joint Boards Group to revise the Church of Scotland Code of Good Practice for the Protection of Children and Young People and issue it to all congregations for implementation and to report thereon to the General Assembly of 2003.
	5	Safe Recruitment	Instruct the Child Protection Unit to initiate appropriate systems for the administration of Scottish Criminal Record Office (SCRO) checks for volunteers within its jurisdiction.
	6	Safe Recruitment	Instruct all relevant agencies of the Church to develop appropriate policies and systems for the implementation of SCRO checks and to report to the General Assembly of 2003.
	7	Safe Recruitment	Instruct Kirk Sessions and Presbyteries to comply with the process for obtaining SCRO checks as described in the report.
	8	Standards	Instruct Presbyteries to ensure compliance by Kirk Sessions via superintendence and inspection duties.
	9	Safe Recruitment	Instruct the Child Protection Unit to provide advice, guidance and information to congregations and agencies of the Church to assist in the implementation of policies regarding SCRO checks.
	10	Safe Recruitment	Approve the Appeals procedure described in the Appendix to this report and remit to the Selection Committee to bring forward names for the membership of the Appeals panel.
	11	Training	Instruct the Joint Boards Group for Child Protection to urge and encourage Presbyteries where necessary to appoint and have trained, if not already trained, trainers locally; and if such local

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			trainers should require training, for the Board to make the necessary arrangements to train the Presbytery Trainers as soon as can possibly be arranged by a National Trainer and report such diligence to the General Assembly of 2003.
2001	2	National safeguarding agenda	Instruct the Principal Clerk to write to the Deputy First Minister to express the Church's appreciation of the Scottish Executive's decision to provide free criminal record checks in terms of Part V of the Police Act 1997 for volunteers working with children in the voluntary sector (4.1 - 4.6).
			Determine the following:
	3	Safe Recruitment–policy and procedure	a) that such checks for volunteers working at congregational level should be carried out only via the Church's Child Protection Unit.
		Safe Recruitment–policy and procedure	b) that the Joint Boards Group are authorised to take all necessary steps to effect registration on behalf of the Church with the proposed central registered body.
		Safe Recruitment–policy and procedure	c) that Child Protection unit will institute suitable procedures for the processing of applications for checks and the results thereof and also for applications where criminal records cannot be accessed (4.1 - 4.6).
Standards–Presbytery inspection of safeguarding records		D)Remind Presbyteries of their responsibilities in terms of superintendence of congregations, instructions of previous General Assemblies and general responsibilities as outlined in section 2 (2.3 - 2.4).	
2000	4	Training–Safeguarding Coordinator and volunteers	Urge all Co-ordinators and volunteers to participate in appropriate training.
	5	National safeguarding agenda	Note that the proposed scheme for accessing criminal records checks for volunteers could have significant implications for the Church and encourage members to make representation to their MSPs on this matter (Section 2.3).
	6	Policy–Child Protection Unit	Approve the recommendation of the Joint Boards Group that the Child Protection unit should continue as at present and note with satisfaction that arrangements have been made for necessary funding (Section 3).
	7	Information and handbooks	Note with approval the Unit's future plans and welcome the intention of producing a Handbook for Co-ordinators (Section 4).

Updated Noelle Maye, Safeguarding Training Officer, August 2018