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Serving the Methodist Church
in South Yorkshire,
North Nottinghamshire
and North East Derbyshire

To Church Stewards in the Sheffield Methodist District

Dear friends

This is just a courtesy email – no need to reply.

At the beginning of the Connexional year, I just wanted to get in touch to remind you I am always available to help and support you with any safeguarding issues – big or small.

I am very mindful that [The Church Stewards Handbook](#), under the Safeguarding section, requires stewards to:

- promote the importance of safeguarding
- encourage those required to attend the training
- speak up about the importance of following correct procedures
- maintain good practice
- remind everyone of the value of creating safer space

To help you fulfil the above I thought you might find it helpful if, from time to time, I proactively provided you with relevant information. I also hope by doing this you will be in a better position to support your Church Safeguarding Officer in the difficult role they have.

I appreciate you may be planning to review and adopt your Church Safeguarding Policy this autumn. This link will take you to the latest version on the Connexional website: [Updated Church Safeguarding Policy](#). Just scroll down the list until you get to the right document. I have also emailed the Church Safeguarding Officers the same link today.

In regard to training, We have a list of dates for CSS Advanced module on the [District Website](#). Here you will also find details of two sessions concerning Safer Recruitment. You might find the first session helpful. The Safeguarding audit results showed that Churches are not adhering to Safer Recruitment principles, hence these bespoke sessions.

In my courtesy letter to Church Safeguarding Officers, I have suggested the beginning of the Connexional year is a good time to revisit the Church Safeguarding Noticeboard. I'm sure safeguarding officers would appreciate it if you acknowledged the work they put into promoting safeguarding by using the building. Chapter 8 of the [Church Safeguarding Officer's handbook](#) contains more information.

Best wishes

Alison Hill
District Safeguarding Officer