

**CHARITY DETAILS**

Name: CHURCH in LONDON (The Church of the Londoners - Charity No 1093426)

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**MISSION STATEMENT**

The trustees of the CHURCH in LONDON (hereafter, "the trustees") [Dennis Szubert, Stephen Frost, Terence Murray] recognise the importance of its ministry to children and young people and its responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of children and young people entrusted to the trust's care.

As part of its mission, the trust is committed to:

- Valuing, listening to and respecting children and young people as well as promoting their welfare and protection.
- Safe recruitment, supervision and training for all the children's/youth workers within the trust.
- Adopting a procedure for dealing with concerns about possible abuse.
- Encouraging and supporting parents/carers.
- Supporting those affected by abuse related to a sponsored event.
- Maintaining good links with the statutory childcare authorities and other organisations.

**CHURCH IN LONDON POLICY**

The trustees recognise the need to provide a safe and caring environment for children and young people. It also acknowledges that children and young people can be the victims of physical, sexual and emotional abuse, and neglect. The trustees have therefore adopted the procedures set out in this document (hereafter "the policy"). The trustees are committed to on-going child protection training for all children/youth workers and will regularly review the operational guidelines attached.

In accordance with the principles found within the Abuse of Trust guidance issued by the Home Office, it is therefore unacceptable for those in a position of trust to engage in any behaviour which might allow a sexual relationship to develop for as long as the relationship of trust continues.

**RESPONDING TO ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE**

Under no circumstances should a worker carry out their own investigation into the allegation or suspicion of abuse. The person in receipt of allegations or suspicions of abuse will do the following:

- Concerns must be reported as soon as possible to Emmanuel Freeman, Dennis Szubert (hereafter the "Co-ordinator(s)") mobile nos: 07878 653 775, 07740 626 537 respectively who are nominated by the trustees to act on their behalf in dealing with the allegation or suspicion of neglect or abuse, including referring the matter on to the statutory authorities.
- In the absence of the Co-ordinator(s), or if the suspicions in any way involve the Co-ordinator(s) then the report should be made to Terence Murray (hereafter the "Deputy Co-ordinator") mobile no: 07740 281 450. If the suspicions implicate both the Co-ordinator(s) and the Deputy Co-ordinator, then the report should be made in the first instance to the Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service (CCPAS) PO Box 133, Swanley, Kent, BR8 7UQ. Telephone 0845 120 4550 or alternatively contact Children's Social Services. The local Children's Social Services office telephone number between 9.00am and 5.00 pm is 01708 433 222. The Police Child Protection Team telephone number is 01708 433 222.
- Suspicions must not be discussed with anyone other than those nominated above, except in a strictly limited way on a need to know basis. A written record of the concerns should be made and kept in a secure place.
- Whilst allegations or suspicions of abuse will normally be reported to the Co-ordinator(s), the absence of the Co-ordinator(s) or Deputy Co-ordinator should not delay referral to the Children's Social Services Department.
- The trustees will support the Co-ordinator(s)/Deputy Co-ordinator in their role.
- It is, of course, the right of any individual as a citizen to make a direct referral to the child protection agencies or seek advice from CCPAS, although the trustees hope that members of the trust will use this procedure. If, however, the individual with the concern feels that the Co-ordinator(s)/Deputy Co-ordinator has not responded appropriately, or where they have a disagreement with the Co-ordinator(s) as to the appropriateness of a referral they are free to contact an outside agency direct. We hope by making this statement that the trustees demonstrate the commitment of the trust to effective child protection.

The role of the co-ordinator(s)/ deputy co-ordinator is to collate and clarify the precise details of the allegation or suspicion and pass this information on to the Children's Social Services Department. It is Children's Social Services task to investigate the matter under Section 47 of the Children Act 1989.

**ALLEGATIONS OF PHYSICAL INJURY, NEGLECT OR EMOTIONAL ABUSE**

If a child has a physical injury, a symptom of neglect or where there are concerns about emotional abuse, the Co-ordinator(s)/Deputy Co-ordinator will:

- Contact Children's Social Services (or CCPAS) for advice in cases of deliberate injury, if concerned about a child's safety or if a child is afraid to return home.
- Will not tell the parents or carers unless advised to do so having contacted Children's Social Services.
- Seek medical help if needed urgently, informing the doctor of any suspicions.

- For lesser concerns, (e.g. poor parenting), encourage parent/carer to seek help, but not if this places the child at risk of injury.
- Where the parent/carer is unwilling to seek help, offer to accompany them. In cases of real concern, if they still fail to act, contact Children's Social Services direct for advice.
- Seek and follow advice given by CCPAS (who will confirm their advice in writing) if unsure whether or not to refer a case to Children's Social Services.

### **ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE**

In the event of allegations or suspicions of sexual abuse, the Co-ordinator(s)/Deputy Co-ordinator will:

- Contact the Children's Social Services Department Duty Social Worker for children and families or Police Child Protection Team direct. They will NOT speak to the parent/carer or anyone else.
- Seek and follow the advice given by CCPAS if, for any reason they are unsure whether or not to contact Children's Social Services/Police. CCPAS will confirm its advice in writing for future reference.

### **ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE AGAINST A PERSON WHO WORKS WITH CHILDREN**

If an accusation is made against a worker (whether a volunteer or paid member of staff) whilst following the procedure outlined above the co-ordinator will need to liaise with children's social services in regards to the suspension of the worker and making a referral to an Allegations Management Adviser (AMA).

### **APPOINTMENT, SUPPORT, SUPERVISION & TRAINING OF LEADERS & WORKERS**

The trustees will ensure all workers will be appointed, trained, supported and supervised in accordance with the principles set out in government guidelines "Safe from Harm" ( HMSO 1993). The same principles will be applied to those appointed to work with vulnerable adults.

### **SUPPORT TO THOSE AFFECTED BY ABUSE**

The trustees are committed to offering pastoral care, working with statutory agencies as appropriate, and support to those attending a CHURCH in LONDON sponsored event who have been affected by abuse.

### **WORKING WITH OFFENDERS**

When someone attending a CHURCH in LONDON sponsored event is known to have abused children, the trustees will supervise the individual concerned and offer pastoral care, but in its commitment to the protection of children, set boundaries for that person which they will be expected to keep.

This policy will be reviewed annually on (date) 31<sup>st</sup> May

Signed Dennis Szubert Date 10/06/17 Print Name DENNIS SZUBERT

Signed Stephen Frost Date 31/05/17 Print Name STEPHEN FROST

Signed TP Murray Date 10/06/17 Print Name TERENCE P. MURRAY

**CHURCH in LONDON CHILD PROTECTION POLICY STATEMENT**

The following policy was agreed by the trustees on 31/05/2017.

- We are committed to supporting parents and families
- As trustees of the trust we are committed to the nurturing, protection and safeguarding of children and young people
- We recognise that child protection is everybody's responsibility
- We are committed to following the agreed procedures and following statutory and specialist guidelines
- We seek to support all in the trust affected by abuse
- We review this policy, annually

If anyone has any concerns for a child or in relation to any child protection matter they should speak to one of the named co-ordinators above who have been approved as child protection co-ordinators for the **CHURCH in LONDON**.

A copy of the full policy can be seen in the **CHURCH in LONDON** office.

Signed (by Trustees)

Dennis Szubert      Stephen Frost      TP Murray

Date 10/06/17