



# The Methodist Church

## Yorkshire West District

### District Safeguarding Newsletter

### Spring 2018

The aim of our Safeguarding Newsletters is to provide you with the latest information relating to best practice within safeguarding, update you with any changes in policy and provide you with information regarding training opportunities. Please circulate via email to as many people as you can around your Circuit and feel free to display a copy on your church safeguarding notice board.

Occasionally we will write articles about specific safeguarding issues, if there is anything you would like to see contained within the Newsletter or have any feedback/questions about what we have written please contact District Safeguarding Officer Katy Spencer-Madden at [katyspencermadden@gmail.com](mailto:katyspencermadden@gmail.com)

#### Introducing the District Safeguarding Officers for Yorkshire West...



**Mrs Barbara Hutchinson**

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I have spent 40 years in children and families social work, with the latter part of my career including a focus on policy and legislation developing working government departments. I had a Methodist upbringing and currently am a Circuit Steward in Huddersfield and an Elder in a LEP church.



**Dr. Susan Wishart**

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I live in Halifax. I am a registered and qualified social worker, married to Tony, with three daughters and eight grandchildren who live locally. I was a research fellow at the School of Psychiatry at Manchester University, and have worked at a national level for the Prison Service, one of the areas being Safeguarding in prisons, the other with sex offenders. I volunteer at Overgate hospice in Elland and am one of the trustees.



**Mrs Katy Spencer-Madden**

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After completing a degree in Youth Work and Ministry with the organisation Oasis in Leeds, I worked as a youth worker for several years both for the Baptist Church and the Church of England. Following this I spent over five years working in education with Special Educational Needs children. I am married to Danny and we have two young children. I currently live in Lancashire, but please don't hold that against me.





### **Data Protection and GDPR Guidance**

Data Protection in the UK is changing on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018. The new law gives individuals more rights over how information about them is stored and used by organisations. In particular, organisations have to tell individuals what they are doing with the information they are storing and using.

#### **How must we process data?**

- Fairly
- Transparently
- For a specified, explicit and legitimate purpose
- Limited to what is necessary
- No longer than necessary
- Securely

Publications should be available in the near future on GDPR. Safeguarding policies are currently being updated and privacy notices for safeguarding activities should be ready by May.

#### **What can we do to get ready now?**

Safeguarding records not only contain personal data but often contain sensitive information. It is important to keep these and any other records in good order, make sure they are neat and tidy, that they are up-to-date, that they are stored in a safe and secure place and know who has access to them? Are there any records that you now don't need to keep? (we do need to keep many safeguarding records so don't make haste to get rid of everything).

Keep an eye on the Connexion website and TMCP ([www.tmpc.org.uk](http://www.tmpc.org.uk)) for more updates

**Please note many of the safeguarding forms and policies have recently been updated on the Connexion website – if you are using any of these please check you have the most recent and up-to-date copy.**



### **Do you know someone who could help?**

We are looking for an Independent Chair for our District Safeguarding Advisory Group. The person needs to come from either another District or from within our own District but outside the Methodist community e.g. from another church denomination. Safeguarding knowledge would be essential for this role

This post is a voluntary role. The District Safeguarding Advisory Group meets approximately 4 times a year and the role, as described in the District Safeguarding Policy, is as follows:

#### **Independent Chair of the District Safeguarding Group**

As part of the implementation of the recommendations from the President's Inquiry (Safeguarding) 2011, the Methodist Conference affirmed in 2012 that every District must have a group to focus on safeguarding work with children and vulnerable adults and should have an Independent Chair, as set out in the Safeguarding Framework 2010, who:

- \*Should be strongly committed to supporting the District Safeguarding Officers. \*Should be well-respected.
- \*Should be able robustly to challenge the District where necessary. \*Should not be the District Safeguarding Officers, the District Chair, or a close relative of those fulfilling those roles.

If you know a suitable person for this role (please ask them first) and forward details to [katyspencermadden@gmail.com](mailto:katyspencermadden@gmail.com). All suggestions will be taken to the District for approval before an appointment can be made.