

## **Safeguarding Report for Uplyme Church APCM 2024**

We are entering our 7th year for being safeguarding representatives for Uplyme Church. It has always been a busy role as Uplyme is a busy church offering many activities and groups, this past year has been no different.

We have always completed a yearly audit for safeguarding that was forwarded to Exeter Diocese safeguarding team. For the past three to four years this audit tool has been online giving us a traffic light system of green, amber and red of where we stand in our safeguarding practices. It is an extensive tool with many facets. As it is online we can up date this regularly and check what needs to be undertaken. We are mostly in green areas for this.

We now have three of us that are DBS verifiers at Uplyme and keep a check on needed renewals and new DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) that are required. We have also undertaken a considerable number of DBS checks for the wider AVMC.

There are posters in the Church porch and also in the vestry giving details of contact numbers both for the wider church and also local statutory contact details if anyone should have any safeguarding concerns. There is a tear off poster in the WC with a helpline for those suffering from domestic abuse. We renew the safeguarding policy each year and this will be undertaken after the AGM.

We have recently written a 'protocol' regarding those who are rough sleepers and may use our church as a refuge. This document also offers contacts for organisations who specialise in support of these individuals.

Over the past few years we have organised face to face safeguarding training sessions for those who would rather not undertake the training that is offered online. We open these up to the wider AVMC and they are well attended. We are hoping to put another session on in church in late spring/early summer.

We are grateful for the support and advice from the Exeter Diocese safeguarding team when we have a need to ask further questions and advice.

Jo Clarke  
Noreen Watson  
Safeguarding Representatives  
Uplyme Church.