



Past Cases Review 2 – Frequently Asked Questions

Q Is this Review essential?

A Yes. It is a priority for each Incumbent to undertake the Review.

Q Is every Incumbent being asked to undertake the Review?

A Yes. Where there is a vacancy or prolonged absence of an Incumbent or responsible member of Clergy, the Churchwardens are asked to take responsibility for this review.

Q Do I need to submit a Parish Declaration and Table 1A for every parish in my benefice?

A Yes. A separate Declaration and Table 1A sheet needs to be submitted for every parish. A 100% response rate from the Diocese's parishes is required.

Q I am already very busy. I don't have time for this.

A As set out in the Bishop's letter, the Review is very important for the Diocese and should be treated as a priority. Working with your Parish Safeguarding Officers and Churchwardens is recommended as this will ease the burden on your time.

Q Is the given date a firm deadline?

A Yes, all signed responses must be submitted by the date stipulated in Bishop Roberts' letter. This is to allow the overall Diocesan review to be completed on time.

Q What if the benefice is in a Vacancy?

A In case of a Vacancy, the churchwardens of each parish (or the PCC Secretary where there are no churchwardens) have been sent a copy of the Bishop's letter and need to undertake the review for their parish. Please note that the letters for all the churchwardens in a relevant parish have been sent to one churchwarden for distribution and hence it is important that where there are multiple churches in a parish the wardens consult to coordinate a response.

Q What if the benefice goes into Vacancy after the Bishop's letter has been received?

A It is the responsibility of the outgoing Incumbent to ensure that the Review has been undertaken and responses submitted before they leave the benefice.

Q What if I identify a potential example of abuse?

A Please contact Charles Pitman, Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser.
(charles.pitman@exeter.anglican.org) immediately.

Q What if I'm not sure whether something counts as an abuse?

A Please contact Charles Pitman, Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser for advice.
(charles.pitman@exeter.anglican.org).

Q Checking the 'collective memory of the community' is likely to cause upset and reopen old wounds. What support is available for those troubled or affected by the Review?

A The Diocese offers an Authorised Listening service to support those affected. Please contact Charles Pitman, Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser for details.
(charles.pitman@exeter.anglican.org)

Q Will any support and/or counselling be made available to any victims/survivors who come forward?

A Yes. Please contact Charles Pitman, Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser for details.
(charles.pitman@exeter.anglican.org).

Q As soon as this Review starts, we're likely to be contacted by the local press. What do we do if we are?

A Please ensure that you and your team do not speak to the press direct. Please refer all press enquires to Chloe Axford, Director of Communications for the Diocese of Exeter
(chloe.axford@exeter.anglican.org).

Q Is there a template that I can use when making enquiries with people in the parish?

A Yes, please request by emailing pcr2@exeter.anglican.org

Q Should I put something in the pew sheet or parish magazine to ask for people to come forward if they have anything they wish to offer?

A If you wish to do this then please consider the wording carefully and speak to Charles Pitman (charles.pitman@exeter.anglican.org) if you are not sure how to go about it.