**Training:**

**

Face-to-face Intermediate Safeguarding Training**

Dates and venues are currently being finalised for face-to-face Intermediate safeguarding training in most areas, including:

* Liverpool
* St Helens
* Warrington
* Southport

In the meantime, joint training with the North Western Synod is taking place as follows:

1. Wilmslow URC - Wednesday 28 February 2024 1-4pm  FULL
2. Wilmslow URC – Monday 25 March 2024 6-9pm

To register and book a place please contact: Pauline Burke, the Mersey Safeguarding Administrator on: safeguardingadmin@urcmerseysynod.org.uk

All Church Safeguarding Coordinators, Ministers and Church Secretaries will be contacted with an up-to-date list of people connected to the church, with their current safeguarding training and DBS status. This will assist churches to establish who needs to complete what level of training and when.

**Advanced Training**

Advanced Safeguarding training is going to be jointly delivered with Mersey Synod in two x 2-hour modules (Module 1 & 2) and is mandatory for:

* Youth & children workers including volunteer leaders
* Adult workers including volunteer leaders

Although, if you have completed the Intermediate Safeguarding training, you are also welcome to attend.

Dates for your diary are as follows:

Module 1:

Tuesday 16 April 2024 1-3pm

Monday 29 April 2024 6.30-8.30pm

Module 2:

Wednesday 8 May 2024 10-12pm

Thursday 30 May 2024 6.30-8.30pm

Contact safeguardingadmin@urcmerseysynod.org.uk

Foundation e-Learning

Find attached the link for the URC Foundation Safeguarding e-Learning

Any person with a role in a URC church that hasn’t completed URC safeguarding training in the last four years is required to complete the Foundation e-learning as a minimum, ideally individually but it can be facilitated in small groups if people do not have access to the internet, a computer/ device or both.

<https://www.urclearninghub.org.uk/course/view.php?id=24>

**Church Safeguarding Coordinator training**

Church Safeguarding Coordinator (CSC) online training dates are now available and are as follows. Please click on the link below to register:

1. Wednesday 20 March 2024 6.30-8.30pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/urc-church-safeguarding-coordinator-training-m-nw-synods-tickets-803403530587>

They are 2-hour online training courses for URC Church Safeguarding Coordinators, to help them in their role and to understand their responsibilities. Also, an opportunity to network with others, discuss issues and concerns and ask question to clarify policy and procedure.

(NB: This is the same course delivered in June, July and August 2023, so if you attended last year, there is no requirement to complete it again, unless you want to!)

**URC Denominational (Church House lead) Safeguarding Training for 2024 (please click on the link for further information)**

[URC Denominational Safeguarding Training 2024 (urc.org.uk)](https://urc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/National-Safeguarding-Training-2024.pdf)

Topics include:

* Domestic Abuse
* Modern Slavery
* Refugees & Asylum Seekers
* Adult Safeguarding
* Spiritual abuse
* Online safety
* Supporting survivors
* Substance abuse
* Elders as Trustees
* DDC DBS verifier training and safer recruitment

**Annual Church Safeguarding Returns for 2023**

All Church Safeguarding Coordinators and/or Church Secretaries will have now received the link to the portal to complete the online annual church safeguarding return for the 2023 calendar year.

Although instructions accompanied the link, please contact Pauline or Julie if you are struggling to gain access to the portal or completing the return.

**Safeguarding Contacts:**

Julie Rafferty is the Synod Safeguarding Officer.

Pauline Burke is the Safeguarding Administrator

For General safeguarding queries, relating to safeguarding training, DBS and the annual church safeguarding returns, please email the safeguarding team on safeguardingadmin@urcmerseysynod.org.uk

For queries relating to safeguarding policy & procedure and safeguarding allegations/ concerns, please contact Julie Rafferty on:

Email: safeguarding@urcmerseysynod.org.uk

Mobile number: 07376-053044