

Joint Safeguarding Working Group

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Action Required	Approval
Resolutions	<p>23/1. The Council receives the report.</p> <p>23/2. The Council approves the change of name of the group.</p> <p>23/3. The Council rescinds the terms of reference as agreed in January 2015 (set out in the report MC/15/7).</p> <p>23/4. The Council appoints the Methodist members of the group as proposed in paragraph 9.</p>

Summary of Content and Impact

Subject and Aims	To update the Council on developments with the JSWG, proposed change to the name, function and membership.
Main Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New terms of reference to be approved which reflect developments in joint working between Church and England and Methodist safeguarding teams • A continuing commitment to the Methodist/ Anglican communion expressed in safeguarding work • The JSWG to be re-named the Anglican Methodist Safeguarding Group • A greater focus on regional support working
Background Context and Relevant Documents (with function)	<p>The Joint Safeguarding Liaison Group was established when the two Churches shared a Safeguarding Adviser. As safeguarding demands have grown the two denominations have increased provision with separate advisers and teams and as a consequence often separate procedures and training programmes to meet the extent of work which is now taken in this field.</p> <p>The new proposals seek to maintain a shared forum in a way that is proportionate and manageable to our current areas of cross-over and joint working.</p> <p>MC/15/7, which provided the background for the development of the former Joint Safeguarding Liaison Group into the Joint Safeguarding Working Group, and set out its terms of reference.</p>
Consultations	Report to the Safeguarding Committee (November 2017)
Impact	Less resource intensive and greater support to regional Methodist/ Anglican safeguarding relationships.

Joint Safeguarding Working Group

1. The Joint Safeguarding Working Group was established in 2015 as the successor body to the Joint Safeguarding Liaison Group. The intention at the time was to provide a smaller group with a tighter focus on active participation and good practice.
2. In the last three years both Churches have developed their own work in safeguarding. Many of those tasks with which the JSWG was charged in its terms of reference are undertaken effectively by the safeguarding committees of the two denominations which report to the respective governing bodies.
3. The members of the JSWG now believe that what is required is a group which can be a practical expression of the Anglican-Methodist Covenant by enabling us to work together to promote, encourage, share and support good safeguarding practice in both our churches.
4. To this end, the group believes its task should now be to provide a forum for our distinctive and shared work in safeguarding to:
 - **Promote** the sharing of resources
 - **Encourage** the building of relationships
 - **Share** information, learning and good practice
 - **Support** local collaboration and innovation
5. It therefore proposes the changing of the name of the group to The Anglican-Methodist Safeguarding Group (AMSG) to reflect this change of purpose. The group intends to meet three times per year and to communicate between meetings by email.
6. The group has concluded that further precise terms of reference are unnecessary for its effective work and asks that those of the JSWG agreed in 2015 be rescinded.
7. The membership will be reviewed and rotated on a staggered three-year basis. Members of the group will be appointed each denomination on the nomination of the AMSG and will be selected as far as possible to ensure geographical coverage of the three nations.
8. The group will comprise two co-chairs, the Connexional Safeguarding Adviser and a National Anglican Safeguarding Advisor, two district and two diocesan Safeguarding Advisors/ Officers, and two co-opted members.
9. The Council is therefore asked to appoint for three years the Methodist members of the group:
 Co-chair: The Revd Canon Helen D Cameron (Chair of the Northampton District)
 Tim Carter (Connexional Safeguarding Adviser to the Methodist Church)
 Grahame Snelling (London District Safeguarding Officer)
 Donald Urquhart (Scotland and Shetland Districts Safeguarding Officer).
 The Council will be asked within the three years' period to stagger the appointments of the successors to this group in order to ensure some continuity.
10. The Council is asked to note the proposed Anglican membership of the group.
 Co-chair: The Right Revd Peter Hancock (Bishop of Bath and Wells)
 Graham Tilby (National Safeguarding Advisor to the Church of England)
 Elaine Cloke (Head of Safeguarding, The Church in Wales)
 Jenny Price (Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, Diocese of Leeds).

*****RESOLUTIONS**

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