

Policy Statement on the safeguarding of Vulnerable Adults

As members of the Cirencester PCC we commit ourselves, on behalf of the parish, to respectful pastoral care and safeguarding of all adults to whom we minister with particular concern for those who are vulnerable*. We recognise that everyone has different levels of vulnerability and that each one of us may be regarded as vulnerable at some point of our lives. We believe that our church should be a place where all people should feel welcome, respected and safe from abuse. In pursuit of this commitment we endeavour to:

- a) promote the inclusion and empowerment of people who may be vulnerable.
- b) exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of those who will work with people who may be vulnerable.
- c) support, resource and train those who undertake work among people who may be vulnerable in the promotion of safe practice

The Parish adopts the guidelines of the Church of England, and the Diocese**. We require each person who works with vulnerable people to agree to abide by the policy established by this church, and to be CRB checked.

We appoint Mr John Lawrence to represent the concerns of vulnerable people and to promote the implementation of this policy

We further acknowledge that it is the responsibility of each of us to seek to prevent abuse (physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual) of vulnerable people, and to report any such abuse we discover or suspect to the nominated person, Vicar or Associate Priest.

(This policy will be reviewed annually)

*Definition of a Vulnerable Adult from House of Bishops' Report: "any adult aged 18 years or older who by reason of mental or other disability, age, illness or other situation is permanently, or for the time being, unable to take care of him or herself, or protect him or herself from significant harm or exploitation".

**Diocese of Gloucester website: www.glosdioc.org.uk