

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS

My local contact details: (Complete these for yourself with relevant information).

My local Spiritual Direction Network **Person to report Safeguarding concerns to:**

Name:

Role:

Phone:

Email:

My local Diocesan / Denomination Safeguarding Officer

Name:

Role:

Phone:

Email:

My Spiritual Direction Supervisor

Name:

Role:

Phone:

Email:

HELPLINES

NSPCC: 0808 800 5000

Childline: 0800 1111

Stop It Now: 0808 1000 900

National Association for People Abused in Childhood (NAPAC) 0808 801 0331

Samaritans: 116 123

thirtyone:eight (formerly CCPAS): 0303 003 11 11

Family Lives: 0808 800 2222

Action On Elderly Abuse: 0808 808 8141

National Domestic Violence Helpline: 0808 2000 247

Minister and Clergy Sexual Abuse Survivors: 0808 801 0340

Local Authority Social Services:

The Spiritual Direction Forum UK, offers this in support of good practice. It does not take responsibility for the practice from individuals or groups/networks of spiritual directors, and cannot guarantee that using this document will ensure that individuals or groups will satisfy legal safeguarding obligations.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS WHAT TO DO ...

IF YOU ARE CONCERNED THAT SOMEONE IS AT RISK OF ABUSE, IS BEING ABUSED, OR PRESENTS A RISK TO OTHERS:

- ✓ If you think someone is at immediate risk, call 999.
- ✓ Tell the Safeguarding Officer in your local Spiritual Direction Network
- ✓ Keep a record of what happened, your concerns and actions.

IF SOMEONE TELLS YOU ABOUT THE ABUSE.

- ✓ Listen and keep listening.
- ✗ Do not pass judgement or ask leading questions
- ✓ Reassure the person they were right to tell.
- ✗ Never promise confidentiality.
- ✓ Explain what you intend to do and who you will tell.
- ✓ Make a written record of what you have been told, using the words used by the person. Include the date, time, location, appearance of person.
- ✓ Pass on your concerns to Safeguarding Officer in your local Spiritual Direction Network and/or the Diocesan / Denomination Safeguarding Team.
- ✓ If necessary, report the matter to the social care services or the police without delay.

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- ✓ Take all allegations seriously.
- ✓ Respect personal space and privacy.
- ✓ Ensure you take this to supervision.
- ✗ Do not try and handle this on your own, as this can put yourself or anyone else in a vulnerable or compromised position.
- ✗ Do not assume that someone else will report what you have seen or heard.
- ✗ Do not take it upon yourself to investigate the situation.
- ✗ Do not delay in taking action.
- ✓ Seek your own support as appropriate. (Supervision, Spiritual Director...)

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