**District Safeguarding Team - Synod Report (April 2025)**

After just over a year in post Sally and Neil have now built positive and effective working relationships with the district staff team, superintendents, circuit safeguarding officers, circuits and churches across the Northampton District and with the Connexional Safeguarding Team through attendance and contribution to meetings at both a district level and at a connexional level

The CPD undertaken by Neil relating to Bystander/Upstander Training has allowed the enrichment of the District Advanced Module training sessions and has also been shared with the National Safeguarding Team at the Annual Safeguarding Conference in Swanwick in February 2025. Sally is continuing to work with the Safeguarding Policy Manager to develop better information to support compliance with DBS checks.

Contributions have also been made to the work of the Connexional Consistency Group; the Survivors Interest Group; the 3Generate Safeguarding Advisory group and the regular Quadrant Team meetings.

A successful Safeguarding Day for Circuit Safeguarding Officers was held in November. Following on from this we will be running a District Safeguarding Saturday open to everyone in the District in July this year. The confirmed date and information about this event will be available soon. A provisional date of 19th July has been set.

Sally continues to focus on safer recruitment, managing case work and advising on safeguarding matters/issues and providing oversight for those on safeguarding contracts to ensure effective monitoring and compliance. This has included a new briefing for monitoring and support groups which is now delivered to all new monitoring and support groups and will be delivered as a refresher to existing monitoring and support groups over the next year.

Sally is also developing two workshops for delivery across the district from the summer onwards. These will cover safer recruitment and activity risk assessments. These along with bystander/upstander training being developed by Neil will be offered at the District Safeguarding Saturday in July.

Neil has continued to deliver training across the district and has now caught up with outstanding demand. All training sessions are progressing well with good levels of coverage of the new Foundation Train the Trainer Course both online and in person. Advanced Module Sessions have good uptake both online and in person, with high levels of engagement.

There is still a need for some circuits to offer dates for sessions, with suitable venues and identified lists of those in need of a “nudge” relating to the attendance at Advanced training sessions. All requests for training should be directed through Circuit Safeguarding Officers to ensure that all requests are coordinated as efficiently as possible.

Sally Wan

12/4/25