

DIOCESAN SYNOD

Title: **SAFEGUARDING POLICY AND AUDIT**
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1. INTRODUCTION

A new Safeguarding policy statement, *Promoting a Safer Church*, has been approved by the House of Bishops. The recommendation from Bishop's Council is that this Diocesan Synod formally adopts this statement to sit alongside our own policy.

2. HOUSE OF BISHOPS' POLICY STATEMENT

The National Safeguarding Team is working towards a single safeguarding policy applicable across the Church of England. As an interim step a new policy statement has been approved by the House of Bishops. The full statement is appended.¹

It is proposed that this diocese should formally adopt this national policy statement through its Synod, to sit alongside our diocesan policy (until such time as the national policy is agreed). This will then be communicated via the e-bulletin and other communications channels as well as the website.

3. MOTION

'That this Synod adopt Promoting a Safer Church, the Church of England's national safeguarding policy statement to sit alongside our diocesan policy and guidance, and commend the statement to all worshipping communities in East London and Essex.'

¹ The policy is available to download from the CofE website (nb if searching please do not confuse with 'promoting a safe church' – the 2006 Policy) see <https://www.churchofengland.org/media/3896819/cofe-policy-statement.pdf>. It is also available as paperback – orders can be placed with our Diocesan Christian Bookshop: 01245 294405 or bookshop@chelmsford.anglican.org.