

11 June 2010

PRESS RELEASE

CCPAS APPOINTS TWO NEW SENIOR SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS

The Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service (CCPAS) today announced a major expansion of their safeguarding services with the appointment of two new Safeguarding and Policy Advisors. The new advisors are Justin Humphreys and Claudia Bell. The tasks involved in these wide ranging senior management roles include policy development and providing safeguarding support, training, advice and counselling to the various individuals and organisations that are referred to CCPAS.

Justin has spent the last 15 years working in children's services, in both the public and the voluntary sectors. He is highly experienced in front line social work and has also occupied a number of senior managerial positions having attended the National School of Government at the Sunningdale Institute. Justin was responsible for the recently published Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC) guidance in relation to safe recruitment. He has also acted as Safeguarding Advisor to the Assemblies of God movement in the UK and is on the leadership team of the Riverside AOG Church in Exeter.

Claudia was previously Review Manager at a leading independent fostering agency. She is a qualified social worker and has worked in a busy London Borough Child Protection team. Claudia has an extensive background in fostering and has specialised in working with children who have complex needs that result from abuse. She is also the Safeguarding Co-ordinator at the New Life (NFI) church in Milton Keynes South, which she attends.

David Pearson, Executive Director of CCPAS, said: "We are absolutely delighted that Justin and Claudia have accepted our invitations to join us. They both come with many years' experience of, and an outstanding record of achievement in, a wide variety of safeguarding functions, both in a hands-on capacity and in a variety of senior management

positions. I am sure they will both be great additions to our already strong team as we continue to do everything possible to protect vulnerable children, both in churches and in other contexts”.

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

CCPAS is an independent Christian charity providing professional child protection advice and support across church denominations and organisations throughout the UK.

CCPAS was established in 1977. It assists churches, organisations, social services and other child care agencies as well as individual children and families by:

- helping churches and other organisations adopt safe practice in order to protect children from abuse – and youth workers from the possibility of false allegations
- advising on individual cases, giving ongoing help to leaders and others.
- training across the UK and providing “in-house” training and other resources
- acting as external consultants to denominational/organisational child protection advisors
- counselling individual adults or children about past or present abuse.

For more information, please see www.ccpas.co.uk