

PRESS RELEASE

24 February 2010

CCPAS WELCOMES C of E'S CHILD PROTECTION REVIEW BUT WARNS AGAINST ANY FUTURE COMPLACENCY

The Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service (CCPAS) today welcomed the Church of England's Review of past child protection cases, and the recommendations that stem from it. At the same time it emphasised that, for both denominations and local churches, keeping children and vulnerable adults safe is their most urgent priority – they must never drop their guard for a moment.

David Pearson, Executive Director of CCPAS, commented: "We highlighted the issue of historic abuse cases in 2007. Since then, The Church of England is to be congratulated for the thoroughness and professionalism with which it has set about the vitally-important task of ensuring that there were no possible cases of abuse lurking unresolved in its files, leaving children open to potential danger

"At the same time, churches must never allow themselves to become complacent. We therefore especially welcome the Review's recommendation that all clergy undertake 'refresher' safeguarding training at regular intervals, and hope that those other denominations where such ongoing training is not yet mandatory will swiftly follow suit".

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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.

www.ccpas.co.uk