OCTOBER 2022

SAFEGUARDING

**NEWSLETTER**

TRAINING UPDATES

FOUNDATION E-LEARNING

The Foundation course is now available via E-

learning. If you are interested in this course please contact your Synod Safeguarding Officer. The Foundation module will be available as a face to face course in 2023. Please contact your SSO

if you would like to book Foundation training.

ELDERS

The next training sessions are **March 14th 2023 7pm-9pm and October 20th 1pm-3pm 2023** .

This training introduces Elders to the role they play in Safeguarding. Please contact

[**Carrie.Kaunda@urc.org.uk**](mailto:Carrie.Kaunda@urc.org.uk) to book onto this. The training will take place on Zoom and last

approximately 2 hours. This is vital training to give Elders information about their legal

responsibilities in Safeguarding in relation to their role as a Trustee.

DBS VERIFIERS AND SAFER RECRUITMENT TRAINING

This training is provided by Matt Tuckey from DDC and Carrie Kaunda from the Central

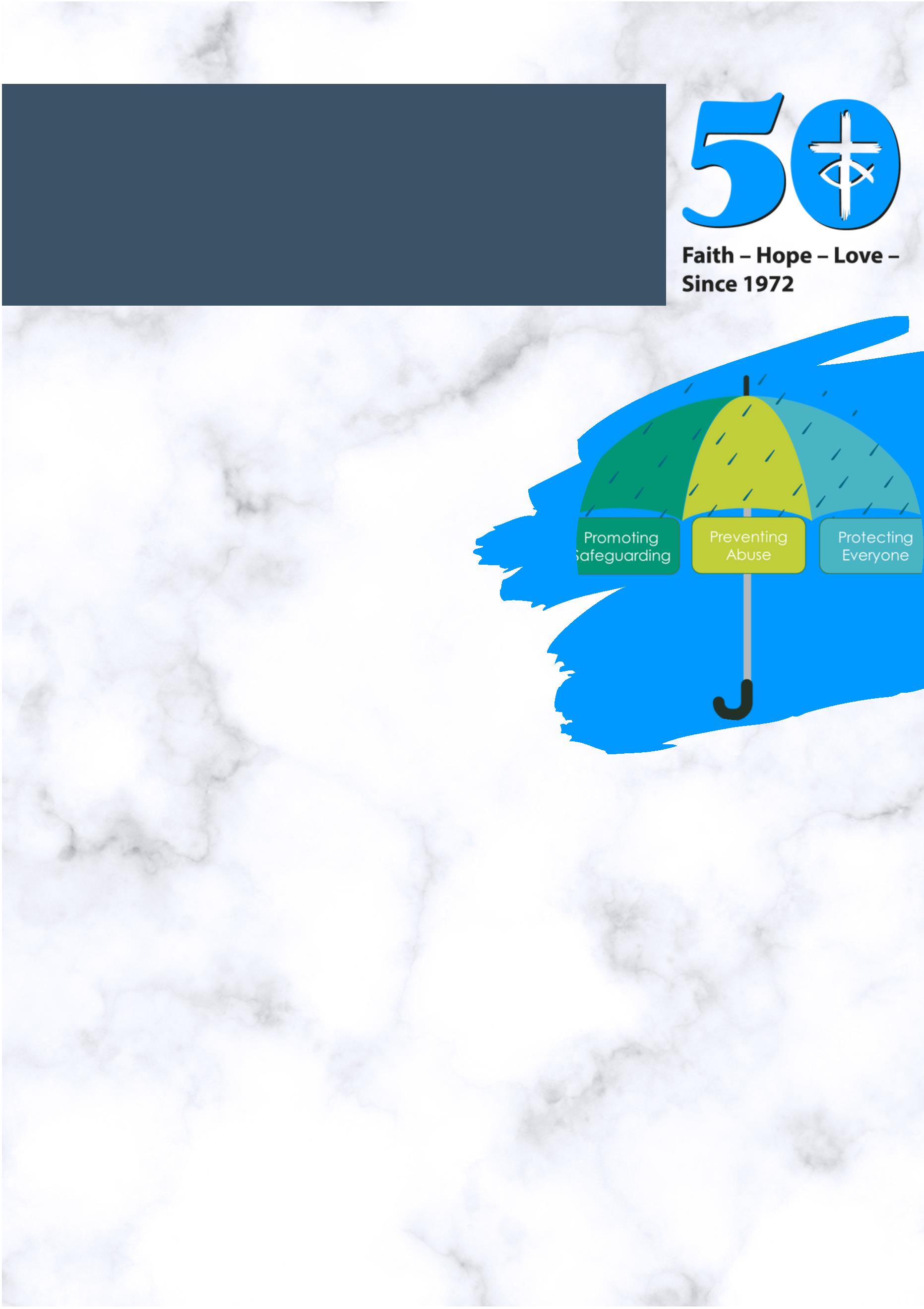
Safeguarding team at Church House. This is important for those who have a role in recruiting

paid and volunteer staff in their church. The next dates will all take place over zoom, the date is **15th November 7pm-9pm**. The session lasts two hours. Please

contact [**carrie.kaunda@urc.org.uk**](mailto:carrie.kaunda@urc.org.uk) to book a place.

SYNOD SPECIFIC TRAINING

The Foundation and Intermediate modules form part of the mandated training modules required by the URC. The below sessions are run on Zoom. **Foundation training: 3rd November 6.30pm 13th December 7pm Intermediate training: 21st November 6.30pm 16th December 7pm. Contact Belinda your Synod Safeguarding Officer to book this training.**



STAFFING

The Safeguarding Team has welcomed Kerry Baker as Policy

Development Coordinator and she is currently working on updating Good Practice 5, if

you would like to be involved in this process then please email her

[Kerry.baker@urc.org.uk](mailto:Kerry.baker@urc.org.uk) .

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SAFEGUARDING

COMMITTEE

Speak up for

those who

cannot speak

for themselves

The Safeguarding Committee had their first meeting

on 15th September. This committee replaces the

Safeguarding Advisory Group. One of the topics

raised was around Youth Work in private dwellings.

there is further information on the guidance

produced by the URC on the Safeguarding section

of the website. You can access the link opposite.

PROVERBS 31.8

[~~C L I C K L I NK HE R E~~](https://urc.org.uk/safeguarding/guidance-for-urc-local-church-activities-in-private-dwellings/)

HOSTING REFUGEES

If you want to host a Ukrainian refugee family, you must record your interest as an individual

[here.](https://www.gov.uk/register-interest-homes-ukraine) The publication Guidelines for safeguarding refugees and asylum seekers written by

Churches Together and Thirty-One Eight is a useful document to look at, this addresses

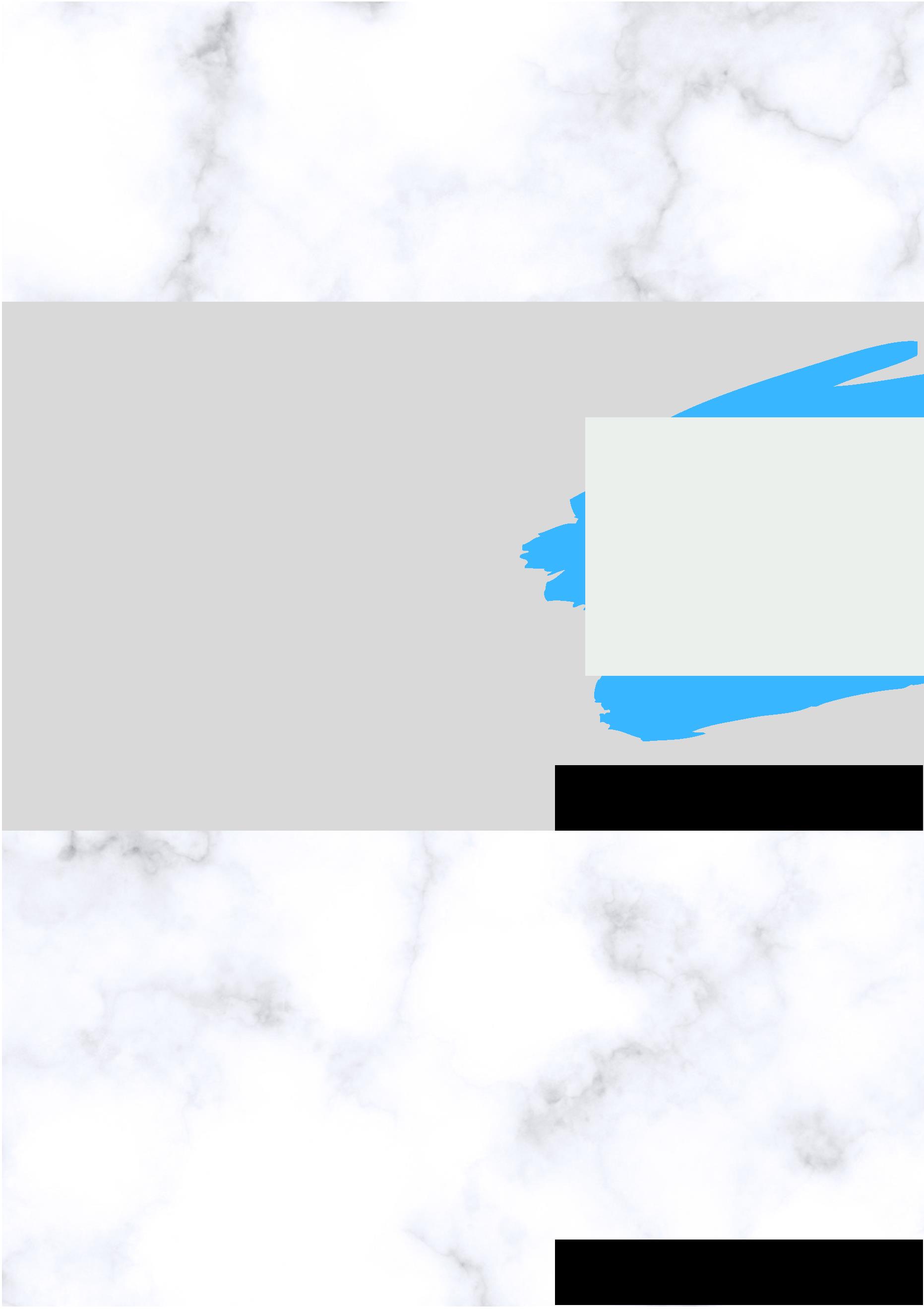
safeguarding issues more widely faced by churches wanting to reach out to refugees and

asylum seekers. The Synod of Wales has also produced additional guidance which may be

obtained by emailing

diana.taylor.urcwales@urc.org.uk

[~~C L I C K L I NK HE R E~~](https://welcomechurches.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/safeguarding-guidance-for-refugees.pdf)



REVIEW OF GOOD PRACTICE 5

We have started reviewing Good Practice 5 and are aiming to issue an updated version next

year. We will be consulting with people in different roles across the URC and want to gather as

much feedback as possible to help with revising the guidance. Further details and timescales

will follow but if you have any questions about the review in the meantime, please contact

kerry.baker@urc.org.uk.

URC APOLOGY

The United Reformed Church (URC) has made a confession and apology for the role of its

antecedents in transatlantic slavery and its continuing complicity in the legacies of the

trade today.

At its General Assembly, held from 8-11 July at The Hayes Conference Centre in Swanwick,

the URC passed [two resolutions](https://urc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/GA2022-I6-Legacies-of-Slavery.pdf) pertaining to the topic. Further information on this can be

found on the website. See link opposite.

[~~C L I C K L I N K HE R E~~](https://urc.org.uk/urc-apologises-for-its-role-in-the-transatlantic-slave-trade/)

CHILD Q

[You may have read of the case of Child Q where Met Police officers were suspended on](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-61796798)

[charges of gross misconduct for the strip search of a 15-year-old Black Girl. The publicat](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-61796798)ion

of a [safeguarding review into the incident](https://chscp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Child-Q-PUBLISHED-14-March-22.pdf) by the City and Hackney Safeguarding Children

Partnership, found racism was a likely “influencing factor” in Child Q’s treatment. The URC is

fully committed to fighting racial injustice and supports the Children’s Commissioner’s

office investigation into this.

The Children’s Commissioner has the following ambitions to improve the safeguards for

children to ensure that children are kept safe.

Ambition 1) Ensure the safeguarding of children is the top priority for the police when

undertaking searches, by amending national guidance

Ambition 2) Improvements to transparency and scrutiny

Ambition 3) Increased training

Ambition 4) Build upon the role of safeguarding partnerships

The Full Report can be found on the link opposite.

[~~C L I C K L I N K HE R E~~](https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/cc-strip-search-of-children-by-the-metropolitan-police-service-new-analysis-by-the-childrens-commissioner-for-england.pdf)

