

# Paper T6

## URC roles eligible for a criminal record check – updated

### Safeguarding Advisory Group

#### Basic information

<b>Contact name and email address</b>	Adrian Bulley <a href="mailto:adrian.bulley@urc.org.uk">adrian.bulley@urc.org.uk</a>
<b>Action required</b>	Decision.
<b>Draft resolution(s)</b>	<b>Resolution 49</b> <b>General Assembly approves the updated matrix of roles eligible for a criminal record check (as outlined on pages 255 and 256)</b>

#### Summary of content

<b>Subject and aim(s)</b>	To update the matrix of roles eligible for a criminal record check that was agreed by Mission Council in November 2018.
<b>Main points</b>	To add certain roles to those eligible for a DBS check, and to amend the level of check for others.
<b>Previous relevant documents</b>	Mission Council: November 2018 – Paper R3.
<b>Consultation has taken place with...</b>	URC Safeguarding Adviser Safeguarding Training and Development Coordinator Secretary for Ministries Data Analyst and Administrator for Ministries Interim Safeguarding Adviser Members of SAG .

#### Summary of impact

<b>Financial</b>	None anticipated.
<b>External (e.g. ecumenical)</b>	

### Background

In November 2018, as part of a larger paper about vetting, disclosure and barring checks throughout the URC, the Safeguarding Advisory Group presented a matrix outlining roles within the United Reformed Church, and the level of check required.

With the benefit of experience, it is now appropriate to update that matrix as below. (For the sake of clarity, all changes and additions to the November 2018 matrix are in red.)

**URC roles eligible for a criminal record check**

	Enhanced with barring information		Enhanced without barring information		Basic check	No checks	To be actioned by
	Adults	Children	Adults	Children			
Ministers, stipendiary / NSM and Church Related Community Workers - Active	✓	✓					Ministries Office
Ministers, stipendiary / NSM and Church Related Community Workers – Non-active						✓	Ministries Office
Ministers of other denominations employed by the URC	✓	✓					Ministries Office
Others in special category ministry posts	✓	✓					Ministries Office
Ministers and CRCWs in training	✓	✓					Ministries Office
URC Assembly accredited lay preachers in England and Wales			✓	✓			Ministries Office
URC Locally recognised lay preachers in England and Wales			✓	✓			Synod
In Scotland: URC Assembly accredited lay preachers URC Locally recognised worship leaders			✓ (using DBS)	✓ (using DBS)			Ministries Office
Assembly staff and Church House support staff who undertake regulated activity with children and / or adults	✓	✓					Ministries Office
Synod Safeguarding Officers or other safeguarding designated professionals, including Safeguarding Coordinators, deputy Safeguarding Coordinators and safe church advisers	✓	✓					Synod
Synod recognised lay pastors, local leader and interim ministers	✓	✓					Synod
Interim Moderators						✓	Synod
Children’s and youth workers (voluntary or paid), children and youth workers, stewards and drivers in settings with regulated	✓	✓					Local Church

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work with children and young people							
Vulnerable adult workers (voluntary or paid), elders and pastoral and personal care visitors where the role includes direct feeding, physical care, assistance with financial matters, bereavement support/counselling or diving to medical or social care appointments	✓						Local Church
United Reformed Church Trustees, Elders as local church trustees, trustees of registered charities providing regulated activities for children or adults at risk			✓	✓			Local Church
Serving Elders			✓	✓			Local Church
Assembly accredited lay preaching and locally recognised worship leaders in training			✓	✓			Ministries Office
Authorised Elders **			✓	✓			Local Church
Church caretaker and cleaners					✓		Local Church
Church Administrators (or equivalent working from a Church Office)					✓		Local Church
Church Treasurers					✓		Local Church
Synod Treasurers					✓		Synod

Frequency criteria: Once a week or more; intensive – four days or more in a 30 day period; or overnight – between the hours of 02:00 and 06:00.

\*\* Authorised Elders – it has been the practice of the United Reformed Church to authorise elders and lay preachers occasionally to preside at the sacraments of communion and baptism