

The United Reformed Church

Safeguarding clause for letting agreements



**GOOD
PRACTICE 6
SA6**

The updated wording below has been agreed following consultation with legal advisors, insurance brokers, PLATO (network for Property, Legal, Administrative and Trust Officers) and the Law and Polity Advisory Group.

Safeguarding

1. The Hirer is responsible for ensuring that when children, young people or adults at risk are present on the premises all legislation and best practice in connection with their safeguarding, supervision and safety is observed.
2. The Hirer is responsible for ensuring that children, young people and adults are protected at all times by taking all necessary steps and by having an appropriate insurance policy in place.
3. The Hirer must respond, record and report to the statutory agencies and to the church safeguarding co-ordinator without delay every complaint/concern/investigation associated with the Hirer's activities on the church premises which suggests that a child, young person or adult at risk has been harmed or is at risk of harm. The hirer must also co-operate with the police and Children's and Adult Services in any investigation and inform the Church Safeguarding Co-ordinator of its outcome.
4. The Hirer must as a minimum follow safer recruitment practices for all staff and volunteers involved in leading their activity including all those who require a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check for the role they are undertaking (see www.gov.uk/government/collections/dbs-eligibility-guidance).
5. The Hirer must abide by their own safeguarding policy if they have one. In any event, the Hirer must as a minimum comply with clauses 1-4 above which are safeguarding good practice standards and which must be read alongside and applied together with the URC Good Practice guidance issued from time to time (see below).
6. The Hirer will provide a copy of their insurance and safeguarding policies, and other documents in accordance with URC Good Practice guidance, to the Church Safeguarding Coordinator for information only, to enable the Church Safeguarding Coordinator to verify the existence of such documents. In providing a copy of their safeguarding policy, the Hirer will highlight those areas within the policy which specifically address clauses 3 and 4 above. For the avoidance of doubt, the Church Safeguarding Coordinator in receiving a copy of the Hirer's safeguarding policy or insurance does not warrant to undertake a detailed review of the documents to assess the suitability of the documents, etc, or assume any responsibility for the Hirer's obligations under clauses 1-5 above whatsoever. The responsibility for implementing, maintaining and adhering to all legislation and best practice in connection with safeguarding, supervision and safety associated with the Hirer's activities on the church premises lies solely with the Hirer.

(See www.urc.org.uk/safeguarding for further information. The Good Practice guidance includes a model safeguarding policy, information about contacting statutory agencies, reporting, safer recruitment practices, etc).

The Church Safeguarding Coordinator is:

Their contact details are: