

Chryston Parish Church

Kirk Session Meeting – 6 October 2026: Safeguarding Co-ordinator's Report

1. Summer Activities

Between mid-June and mid-August, the following activities took place:

- *It's Your Move* (P7 activity)
- Chryston Gala Day
- Chryston Primary School Fair
- Magnitude
- Holiday Club
- Youth Café
- Something Different

All associated paperwork—including Job Descriptions, Consent Forms and Risk Assessments—was completed and stored securely.

No action required

2. PVGs and Training

a. PVG Updates

The following volunteers had their PVG granted or updated:

- Cameron Hann – Children (01/06/2026)
- Fiona Buchanan – Safeguarding Panel (updated 03/06/2026)

b. Introductory Safeguarding Training

The following volunteers completed their Introductory Safeguarding Training:

- David Ferries – 03/06/2026
- Cameron Hann – Date to be confirmed
- Archie Black – 27/07/2026

c. Congregational PVG Register (SG07)

The Kirk Session has a legal responsibility to ensure that only those in regulated roles remain on the SG07 Register. Scott Troup was removed from the Register following completion of the Leaver's Form (SG22) on 23 July 2026. This was submitted to the Safeguarding Service.

Action: 2a-2c require to be included in the Kirk Session minutes.

3. Joint Working Agreements (JWAs)

- The Safeguarding Service advised that they cannot provide guidance on Joint Working Agreements and directed us to the Law Department, our insurer, and the Kirk Session.
- I contacted the Law Department on 03/09/2026 for initial advice. My request was passed to the appropriate solicitor the following day. A very lengthy response was received on 29/09/26 which I will share with the YPFW Team.

Action: Mhairi to summarise response and share with Martin and the YPFW Team

4. Safeguarding Panel Meetings

Two Safeguarding Panel Meetings have taken place since the last Kirk Session meeting:

- 16 June 2026
- 7 September 2026

Minutes are available.

The Panel agreed that a short Safeguarding summary should be produced, outlining:

- Key roles and responsibilities of volunteers
- Boundaries set out in the Code of Conduct
- Expectations of the church
- Guidance on:
 - Mobile phone use by leaders and children
 - Social media
 - Transporting children to and from events

The YPFW Team is developing a Volunteer Handbook for those who work with children and young people. This will include all the aspects that were going to be covered in the summary sheet. A summary sheet is being written for those involved with the Pastoral Care. This will highlight the safeguarding regulations around visiting people in their homes, hospitals and care homes.

Action: Mhairi to complete safeguarding chapters for the Volunteer Handbook for children and young people's activities.

Mhairi to complete safeguarding summary for Pastoral Care Team.

5. Children's Images

Following a national article highlighting risks associated with publishing photographs of children and young people, the Panel recommends:

- Encouraging parents/carers to sign Media Consent Form SG19. Photographs must not be taken of any child or young person unless a signed Media Consent Form has been received.
- Allowing leaders, with consent, to take photographs and send them directly to parents/carers

Leaders must not post photographs on personal social media accounts or share images with anyone other than the child's parent/carer.

Action: Mhairi to share above policy with YPFW Team and Martin.

6. Retention of Records

- The Safeguarding Service requires recruitment records to be destroyed within one year.
- Howdens/Aviva require records to be retained for 30 years.

This conflict means that, in the event of a claim, we could be in breach of insurance requirements. Dave has raised this with Howdens/Aviva but they will not amend their wording. This must be resolved by the Safeguarding Service and I will continue to follow it up with the Safeguarding Service.

Action: Mhairi to follow up with Safeguarding Service

7. Safeguarding Service and Presbytery communication

- a. The Safeguarding Service issued questionnaires to Session Clerks and Safeguarding Co-ordinators to inform future reforms.
 - Andrew completed the Session questionnaire ahead of the 31 July deadline.
 - I completed the Co-ordinator questionnaire before the same deadline.
- b. The Presbytery of Glasgow has written to all Co-ordinators and Session Clerks to ensure the proper wording is used when confirming the Safeguarding Audit material. The following is to be recorded in the Minute of the first meeting of the new calendar year.

Name of Congregation *Date*

It is certified that Safeguarding recruitment procedures are being adhered to, an accurate record is being held of all persons doing regulated work with Children and Protected Adults in Organisations under the jurisdiction of the Kirk Session, and that the Congregation's Safeguarding Co-ordinator is appropriately trained to allow that person to be accredited as an authorised signatory for PVG Scheme record checks. This statement was read to the Kirk Session by The Moderator and it was thereafter confirmed by XXXXXXXXXX, Safeguarding Co-ordinator, that the statement was correct, and that it was being implemented in Name of Congregation.

Co-ordinator (XXXXXXXXXXXXX)

Action: Andrew and Mark to confirm Audit information is accurate. This is to be minuted in first meeting of 2027

8. Meeting with Martin Carr

I met with Martin to outline the main aspects of safeguarding. As this meeting took place before his official start date, the discussion was necessarily brief. A more detailed meeting will be arranged once Martin has had time to plan with the YPFW Team.

Action: Mhairi to follow up with Martin

9. Harvest Ministries – OSCR Report

OSCR has published its inquiry report into Harvest Ministries Limited (SC004545), following safeguarding concerns raised at River Church in Banff. The report emphasises the importance of:

- Robust safeguarding procedures
- Clear decision-making
- Effective record-keeping
- Proper management of conflicts of interest

It is essential that we follow all safeguarding instructions.

Action: Mhairi to continue to monitor safeguarding documentation

10. Recent Events

The Safeguarding Service expressed satisfaction with how the church handled the situation involving Scott Troup. They acknowledged:

- The support provided to Jen and her family
- The prompt submission of all requested evidence and documentation
- The considerable efforts made by the church to support Scott since his appointment, particularly over the past 18 months

No action required

11. Raising a Concern

A draft paper titled *Raising a Concern* is attached to this report. It is intended for distribution to the congregation in the coming weeks. The Session is invited to provide comments.

Action: comments are invited from the Kirk Session

12. E-Learning: Domestic Abuse

The Safeguarding Service has contacted all Co-ordinators to recommend the use of free e-learning modules on recognising and responding to domestic abuse. These are available on the Church of Scotland website. These resources highlight warning signs and help build awareness.

Link: [Domestic Abuse Awareness - Ascend](#)

Action: the Session is encouraged to view e-learning modules. Mhairi will share the link with the YPFW Team.