

United Reformed Church



Annual Safeguarding Return 2023 -

England and Wales

The accounting period is

01/01/2023 to 31/12/2023

Completing the URC Annual Church Safeguarding Return is your opportunity to highlight the hard work that has gone into safeguarding your church in the past year, as well as an opportunity to identify areas where you may need advice and assistance. The submitted form is sent to and reviewed by your Synod Safeguarding Officer and entered onto the URC Database. The information is assessed and used to standardise our collective ability to identify safeguarding issues within our churches and protect those most at risk, both children and adults. Church Safeguarding Coordinator and DBS verifier details are also collated and entered onto the URC database to ensure that the information on those who oversee safeguarding in each church is accurate. The Church Secretary will be making sure these details are correct and up to date and the individual/s is/are aware of the Data

3. Safeguarding Concerns/allegations: Children and Adults at risk

If you have had a safeguarding concern within your church in the accounting period 01/01/2023 to 31/12/2023, it is recommended that you use the Safeguarding Incident/ Concern Form (GP6 Form F1 <https://urc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/F1.pdf>) to record the information. The Annual Church Safeguarding Return requires you to state the number of safeguarding concerns/ allegations relating to children and adults at risk .

Please identify the categories of abuse relating to the safeguarding concerns/ allegations for children and adults separately.

Please also detail how much information you have shared with the Synod Safeguarding Officer and other agencies.

4. Risk management

It is important that churches, with the assistance of the Synod Safeguarding Officer, ensure that we adequately protect those within our congregation who may be at risk from certain people being involved in



3.0 Safeguarding concerns/allegations:

Children and Adults at risk

Every field must be completed.

3.1 Has your church had any safeguarding concerns/ allegations in the accounting period 01/01/2023 to 31/12/2023?

Yes No

If yes, state the number of concerns/allegations in each category

| | Adults at risk | Child |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 3.2 Sexual Exploitation | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| 3.3 Discriminatory Abuse | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| 3.4 Domestic Abuse | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| 3.5 Emotional Abuse | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| 3.6 Financial Abuse | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| 3.7 Institutional Abuse | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| 3.8 Modern Slavery | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| 3.9 Neglect | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| 3.10 Online Abuse | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| 3.11 Physical Abuse | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |

4.0 Riskmanagement

Every field must be completed.

4.1 Does your church have any known offenders involved with any aspects of the church?

Yes No

4.2 If yes, please state how many

4.3 How many safeguarding agreements/contracts with offenders or those deemed as posing a risk to children or adults at risk are currently in place as of 31st December?

4.4 How many safeguarding agreements/ contracts were started in the accounting period 01/01/2023 to 31/12/2023?

4.5 How many safeguarding agreements/ contracts were terminated in the accounting period 01/01/2023 to 31/12/2023?

5.0 Safeguarding support to alleged victim, survivor of abuse

Every field must be completed

5.1 Has any support/help/guidance been given to any alleged victim, survivor of abuse and/ or to the congregation in the accounting period 01/01/2023 to 31/12/2023?

Yes No

5.2 If yes, please outline the situation:

9.0 Training

Every field must be completed

The training matrix can be found here: [Paper T5 - SAG - Safeguarding Training Framework \(urc.org.uk\)](https://www.urc.org.uk/Paper-T5-SAG-Safeguarding-Training-Framework)

9.1 How many people in your church are required to do