

## **Role Description – Adults at Risk Champion (ARC)**

Adult at risk is a person aged 18 or over who is in need of care and support (whether or not those needs are being met), who is experiencing or at risk of abuse or neglect and because of those needs, is unable to protect themselves against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it. Adult safeguarding means protecting a person's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. To combine principles of protection and prevention with individuals' self-determination, respecting their views, wishes and preferences in accordance with Making Safeguarding Personal.

The Diocese of London (and its parishes) is committed to ensuring that all adults at risk within our diocese are listened to. The ARC is a key role in ensuring that the voices and needs of Adults at risk are heard.

Each Parochial Church Council (PCC) should appoint an 'ARC' who will give adults at risk a voice within the work of the parish and is there to ensure the question 'How does this impact on our adults at risk?' is always asked. We would recommend that the person fulfilling this role is not the Church Safeguarding Officer.

This is a voluntary role responsible to Name (Parish Priest).

### **Main Responsibilities.**

- To engage and build positive relationships with adults at risk and other members of the congregation and parish.
- To actively communicate with adults at risk and ensure that their perspectives and wishes are reflected.
- To raise the profile of their role in the parish by providing information about the activities for adults at risk that are available (i.e. articles in the weekly notices / parish magazine).
- Be responsible for asking the necessary questions to ensure the presence, needs and interests of adults at risk are recognised and promoted within the parish, attending a PCC meeting at least twice a year in order to achieve this. (One of which should be the meeting at which the safeguarding policy is discussed and reviewed.)
- Work closely and confidentially with the Church Safeguarding Officer and parish clergy to inform / report / discuss any concerns, seeking support and advice when necessary.
- To keep up-to-date with developments in ministry with adults at risk in the Diocese and with other organisations.

### **Preferred qualities / skills for the role of ARC.**

- Be a regular member of the congregation, demonstrating a commitment to the parish's work with adults at risk. They should also show respect for, and empathy with adults at risk.
- Have the necessary communication skills to be able to speak with adults at risk and be able to clearly state their needs.
- Be willing to undergo training in Safeguarding initially on appointment and then to regularly update this knowledge (at least every 3 years).
- ***This role requires a criminal records disclosure to be requested.***