

# Past Cases Review 2 Statement

Protocols and practice guidance for the Church of England's Past Cases Review 2, (PCR2) have been published today [1 August 2019]. Individuals who wish to make representations to the PCR2 process or who need to come forward with information or make any disclosures regarding church related abuse are encouraged to make direct contact with their [diocesan safeguarding adviser](#). However, recognising that this may not feel safe for those with a lived experience of abuse from within the church, a dedicated telephone helpline - **0800 80 20 20** - operated independently from the church, by the NSPCC, has been set up.

Anyone can use the helpline to provide information or to raise concerns regarding abuse within the Church of England context; whether they are reporting issues relating to children, adults or seeking to whistle blow about poor safeguarding practice. Survivors were not invited to contribute to the 2007-2009 PCR and the Church has wanted to ensure a different, trauma informed approach is taken by PCR2. Listening to survivor voices has helped to shape how this review will be conducted.

The issuing of this guidance is just part of the ongoing scrutiny work around past cases across the Church, and follows [a report in 2018 into the original PCR](#) (2007-2009) which revealed shortcomings both in the process and final result.

Seven dioceses were asked to repeat a full Past Cases Review with work already underway based on draft guidance. The final guidance directs all dioceses on steps that must be taken to independently review all outstanding files. PCR2 must be completed by the end of 2020.

The telephone helpline number and details of how to make contact directly with the diocesan safeguarding team will be promoted locally by each diocese.

Bishop Mark Sowerby, chair of the PCR2 Management Board said: "It is the aspiration of the Archbishops' Council that by the end of the PCR2 process, independent review work will have been carried out in every diocese and church institution within both the letter and the spirit of the protocol and practice guidance.

PCR2 is a central part of the church's proactive approach to identifying where abuse allegations have not been managed appropriately or safely.

## **Key documents:**

[PCR2 Protocol and Practice Guidance](#)

[PCR2 Background and Overview](#)

[PCR2 Full Appendices for Practice Guidance](#)