

EUROPE NORTH AREA PRESIDENCY
A3 Glory Park Avenue
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United Kingdom

28th July 2023

To: Area Seventies & Stake Presidents in the United Kingdom

Dear Brethren.

## **Updated Safeguarding Policies & Procedures**

The updated safeguarding policies and procedures took effect on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023. We encourage all to review and follow the implementation steps set out in our 20<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023 letters to Church leaders.

Criminal record checking, meaning DBS checking in England and Wales, Isle of Man, Channel Islands and Northern Ireland, and PVG scheme checking in Scotland has commenced ("hereafter DBS checking"). Church leaders and members can learn more about DBS checking by viewing the information that is now available at <a href="www.dbs.checking.uk">www.dbs.checking.uk</a> or <a href="www.uk.churchofjesuschrist.org/safeguarding">www.uk.churchofjesuschrist.org/safeguarding</a>, then clicking on the tile marked "Criminal Record Checks." Here you will find detailed information, including step by step guides on DBS checking, for leaders and members use.

As previously stated, stakes will be contacted individually about their start date for DBS checking for those serving in eligible callings as at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023. The step-by-step guide refers to these callings as "First, bulk submission of calling." For those called on or after 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023, who will work with children, youth or vulnerable adults, a DBS check must first be completed pursuant to the updated safeguarding policies and procedures prior to service. The step-by-step guides refer to these callings as "Standard calling procedure."

If you have any questions regarding DBS checking, please review the step-by-step guides which includes an FAQ section that answers common questions and concerns. Alternatively, you can contact Andrew or Russell Ford at the abuse helpline: <a href="mailto:theabusehelpline@gmail.com">theabusehelpline@gmail.com</a>.

Please be sure to share this with your Bishops and Branch Presidents, and others who may need to know.

With love,

THE EUROPE NORTH AREA PRESIDENCY

Scott D. Whiting First Counselor

Hans T. Boom *President* 

Alan T. Phillips Second Counselor