

STANDARD 7

QUALITY ASSURING COMPLIANCE WITH THE STANDARDS GUIDANCE FOR INDICATOR 7.1

7.1B Guidance on Compliance Visits by the Church Authority

Each Church authority should regularly visit parishes/community houses/ministries to ensure that there is an awareness of child safeguarding, and that effective practice is being implemented. It is important that these visits are outlined in the annual three-year child safeguarding plan (Guidance 7.2A Template 1).

It is advised that the Church authority has a checklist of items to examine during these visits. This list may include, for example:

- The attendance register (1.4A Template 2);
- Safeguarding posters (6.2A Template 2);
- Codes of conduct for groups of children (Guidance 1.2A, 1.3A);
- A copy of the previous year's annual child safeguarding audit from the local area (7.1C Template 1).

This visit should, as far as possible, involve local people such as LSRs, alongside the parish priest or local superior, to allow the Church authority the opportunity to recognise good practice, and to thank those involved for their work in maintaining the child safeguarding standards.