

STANDARD 7

QUALITY ASSURING COMPLIANCE WITH THE STANDARDS GUIDANCE FOR INDICATOR 7.1

7.1C Guidance on Local Safeguarding Audit

One of the primary methods (alongside the annual report written by the DLP to the Church authority – Guidance 7.1C) of ensuring compliance with the seven child safeguarding standards is the conducting of a local child safeguarding audit on Standards 1, 5 and 6. Each standard contains a list of indicators that give details of the steps a Church organisation needs to take to meet the standard, and advises on ways to provide evidence that the standard has been met.

Process

1. The safeguarding committee will select the appropriate version of the local safeguarding audit, which relates to the indicators contained in the child safeguarding policy. These are:
 - If you have ministry with children, all of the indicators apply (blue, orange and green) as shown in **Table 1** (7.1C Template 1);
 - If you have no ministry with children but are managing allegations, only orange and green indicators apply as shown in **Table 2** (7.1C Template 2);
 - If you have no ministry with children and are not managing any allegations, only the green indicators apply as shown in **Table 3** (7.1C Template 3).
2. The safeguarding committee will forward the audit for completion by parishes/community houses/ministries on an annual basis.
3. Returns are scrutinised for compliance by the safeguarding committee.
4. An annual report is prepared for the Church authority, with a review of compliance and recommendations for further action and improvement.
5. Recommendations for change are incorporated into to the three-year child safeguarding plan (7.2A Template 1).
6. The Church authority will notify the NBSCCCI differently depending on the indicators that apply to them in the child safeguarding policy.
 - Church authorities working to indicators contained in **Table 1** of the policy will notify the NBSCCCI by the end of January each calendar year (using 7.1C Template 4) that:
 - The local child safeguarding audit (7.1C Template 1) has been completed;
 - The annual report made by the DLP has been completed (7.1D Template 1).
 - Church authorities working to indicators contained in **Table 2** of the child safeguarding policy will notify the NBSCCCI by the end of January each calendar year (using 7.1C Template 4) that:
 - The local child safeguarding audit (7.1C Template 2) has been completed;
 - The annual report made by the DLP has been completed (7.1D Template 1).
 - Church authorities working to indicators contained in **Table 3** of the child safeguarding policy will notify the NBSCCCI by the end of January each calendar year (using 7.1C Template 5) that:
 - The local child safeguarding audit (7.1C Template 3) has been completed.