## Other sources of support

If you wish to speak to someone now and do not want initially to speak to anyone in your church or diocese, please consider contacting one of the following national or possible local helplines (information correct at time of printing):

#### Mind www.mind.org.uk

Dudley Mind, 221 Hagley Road, Stourbridge, West Midlands, DY8 2JP T: 01384 442938 E: enquiries@dudley-mind.org.uk

#### Samaritans www.samaritans.org

The Worcester Samaritans, 10 Sansome Place, Worcester, WR1 1UA

T: 01905 21121

Samaritans Brierley Hill Branch, Beryl House, 8 Albion Street, Brierley Hill, West Midlands, DY5 3EE T: 01384 781111

Stratford-upon–Avon & District Samaritans, Tyler House, Tyler Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 6TY

T: 01789 298866

### NAPAC www.napac.org.uk

National Association for People Abused in Childhood providing support for adults who experienced any form of childhood abuse

T: 0808 8010331 E: support@napac.org.uk

Women's Aid www.womensaid.org.uk T: 0808 2000 247 E: helpline@womensaid.org.uk

Citizens Advice Bureau www.citizensadvice.org.uk

Survivors UK www.survivorsuk.org T: 0203 598 3898 E: info@survivorsuk.org

BACP www.bacp.co.uk Register of Counsellors T: 01455 883300 E: bacp@bacp.co.uk

### The Bridge Counselling Service Worcester

The Angel Centre, 1 Angel Place, Worcester, WR1 3QN T: 01905 731850

### The Well Counselling Service Malvern

The Lyttleton Well, Church Street, Malvern, WR14 2AY T: 01684 563456 E: info@thewellcounselling.co.uk



# Listening Service

for those affected by sexual abuse

# Listening Service

For further information on our Listening Service please contact Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser Hilary Higton T: 07495 060869 E: hhigton@cofe-worcester.org.uk www.cofe-worcester.org.uk

This service has been set up by the Bishop in line with The Church of England's House of Bishops report into the issue of sexual abuse called "Responding Well"





# l will listen – you will be heard

A guide to services and support

Edition 2017

# Listening Service

## Why consider using this service ?

The Church of England is aware that those who have suffered abuse may value and be strengthened by the opportunity to speak in depth and in confidence to a sensitive listener.

The listening service offers the opportunity to talk about sensitive issues with a trustworthy stranger.

### What is a Listener ?

A listener is someone who is aware of the kind of issues you may wish to talk about and will work confidentially with you. Listeners are welcoming, understanding and supportive. They will value you and listen to what you want to share without judging.

The listener is not a professional counsellor nor an expert in managing the complex issues of abuse.

The listener is commissioned to this role because s(he) is someone who will provide an attentive and attuned listening ear. The listener will help you to:

- Talk about your experience
- Think about your next step and support you to take it
- Recognise whether counselling is needed
- Seek professional help if wanted

# l will listen - you will be heard

## What can you expect ?

A listener will value you for everything that you are, have been and will be. You are of significant worth to God. Your listener will take what you say seriously and maintain confidentiality in line with the requirements of the law.

Your listener will arrange an introductory meeting with you for about an hour; and then, if you would like, may arrange up to three further meetings.

## How do you get this support ?

If you would like to speak to a listener please contact:

either:

Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO)

or :

Hilary Higton (Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser) t: 07495 060869 or email: hhigton@cofe-worcester.org.uk

This person will arrange for a listener to meet with you.





## What happens next?

The person you have asked for this support will inform the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and say that you wish to meet a listener.

This can only be done with your permission.

No personal information is shared; only your name and contact details will be given so that the listener can make direct contact with you and arrange a time to meet for the first time.

During this meeting the listener will introduce themselves, explain the role more fully, outline what can be offered and answer any questions you may have.

During the meeting, if you are comfortable, s(he) will listen to what you wish to share and assist in finding a way forward.

Towards the end of the meeting a factual record of the meeting will be agreed with you. This record will then be stored centrally by the DSA and held securely and confidentially.