

## **Terms of Reference for Focus Group for Survivor Strategy**

### **Purpose and role**

To assist in developing a survivor strategy for Leicester diocese and cathedral to ensure care and support is offered to victims & survivors of abuse.

To advise on plans for seeking feedback from victims and survivors about their contact with the diocese, to improve the support offered.

To contribute to future opportunities for survivor involvement in practice development in the diocese.

To ensure we meet the requirements of House of Bishops Practice Guidance “Responding Well to Victims & Survivors of Abuse” 2022: [Responding Well to Victims and Survivors of Abuse | The Church of England](#)

### **Care of the group**

The group will be facilitated in a trauma-informed, person centred way.

It will be a closed group for the duration of the work on the survivor strategy.

All potential participants will be offered an initial meeting by Shabnum and Rachael to discuss their expression of interest, what is involved and any support needs.

An agreement of expectations will be sent to focus group members.

There is no expectation that any group members will share their experiences of abuse.

Confidentiality will be maintained, except where there is concern about risk to the individual or others. No one will be identified in the final strategy.

There will be an opportunity for group members to comment on additional ground rules to build safety in the focus group.

### **Membership**

- Up to 10 local survivors of abuse connected to the Church of England
- Shabnum Popat, Clinical Lead for a local counselling agency that works with childhood abuse
- Rachael Spiers, Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser

### **Meetings/Work**

There will be an online meeting at the beginning and end of the focus group.

It is anticipated that the group will operate for an initial 4-month period, starting end of February.

The majority of work will be undertaken by commenting on written drafts and completing surveys to contribute ideas and advise on how the diocese seeks feedback from victims & survivors and on future plans for victims & survivors to be involved in practice development.

An honorarium will be offered for focus group members time.

The draft survivor strategy will go to the Diocesan Safeguarding Oversight Group for comment and adoption.

It is anticipated that the final survivor strategy will be available on the diocesan website.

Rachael Spiers and Shabnum Popat

November 2023