

The Methodist Church



SAFEGUARDING DURING THE PANDEMIC

The Birmingham District of the Methodist Church held a District Safeguarding Meeting on Saturday 16th January, via Zoom.

Please be aware of the following issues that we have been asked to share:

- Please be aware of the number of **SCAMS** that are going around at the moment, particularly in relation to receiving the vaccine. People are being contacted asking bank account details in order to receive the vaccine, or questions being asked about general health, leading up to asking for contact details, possibly NHS number details. As far as we are aware this is mostly being done by phone but there are incidents of people knocking on doors.
Please advise members of your congregation to be aware and if they are in any doubt to (a) put the phone down (b) do not engage in conversation with strangers on the doorstep.
- It seems that some surgeries are phoning people to come in for the vaccine, if it is being offered at short notice. People should be absolutely sure this is an honest call and do whatever they feel is necessary to reassure themselves.
- A reminder that most people are being contacted by post for the vaccine.
- Finally, if in any doubt, suggest they 'phone a friend' or contact the Church Safeguarding Officer for further advice.

The District Safeguarding Links are:

Birmingham District Safeguarding Officer:

Sue Holder 07508 232 773

Email: Birminghamsafeguarding@birminghammethodist.co.uk

Birmingham (West) and Oldbury Safeguarding Officers and QMC Safeguarding Officers:

Brian and Helena Taylor

Email: Safeguarding@quintonmethodist.co.uk