

25 June 2010

Dear Colleague,

**Re: Information regarding CRBs ISA registration changes to the Vetting and Barring Scheme – announced 15/06/10**

### **Vetting and Barring Scheme (VBS)**

You may all be aware that the government announced that further development of the Vetting and Barring scheme, namely the implementation of ISA Registration was to be reviewed.

We have few details of what the government review will cover but it is understood to be an attempt to enable a more 'common sense' approach to be taken to the issue of registration and the provision of criminal records information for those who are engaged in work with vulnerable groups (children and adults).

The immediate effect of this review is that ***the ISA registration of new workers is not to proceed*** at the moment.

All workers in relevant roles (according to the definitions announced October 2009 and March 2010) should continue to obtain CRB Disclosures. This means that those who need to refresh/renew their CRB Disclosures can continue to do so. More information on the categories of those required to have CRBs (and register with ISA if and when implemented) will be available after the Recruiting Safely report is presented at Methodist Conference.

This will be done by using ***the new CRB forms*** that will become operational from 26 July. These can be submitted to Churches' Agency for Safeguarding from 5 July as already agreed under the timetable for implementation of the registration requirements. **Applicants must not complete box D** which relates to ISA registration. The joint (ISA/CRB) £64 fee for paid workers will not apply but a fee of £36 will remain for a CRB Disclosure.

### **Continuing VBS Requirements**

The parts of the new scheme that remain in force are as follows:

- a) those relating to the requirement to refer those who have been disciplined for placing people at serious risk of harm, been dismissed from their job for these reasons or who may have left their job before discipline can be completed.
- b) those related to work of the ISA in assessing risk and barring, including the merging of the former barred lists and the prohibition on barred people from applying to work with vulnerable groups according to the limitations already imposed within the legislation.

### **The CRB process now**

We would urge that all ministers and lay verifiers stick to the timetable announced several months ago for the new CRB forms. Please remember the current forms ceased to be processed by Churches' Agency for Safeguarding as of 14th June, including urgent CRBs; until the new forms are accepted for processing at CAS the beginning of July. ***Therefore the old forms will not be valid and unused ones must be destroyed.***

The figures below are the total number of Methodist applications, still being received by CAS, which are now 'out of time' following the ending of the old forms as previously notified.'

W/B – 07/06/10 – 321 applications

W/B – 14/06/10 – 273 applications

CAS will return any forms that they cannot process, together with a new form to be completed, until their stock runs out. Methodist Publishing have the packs (including the new forms from the CRB) at £1.50 per pack plus P&P. However supplies are limited for June, July and possibly beyond. Therefore only up to 5 packs will be available per church before 26<sup>th</sup> July.

Methodist Publishing holds a stock of new CRB packs. These are made up from a limited stock of new CRB forms, a letter from me, a new Confidential Declaration which must be completed by all applying for CRBs, together with Churches' Agency for Safeguarding forms and information.

As more information becomes available we will publish additional Newsletters for the web and also circulate the information on VBS and related information throughout our networks.

Thank you for your assistance in ensuring a smooth transition and assisting the CAS in doing so.

With very best wishes,



**Pearl Luxon**

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