

## When to use this process?

If a person in your church, or a person interested in coming to your church:

- Tells you that they have committed a sexual offence.
- in the course of doing your due diligence checks for recruitment, a person discloses they have committed a past sexual offence.
- if you are aware that a person has had an allegation of a past or current sexual offence.
- deemed to be a risk to the safety of children and/or vulnerable adults because of an adverse risk.

## Is this a Christian Response?

A Christian congregation can be one of the few places where sexual abusers, as the recipients of God's forgiveness, can mix with a Christian community. However, that forgiveness does not mean immunity from temptation to re-offend.

The forgiveness and grace of God, mediated with supervision and clear guidelines through a local church, can be a vital part of that journey.

This demonstrates the Australian Baptist Churches' mission and commitment to provide a safe place for children and other vulnerable people to grow and shine.

## Who should we contact?

Your Professional Standards or Safe Church Liaison person:

**Baptist Churches of South Australia & NT**  
**08 8357 1755**

**Baptist Union of Victoria & Baptist Churches of Tasmania**  
**03 9880 6100**

**Queensland Baptists**  
**07 3354 5600**

**Baptist Churches Western Australia**  
**08 6313 6300**

**Baptist Churches of NSW & ACT**  
**02 9868 9200**



The definition of a Person of Concern is adapted from *the Anglican Church of Australia – Professional Standards Commission "Guidelines for parish safety where there is a risk of sexual abuse by a person of concern"*, 2010.

# An Australian Baptist Response to Persons of Concern



## Individual Accountability & Safety Agreements

