

Community of Benedictine Monks of the Solesmes Congregation at Quarr Abbey

Baseline Audit Report
August 2025

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1. Introduction

1.1 This is a baseline audit of the safeguarding arrangements of the Community of Benedictine Monks of the Solesmes Congregation at Quarr Abbey, Ryde, Isle of Wight, hereafter referred to as 'the community of monks at Quarr Abbey'. This audit has been undertaken as part of the CSSA's Baseline Audit phase of Religious Life Groups (RLGs) and reviews the progress made against the eight National Safeguarding Standards¹.

1.2 The monastery of the Community of Benedictine Monks of the Solesmes Congregation at Quarr Abbey was set up in 1907 for the French community of Solesmes living in exile in England at that time. Many monks returned to France in 1922 leaving some behind who were the origin of the present community of monks at Quarr Abbey, the subject of this audit. The Abbey is a member of the Solesmes congregation. This is a group of 30 monasteries ruled by the Abbot President and the General Chapter. The Congregation is one of the 21 congregations which make up the Benedictine Order. Order and Congregation provide support and guidance (including in Safeguarding matters), but each monastery remains largely independent. Despite their autonomy each of the congregations provide mutual support to others in the order.

1.3 As a Benedictine order the community of monks at Quarr Abbey follow the rule of St Benedict living a contemplative way of life of liturgy and prayer. The community of monks at Quarr Abbey do not provide any external ministry but do welcome guests to stay for retreats in their guesthouse, as well as providing the opportunity for individual adults to attend the Abbey to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and spiritual direction. There are currently ten monks living in the community of which five are priests who provide these ministries. Any contact with the public takes place in the Abbey confessional or in parlours with glass panelled doors. The Abbey church is open to the public who wish to join the monks for mass or prayer and is not a church for which the diocese is responsible.

¹ Full details of the eight standards and underpinning sub standards are available here: [The Eight National Safeguarding Standards](#)

1.4 The Quarr Abbey guest house can accommodate up to 20 people, however the community of monks at Quarr Abbey have agreed a maximum occupancy of ten people to be able to manage visitors' needs and expectations. Retreatants generally visit for two to three days at a time. In addition to the guesthouse there is a flat where families can stay. Under 18's must be accompanied by either a parent or a designated guardian who must provide written permission from the parent to the guesthouse manager before admittance to the premises.

1.5 The community of monks at Quarr Abbey have an intern programme that is run for young men aged 18-25 who stay at the Abbey for eight weeks and follow the routine of the house. These programmes are run two or three times per year and allow those attending to explore their faith. Interns stay in separate accommodation from the monks within the Abbey and do manual work and have spiritual direction. Before accessing the programme, interns must provide references and recommendations from their parish priests. The interns do not interact with the public and are under the direct supervision of the monks.

1.6 Quarr Abbey Enterprises Limited is the business arm of Quarr Abbey and comes under directorship of the Abbot and the company's Chief Executive Officer. The company is registered at Companies House and provides annual reports on its activities. The business has a suite of policies, including safeguarding, and a safer recruitment process that the directors have oversight of. The company employs 30 people in a variety of roles including the management and staffing of the Abbey gift shop, farm shop and book shop and the management of the land owned by the Abbey some of which is farmed. Youth camps and school visits are also facilitated by Quarr Abbey Enterprises Limited. Apart from one monk being present in the book shop, the community of monks at Quarr Abbey remain isolated from the public in private areas of the grounds. The key management staff of Quarr Abbey Enterprises have daily catch ups with the Abbot and formal meetings take place weekly. As a separate legal entity to the community of monks at Quarr Abbey, Quarr Abbey Enterprises Limited is not part of this audit, however reference will be made to its safeguarding arrangements where they are of relevance to those of the community of monks.

1.7 This audit seeks to assess the effectiveness of current safeguarding arrangements, by considering practice over the last twelve months. The Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA)² has categorised RLGs on a scale from Level 1 (a small community with minimal outreach and no known safeguarding concerns), Level 2 (a medium sized community with some outreach with vulnerable populations and/or providing some diocesan activities, such as a Parish Priest), to Level 3 (a large community and/or one with significant outreach with vulnerable populations and/or a disproportionately high number of open safeguarding cases). The CSSA recognises the rich diversity of the Religious and acknowledges that the Religious Life Groups within any category may vary significantly in terms of size, ministry, and safeguarding practice. Consequently, CSSA analysts may use professional judgement to ensure that Religious Life Groups are graded against the national standards in such a way that reflects their uniqueness. The Community of Benedictine Monks of the Solesmes Congregation at Quarr Abbey have been assigned to a Level 1 Enclosed audit.

2. Scope & Methodology

2.1 The CSSA analyst initially contacted the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) on 9 January 2025 to confirm a baseline audit for the week commencing the 6 May 2025.

2.2 In advance of the formal audit week, the community of monks at Quarr Abbey were requested to complete a Level 1 Enclosed audit self-assessment tool providing information on their adherence to the Eight National Safeguarding Standards³ and progress in the overall implementation of said standards. The community of monks at Quarr Abbey were provided with the self-assessment tool and guidance on the 9 January 2025. The completion date for the self-assessment and supporting evidence was scheduled for the 19 March 2025. This was duly received, and an audit

² [Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency](#)

³ Full details of the eight standards and underpinning sub standards are available here: [The Eight National Safeguarding Standards \(catholicsafeguarding.org.uk\)](https://catholicsafeguarding.org.uk)

date was set for the 9 May 2025. A confirmation email was sent to the community of monks at Quarr Abbey on 29 April and the audit took place as scheduled.

2.3 Information provided within the self-assessment was analysed by the CSSA, alongside additional documentary evidence provided by the community of monks at Quarr Abbey together with information from the Quarr Abbey website⁴. Further confirmation of engagement was sought from the Religious Life Safeguarding Service (RLSS)⁵. This evidence was assessed against a bespoke Level 1 Enclosed Orders Maturity Matrix⁶ to arrive at ratings for each standard and a combined overall grade.

2.4 Methodology

The following methods were employed:

2.4.1 Interviews

Face to Face interviews were conducted on the day of the audit with the following:

- The Abbot
- The designated safeguarding lead
- Trustees
- A focus group of the whole community of monks at Quarr Abbey

2.4.2 Document Review

Review of the following key documents additionally took place

- The Community of Benedictine Monks of the Solesmes Congregation at Quarr Abbey Safeguarding Policy
- Policy on the Protection of Minors and Vulnerable Persons in the Monasteries of the Congregation of Solesmes
- Abuse Reporting Policy for Monasteries of the Congregation of Solesmes
- Quarr Abbey Enterprises Ltd Safeguarding Policy for Employees

⁴ [Welcome to Quarr Abbey - Quarr Abbey](#)

⁵ The Religious Life Safeguarding Service (RLSS) is an independent team of safeguarding professionals offering safeguarding services to the Religious of the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

⁶ [APPENDIX-5-LEVEL-1-ENCLOSED-MATURITY-MATRIX-FINAL.docx](#)

2.4.3 Case Review

No new allegations or concerns have been reported to, or about, the community of monks at Quarr Abbey within the previous 12 months therefore it was not possible to examine casework during this audit or assess some aspects of direct safeguarding practices.

3. Audit Grading

3.1 Safeguarding practice was assessed against the Eight National Safeguarding Standards adopted by the Catholic Church in England and Wales and graded in accordance with the CSSA Maturity Matrix for Level 1 Enclosed RLGs.

3.2 Potential audit ratings against each standard, and the final overall ratings, are: Not Met, Met with Recommendations and Met.

3.3 The Community of Benedictine Monks of the Solesmes Congregation at Quarr Abbey have received an overall rating of Met with Recommendations

Overall Grading	Met with recommendations
Standard 1 – Safeguarding is embedded in the Church body’s leadership, governance, ministry and culture	Met with recommendations
Standard 2 – Communicating the Church’s Safeguarding Message	Met with recommendations
Standard 3 – Engaging with and caring for those who report having been harmed	Met with recommendations
Standard 4 – Effective Management of Allegations and Concerns	Met with recommendations

Standard 5 – Management and Support of Subjects of Allegations and Concerns (respondents)	Met
Standard 6 – Robust Human Resource Management	Not Met
Standard 7 – Training and Support for Safeguarding	Met with recommendations
Standard 8 – Quality Assurance and Continuous Improvement	Met with recommendations

4. Audit findings against each standard

4.1 Standard 1 Safeguarding is embedded in the Church body's leadership, governance, ministry and culture

4.1.1 The community of monks at Quarr Abbey have made clear their commitment to providing the highest standards of safeguarding for children and vulnerable adults through the safeguarding statement on their website and the development of safeguarding policies for community members and for those who work at the Abbey. The Safeguarding policy for the community has been developed and aligns with the Policy on the Protection of Minors and Vulnerable Persons in the Monasteries of the Congregation of Solesmes published by the General Chapter in May 2023. The policy document is clear that the protection of children and vulnerable persons is the responsibility of the Abbot and all members of the community and that they should strive to provide a climate of security and care where all are protected from all forms of abuse. The policy includes the scope, roles and responsibilities (including reporting), training requirements and safe practice guidance along with whistleblowing and the storage of safeguarding documentation required to ensure that it is comprehensive enough to achieve its stated purpose to protect children and vulnerable adults.

4.1.2 In addition to the safeguarding policy for the community of monks at Quarr Abbey there is a separate policy for employees of Quarr Enterprises Limited. This policy mirrors the community safeguarding policy and in addition includes safer working guidelines and the roles and responsibilities of staff in relation to recognising abuse, reporting abuse and preventing abuse. Training requirements are set out alongside safer recruitment practices.

4.1.3 The community of monks at Quarr Abbey have a designated safeguarding lead who is one of the community and is responsible for ensuring that safeguarding messages are shared, that training is completed in a timely manner and that all safeguarding policies and procedures are in place and understood by all. The safeguarding lead is also a Trustee and works closely with the Abbot on all matters pertaining to safeguarding for both the community and the business including safer recruitment. The safeguarding lead has completed bespoke training for the role through RLSS.

4.1.4 There are three Trustees who have all completed Trustee training and who are responsible for the governance of safeguarding practice at Quarr Abbey. The Trustees are all members of the community; the Abbot spoke of his aspiration to appoint a lay Trustee, however had had difficulty in securing a suitably qualified and available individual on the island. The Trustees meet formally on a quarterly basis with safeguarding a standing agenda item as demonstrated by the minutes of these meetings. Decisions and messages from the trustees are shared at community meetings. The Trustees were aware of their reporting responsibilities should a safeguarding issue arise and provide annual reports to both the Charity Commission and for the business arm, to Companies House.

4.1.5 The community of monks at Quarr Abbey have signed contracts with both the RLSS and the CSSA. The RLSS have supported the creation of the safeguarding policy and have advised the monks on a low-level concern that was raised. The Abbot and the safeguarding lead have attended the RLSS conferences and accessed training for members of the community through them.

4.1.6 The resident community of monks at Quarr Abbey number ten with an age range of 30 to 80 years, none of whom have care needs. The accommodation at Quarr includes a lift should this be required plus infirmary rooms where monks can

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recover from illness should this be needed. There are good links with local NHS services and access to the monastery for specialist care can be facilitated.

4.1.7 The Abbot and safeguarding lead at Quarr Abbey understand their roles and responsibilities in creating a safe environment for all however have found the transition from diocesan safeguarding support to RLSS safeguarding support challenging. They have made a positive start with putting clear and well written policies in place and by communicating safeguarding messages with the community. To build on this they should create a safeguarding implementation plan which will inform the whole community of what actions are required to maintain a high standard of safeguarding practice. The safeguarding implementation plan should include actions around training, communication and safer recruitment, and include methods and timelines for the evaluation of the success of these actions. This will not only provide clarity for the community on expectations but will support the Trustees to have full assurance that safeguarding practice is monitored and reviewed.

Graded: Met with recommendations

4.2 Standard 2 Communicating the Church's Safeguarding Message

4.2.1 There is evidence through discussions with community members that safeguarding messages are shared and communicated with them. Posters were seen in some public areas of the guesthouse and Abbey Church that had information on safeguarding and the contact details of the safeguarding lead. These messages could be more overt with a notice board inside the Abbey for example for those accessing services. There was no reference to Safe Spaces⁷ on

⁷ Safe Spaces Safe Spaces is a free and independent support service, providing a confidential, personal, and safe space for anyone who has been abused by someone in the Church or as a result of their relationship with the Church of England, the Catholic Church in England and Wales or the Church in Wales

the posters and it is recommended that these details should be added either to the posters or by downloading a poster from the Safe Spaces website. The safeguarding policies have been widely shared with all staff and community members and all that were spoken to were aware of receiving them.

4.2.2 There is currently no formal communication plan, and it is recommended that this is included in the safeguarding implementation plan to support the sharing of safeguarding messages and provide assurance that all community members, staff members and the public are kept informed. Actions should be measurable and reviewed and evaluated regularly. The creation of a physical safeguarding folder containing the safeguarding policy, guidance on recognising and reporting abuse, the complaints and whistleblowing policies, templates and forms for reporting plus the contact details for the safeguarding lead, the RLSS and other organisations that can support people would provide assurance to the Trustees that all community members and staff have immediate and easy access to safeguarding information. It would also be a conduit for sharing current safeguarding updates with all.

4.2.3 At present the safeguarding statement and communication details for the safeguarding lead are available on the community website. This could be expanded with a link to the safeguarding policy and Safe Spaces to provide more information for those accessing the site.

Graded: Met with recommendations

4.3 Standard 3 Engaging with and Caring for those who report having been harmed

4.3.1 The community of monks at Quarr Abbey have access to clear procedures that should be followed to support and care for those who report being harmed. Guidance is provided in the safeguarding policy and community members have undertaken basic safeguarding training that provides them with the knowledge to be able to manage an initial disclosure.

4.3.2 The Abbot and safeguarding lead recognise the need for those who come forward to be listened to and treated with respect. They have access to support

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from RLSS who would be able to provide guidance on accessing support for the individual concerned.

4.3.3 Community meetings are held frequently, and all community members are encouraged to raise any safeguarding concerns they have. The monks all have access to private meetings with the Abbot and safeguarding lead to raise any issues they may have as well. Confidence to do so was demonstrated at the focus group interview with all those present stating that they would be listened to and action would be taken should there be an internal issue.

4.3.4 To date there is no practice experience to draw on to evaluate the effectiveness of the policy and procedures. The Abbot and safeguarding lead could consider using safeguarding scenarios with the monks at community meetings to 'test' these out and to promote discussion on the most effective way to support someone making a safeguarding disclosure. This would build confidence in those monks for whom this is a concern. Specialised training is available for supporting those making an allegation from the RLSS and consideration should be made to ensuring that the safeguarding lead and others have accessed this to provide additional expertise and resilience in the community.

Graded: Met with recommendations

4.4 Standard 4 Effective Management of Allegations and Concerns

4.4.1 The community of monks at Quarr Abbey have access to the Abuse Reporting Policy for Monasteries of the Congregation of Solesmes (approved by the General Chapter in 2023) which provides guidance and process on what to do in the event of an allegation of abuse being made against a member of the community. It recognises the need for those making the allegation to be listened to and supported. This comprehensive document provides detailed case management processes from the preliminary investigation process through the subsequent actions that might be required dependent on the outcome. It concerns not only the

actions to be taken in engaging and working with the person making the allegation, but also those to be taken regarding the subject of the allegation.

4.4.2 The community of monks at Quarr Abbey have limited experience of managing allegations of harm and none within the last 12 months. The Abbot and safeguarding lead were aware of their reporting responsibilities to RLSS and the CSSA as well as their insurers and the Charity Commission should this be required. The community of monks at Quarr Abbey have access to both civil and canonical lawyers should this be required.

4.4.3 There is an understanding of the need to record and keep records pertaining to safeguarding incidents and allegations. Generally, the monks spoken to were aware of the need to record information in a way that would not jeopardise any statutory investigation and reported that they would seek the advice of the Abbot or safeguarding lead in doing so, however there were gaps in the knowledge of some that need to be addressed through a safeguarding training update. All personal records and safeguarding documents were kept in locked storage in the Abbot's office and managed in line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)⁸ requirements.

4.4.4 Discussions with the community of monks at Quarr Abbey showed that although a basic understanding of reporting and managing safeguarding incidents was present there were some gaps in knowledge about the current processes for reporting and managing safeguarding allegations or concerns. Addressing these gaps in knowledge must be a priority and this could be achieved by ensuring all community member have completed a safeguarding update through RLSS or other approved training provider.

Graded: Met with recommendations

⁸ GDPR governs how the personal data of individuals may be processed and transferred.

4.5 Standard 5 Management and Support of Subjects of Allegations and Concerns (Respondents)

4.5.1 There is a formal written policy with guidance on the management and support of respondents to a safeguarding allegation. Detailed processes and actions are within the Abuse Reporting Policy for Monasteries of the Congregation of Solesmes (approved by the General Chapter in 2023). These include guidance on interviewing a respondent, providing psychological and spiritual support to them, accessing canonical and civil legal advice, processes for internal and external investigations and imposing temporary and, if required, permanent restrictions on their activities to ensure that all are protected from harm. Alternative accommodation could be sought if required locally or from other monasteries within the order. Care would be taken to ensure that all their financial needs were met during this time.

4.5.2 The community of monks at Quarr Abbey have hosted a monk from another Benedictine monastery for the past 20 years. There is a safeguarding plan in place which was agreed between the Abbot at Quarr Abbey and the Abbot from the individual's original monastery. Ultimate responsibility for this monk sits with the Abbot from the originating monastery. This plan has been reviewed and updated regularly most recently with the supervision and support of RLSS. The individual has a suitably qualified and experienced mentor who is responsible for the implementation and for overseeing compliance with the safeguarding plan and it is now reviewed annually. Compliance with the plan is very good and there have been no issues to report at any time since its inception.

4.5.3 The Abbot and safeguarding lead have engaged and worked with all relevant organisations and persons responsible for this arrangement to be made and maintained in a safe manner and have shown positive leadership and good practice which was evident through the documentation and at interview.

Graded: Met

4.6 Standard 6 Robust Human Resource Management

4.6.1 There are comprehensive safer recruitment policies and procedures in place for employees of Quarr Enterprises Limited. All potential staff and any volunteers must undergo relevant vetting checks before securing employment at the Abbey. Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)⁹ checks are carried out to the correct level for the role undertaken and are monitored by the Directors of the company. Suitability of those seeking employment is assessed via interview and the requirement to provide references at point of application for a job and employment does not start until all the above have been deemed to be satisfactory.

4.6.2 The community of monks at Quarr Abbey have DBS checks completed dependent on their roles and contact with the public as per the safeguarding policy. There are five priests amongst the community that require DBS checks. At present there is no register of DBS checks that would provide the necessary scrutiny and oversight that all checks are up to date. The monks hold their own DBS certificates and although all have undergone DBS checks, not all certificates were available to check currency. This needs to be rectified as soon as practicably possible to provide assurance that all community members in contact with the public have current DBS certificates and until this is assured, mitigations put in place to ensure the safety of all.

4.6.3 Individuals exploring a vocation to become a member of the community are first invited to stay in the guesthouse. Then, if appropriate, a stay in the Novitiate for about one month is offered. Following this should they wish to join the order there is a robust process in place that includes psychological assessments, references and letters of recommendation from their parish priests and a DBS check. Further reviews of an individual's suitability take place on a regular basis throughout their postulancy and novitiate up to the point where they make their final vows. All community members are expected to adhere to a behaviour code which is currently being updated and includes safeguarding.

⁹ DBS [Disclosure and Barring Service - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/disclosure-and-barring-service)

4.6.4 Visiting clergy are welcomed into the guest house as any other visitor would be for retreats but are not actively involved in any ministry at Quarr Abbey, therefore no checks are made. Visiting members from other congregations of Solesmes would not have direct contact with any member of the public and would come with a testimonial of suitability from their own Abbot.

4.6.5 Currently there is no formal complaints policy at Quarr Abbey, however there is a whistleblowing policy. It would be advisable to have both within the safeguarding policy. All staff and community members spoken to felt able and confident to raise concerns and that these concerns would be listened to and acted on.

4.6.6 Although safer recruitment policies are in place at Quarr Abbey the robustness of those for staff members does not apply to the community of monks. Work is required on the implementation of these policies for the community of monks and the provision of an audit trail that would provide the Trustees with the assurance required to meet the standards for good practice in this area. There is an awareness that this is a current gap in safeguarding practice and the Abbot and safeguarding lead shared a commitment to improve this.

Graded: Not Met

4.7 Standard 7 Training and Support for Safeguarding

4.7.1 The community of monks at Quarr Abbey have all undergone safeguarding training apart from two members who have a date booked in for training in June 2025. For those that have undertaken safeguarding training there are some whose training was more than three years ago and in discussions with the community of monks at Quarr Abbey it was apparent that there was a need for updates to be undertaken to ensure that all monks were confident with current safeguarding practice. The Abbot and designated safeguarding lead have undertaken advanced safeguarding training as well as Trustees training.

4.7.2 Although there are some training records at Quarr Abbey, these are not current and do not provide an effective audit trail for assurance purposes. The Community of Benedictine Monks of the Solesmes Congregation at Quarr Abbey

safeguarding lead is currently compiling a contemporaneous record of all training undertaken by the community of monks so that any gaps can be addressed to bring the whole community in line with the requirements of this standard. Once completed, the training record will also help inform the Abbot and safeguarding lead of where additional role specific training is required.

4.7.3 The safeguarding lead is in communication with and is aware of the training provision by RLSS. The Abbot and safeguarding lead have accessed RLSS safeguarding training, and all Trustees have accessed Trustee training. The Abbot and safeguarding lead have attended the RLSS conferences and have used the knowledge gained to develop policies and procedures.

4.7.4 Although the key leadership figures have accessed safeguarding training and there are some members of the community that are up to date with their safeguarding training, that there is non-compliance in some areas with this standard poses a significant risk to good safeguarding practice. Ensuring that all safeguarding training is up to date, relevant and evaluated by the community as effective must be a key priority for the leadership team at Quarr Abbey.

Graded: Met with recommendations

4.8 Standard 8 Quality Assurance and Continuous Improvement

4.8.1 Evidence from the meeting minutes of the Trustees of Quarr Abbey shows that discussions take place regarding the development of safeguarding practice at the Abbey. The Abbot and safeguarding lead are aware of the Eight National Safeguarding Standards and are working towards their full implementation. Although aware of Integrity in Ministry¹⁰ the documents of the General Chapter have been more widely used to inform safeguarding practice as these provide guidance and clarity on standards of behaviour and good practice. In addition, none of the community members are involved in external ministry.

¹⁰ Integrity in Ministry is a code of conduct of Religious engaged in ministry in the Catholic Church in England and Wales

4.8.2 The Abbot and safeguarding lead are aware of the shortfalls in meeting the Eight National Safeguarding Standards and are open and transparent about the difficulties they have faced as a small, enclosed community in understanding how these apply to them and how best to implement them. They are building a relationship with RLSS and would benefit from further advice and support from RLSS to implement strategies to improve compliance.

4.8.3 The community of monks at Quarr Abbey demonstrate a willingness to improve their knowledge and safeguarding practice and have engaged well with the audit process and the CSSA analyst to understand how this might be achieved. The creation of a safeguarding implementation plan will enable them to plan the next steps effectively to reach their stated goal of a high standard of safeguarding practice.

Graded: Met with recommendations

5. Summary of Overall Findings

5.1 The community of monks at Quarr Abbey are a small community living a contemplative lifestyle in the main apart from the public. The transition from diocesan safeguarding support to RLSS safeguarding support has been a challenge to implement and much of this work is in the early stages of development. The Abbot and safeguarding lead have access to comprehensive safeguarding policies from the Congregation, and these have been used to inform the development of good quality local policies for both the community and staff of Quarr Enterprises Limited. Effective safeguarding arrangements have been put in place for the business arm of the Abbey with all staff vetted, trained and informed about good safeguarding practice. This now needs to be carried through to the community of monks at Quarr Abbey who have areas for improvement identified in this report.

5.2 The priorities for the community of monks at Quarr Abbey going forward should be to formalise their safeguarding practice into an auditable plan that clarifies actions and expectations towards safeguarding. A safeguarding implementation plan supported by robust oversight arrangements for training, DBS checks and

communication will enable the Trustees to have assurance that safeguarding practice is meeting the expectations of the Eight National Safeguarding Standards.

6. Recommendations

To support improvement, the following recommendations are made:

Within 3 months

- Ensure all members of the community have undergone basic safeguarding refresher training (either online or face-to-face) and evaluate the knowledge and skills gained from this.
- Create a DBS register for the community of monks at Quarr Abbey that details level of check required as well as renewal date. Ensure full compliance with DBS requirements where gaps are identified and ensure that risk mitigations are put in place while these issues are resolved.
- Update posters and communications within the Abbey with the details of Safe Spaces. Add contact details for Safe Spaces to the community website.
- Development of the current safeguarding policy to include safer recruitment and complaints, as well as whistleblowing. Ensure that the policy is available to the public as well as members of the community and staff.

Within 6 months

- Development of a safeguarding implementation plan that identifies key priorities and sets measurable outcomes and timelines for completion and evaluation
- Development of a safeguarding communication plan that ensures all community and staff members are kept up to date with current safeguarding developments and that safeguarding messages are shared more widely. Ensure that the public are aware of how to seek support and advice for safeguarding concerns.

- Create a safeguarding folder that contains all relevant safeguarding policies as well as templates for reporting concerns and the contact details of the safeguarding lead, RLSS and Safe Spaces. Ensure that this is available for staff as well as community members.
- Conduct a training needs analysis to identify what training is required in addition to the basic safeguarding training. Ensure that training is made available and that community members are encouraged to access additional training and development in safeguarding practice to build resilience into the system

Within 12 months

- Review developments in safeguarding practice against the eight National Safeguarding Standards to assess progress in the actions undertaken following this audit

7. Arrangements for Follow-up

7.1 In line with an overall rating of Met with recommendations, the earliest date of the next audit of the Community of Benedictine Monks of the Congregation of Solesmes (Quarr Abbey) by the CSSA is in two years in 2027. If the CSSA becomes aware of a significant Safeguarding concern or allegation in the intervening period, then an earlier audit will be required.