

Order of Friars Minor

Baseline Audit Report
May 2026

Contents

1. Introduction.....	3
2. Methodology.....	4
3. Audit grading.....	5
4. Audit findings against each standard.....	6
5. Summary of overall findings.....	18
6. Recommendations.....	19
7. Arrangements for follow-up.....	20

1. Introduction

1.1 This is a baseline audit of the safeguarding arrangements of the Order of Friars Minor, referred to for the remainder of this report as the Franciscans. This audit has been undertaken as part of the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency's (CSSA) baseline audit phase of Religious Life Groups (RLGs).

1.2 The Order of Friars Minor was founded by St Francis of Assisi in 1209. The Franciscans in Great Britain became part of the Province of Ireland in 2023. The Minister Provincial is based in Ireland with regular visitations to England and Scotland taking place. A new Minister Provincial will be appointed after the General Chapter in July 2026 as the current incumbent has completed his term.

1.3 The 19 Franciscans in England and Wales have pastoral care of three parishes, two in the Diocese of Brentwood and one in the Diocese of Clifton. They provide Parish Priests for each of the parishes and each Friary also has a Guardian, with a responsibility for care of the local Friars. One of the Parish Priests also takes the role of Guardian of his Friary. One Friar's ministry includes volunteering for The Thomas Organisation¹ in their drop-in centre. The increasing age profile of the Franciscans, ranging from 44 to 99 years old, means that some Friars' ministry is limited due to infirmity. Missionary work is primarily now supported by the provision of grants.

1.4 The Franciscans do not directly employ any staff in England and Wales. Recruitment of staff and volunteers to support parish work is the responsibility of the applicable diocese.

1.5 This audit seeks to assess the effectiveness of current safeguarding arrangements, by considering practice over the last twelve months. The CSSA 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

¹ [Home I Thomas](#) A provider of holistic recovery focused services through detox and residential rehabilitation into community based provision.

significant outreach with vulnerable populations and/or a disproportionately high number of open safeguarding cases). The Franciscans have been assessed as a Level 2 community due to the provision of Parish Priests. They completed a corresponding self-assessment.

1.6 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.

2. Methodology

2.1 Initial contact with the Safeguarding Lead of the Franciscans, one of the Friars, was made on 2 September 2025. Plans to conduct an audit visit in December 2025 were re-scheduled to 13 January 2026 to coincide with a visitation by the Minister Provincial. It was agreed that the self-assessment and supporting evidence would be provided by 16 December 2025. They were sent by the Safeguarding Lead on 15 December 2025. Additional documentation was viewed in-person on 13 January 2026.

2.2 Interviews were held with the Minister Provincial, the Safeguarding Lead, the Guardian of one of the Houses and a Parish Priest. Liaison has taken place with the Safeguarding Coordinators of the Dioceses of Brentwood and Clifton and enquiries made with the Religious Life Safeguarding Service² (RLSS) who support the Franciscans to provide effective safeguarding.

2.3 Documentary evidence provided pre-audit visit by the Franciscans was a Safeguarding Children & Adults at Risk of Abuse Policy Document 2025, a

² [Religious Life Safeguarding Service - Religious Safeguarding](#) An independent team of safeguarding professionals offering safeguarding services to the Religious of the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

Complaints policy, a Safeguarding Implementation Plan (SIP) for 2025 to 2028, a Communications Plan for 2025/6 and a Safeguarding Training Plan for the same period. Evidence seen in person included safeguarding extracts from trustee meetings, safeguarding newsletters, vetting and training records and case records from safeguarding concerns which precede the previous 12 months, and which have no or minimal current activity. The Franciscans Charity Commission report for 2023, before they were incorporated as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in August 2024, has been read as has their website³, which has a dedicated safeguarding section.

3. Audit grading

3.1 Practice was assessed against the eight national safeguarding standards adopted by the Catholic Church in England and Wales⁴ and graded in accordance with the CSSA Maturity Matrix for Level 2 RLGs.

3.2 Potential audit ratings against each standard, and the final overall ratings, are: Below Basic, Basic, Early Progress, Firm Progress, Results Being Achieved, Comprehensive Assurance and Exemplary.

Overall grading	Results Being Achieved
Standard 1 – Safeguarding is embedded in the Church body’s leadership, governance, ministry and culture	Results Being Achieved
Standard 2 – Communicating the Church’s safeguarding message	Results Being Achieved

³ [Order of Friars Minor in Great Britain](#)

⁴ 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)

Standard 3 – Engaging with and caring for those who report having been harmed	Results Being Achieved
Standard 4 – Effective management of allegations and concerns	Results Being Achieved
Standard 5 – Management and support of subjects of allegations and concerns (respondents)	Firm Progress
Standard 6 – Robust human resource management	Results Being Achieved
Standard 7 – Training and support for safeguarding	Firm Progress
Standard 8 – Quality assurance and continuous improvement	Results Being Achieved

4. Audit findings against each standard

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

Strengths

4.1.1 A Safeguarding Children & Adults at Risk of Abuse Policy Document, referred to for the remainder of the report as the Safeguarding Policy, was finalised in 2025. Numerous drafts were created, with feedback from relevant individuals, including the Minister Provincial, and input from RLSS contributing to the final, ratified and published policy⁵. All Friars in ministry have affirmed in writing that they have

⁵ [Safeguarding](#)

received a copy of the policy, understand it and agree to abide by its requirements. The policy, for Friars based in England and Scotland, is fit for purpose, giving clear guidance on how to appropriately respond to any safeguarding concerns and information on how Survivors and Respondents should be supported.

4.1.2 The Franciscans have a long-standing Safeguarding Lead in England whose role is known throughout the Friars. He can access support from the lay, professional Director of Safeguarding based in Ireland as well as from RLSS. In accordance with the Safeguarding Policy expectation, in February 2024 he completed RLSS Training for Safeguarding Leads.

4.1.3 Feedback from RLSS and the Safeguarding Coordinator in the Diocese of Brentwood, who would manage any safeguarding concerns that arise in parishes not related to the conduct of a Franciscan, confirmed a positive working relationship with the Franciscans in delivering effective safeguarding.

4.1.4 The CIO of the Franciscans has five trustees who are all Religious and are responsible for the Charity's operations in England. The CIO was incorporated in August 2024 following the newly established merger of the Franciscan Province of Ireland and the UK Order of Friars Minor which took place in July 2023. Due to the ongoing process of transferring all related documents, it lay dormant until 1 April 2025. Trustee meetings took place in September, October and December 2024 and in February and March 2025. The CIO held its first meeting on 25 July 2025, followed by a second meeting on 12 November 2025. A further meeting is scheduled for 22 April 2026. Prior to the establishment of the CIO, trustee meetings were held at least four times annually and the CIO plans to continue this practice, meeting quarterly. A Safeguarding Implementation Plan (SIP) for 2025 to 2028 has been created which is directly aligned to the eight safeguarding standards of the Catholic Church in England and Wales. Actions, those responsible for them, expected implementation and review dates are set in the SIP. The Minister Provincial said that the trustees will regularly review the delivery of the SIP and hold individuals or groups to account for its delivery. Because it is recently implemented, the SIP is yet to demonstrate that it is an effective part of driving safeguarding improvement. The Safeguarding Lead attends trustee meetings, and has done so since January 2024. He has delivered

safeguarding updates to trustees since 2017 which, in the past, have included the progress of casework and support for survivors or the development of relevant policies. He regularly meets with the Minister Provincial to review policy and safeguarding developments.

4.1.5 All those interviewed were aware of the pastoral standards document, Integrity in Ministry⁶, and said they had read it. Similarly, those interviewed could cite the steps that had been taken to ensure that their church was as safe an environment as possible, such as ensuring that confessionals were visible from the outside and not commencing groups such as Children's Liturgy until all the volunteers had a Disclosure and Barring Service⁷ (DBS) check.

4.1.6 In April 2025 the Safeguarding Lead commenced circulation of a Safeguarding Newsletter to the Friars. The sixth distribution took place in December 2025. This newsletter regularly highlights training opportunities for the Friars available through their membership of RLSS.

Areas for development

4.1.7 Although those interviewed were aware of the expectations of Integrity in Ministry, it was acknowledged that leaders could not be certain that all Friars had read and understood the document. Asking Friars to make a similar affirmation to that regarding the Safeguarding Policy, that they have read and understood the expectations of Integrity in Ministry, would offer greater assurance to leaders.

4.1.8 The Franciscans have made notable developments in developing safeguarding related policies and plans in 2025. Trustees must ensure that, in accordance with Charity Commission guidance⁸, which specifically states that each charity must identify any safeguarding risks it must manage, they have recognised and mitigated any safeguarding risks associated with their ministry.

⁶ Integrity in Ministry is a code of conduct for Religious engaged in ministry in the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

⁷ [Disclosure and Barring Service - GOV.UK](#)

⁸ [Safeguarding for charities and trustees - GOV.UK](#)

These risks, and the mitigations, should form a Risk Register and be regularly reviewed in trustee meetings.

Graded: Results Being Achieved

4.2 Standard 2 Communicating the Church's safeguarding message

Strengths

4.2.1 The Franciscans communicate about safeguarding internally, through newsletters distributed by the safeguarding lead, and externally via their dedicated website⁹, the websites of the three parishes where they minister and through posters and printed information on parish noticeboards. Their website contains a dedicated safeguarding section where the Safeguarding Policy is available, alongside a link to Safe Spaces¹⁰, and an invitation to any Survivors of abuse by a Friar to make contact to receive help and support. Contact details for the Safeguarding Lead are made available to facilitate this. Alongside the link to Safe Spaces the Friars should consider providing links to the Safeguarding pages of the Diocesan websites of Clifton and Brentwood so that any Survivors of abuse in the relevant parishes, which was not perpetrated by a Friar, know where they can access support.

4.2.2 In November 2025 a Communication Plan for Friars resident in England was ratified. This details their audience for communications, the purposes of the communications with the key messages to be distributed and how this will be done. It is anticipated that the Communication Plan will be reviewed in three years or after a major incident. The communication plan formalises the pre-existing communication activity of the Franciscans, utilising posters in parishes, the

⁹ [Order of Friars Minor in Great Britain](#)

¹⁰ Safe Spaces is a free and independent support service 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.

circulation of safeguarding newsletters to Friars and visits from the Safeguarding Lead to all communities.

4.2.3 The websites of the three parishes where the Franciscans minister all contain safeguarding information, including contact details for their Parish Safeguarding Representatives (PSRs) and how to report concerns in the parish to the relevant Diocesan safeguarding teams.

Areas for development

4.2.4 As the Communication Plan is newly created its effectiveness has not yet been formally evaluated. It is intended that feedback from Friars, PSRs and parishioners, alongside monitoring of media coverage related to the Franciscans should inform planned reviews.

4.2.5 At present the Franciscans' own website does not contain a dedicated standalone message from the Minister Provincial in support of compassionate and effective safeguarding practice. The Minister Provincial did provide the foreword to the Safeguarding Policy that has been available on the website since 2025. The CSSA were told that a statement has been prepared specifically for the website and awaits publication. Doing so will enable website users to see the priority that leaders in the Franciscans place upon safeguarding.

4.2.6 The Franciscans should ensure that their printed safeguarding materials contain all the correct information. Some of those in the Diocese of Brentwood do not accurately list the diocesan website address, which may prevent individuals from accessing the resources there.

Graded: Results Being Achieved

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

Strengths

4.3.1 The Franciscans have not received safeguarding concerns in the last 12 months that necessitated new contact with Survivors. However, they do have relatively recent experience of supporting Survivors including funding counselling and providing letters of apology from the Safeguarding Lead, drafted with the support of RLSS. The Minister Provincial reported that he has had the experience of meeting with Survivors in Ireland and that the Province have managed to secure the services of a Survivor to work with them in an advisory capacity.

4.3.2 The Safeguarding Policy has a Reporting Procedure which offers guidance on how an individual disclosing a safeguarding concern or allegation should be treated in the initial meeting. This includes that a disclosure must be handled compassionately, effectively and professionally and that the Survivor should be informed of the availability of support and counselling. Separately, the Safeguarding Policy has a section dedicated to Care and Support of the Complainant which commits the Franciscans to providing those who have alleged child abuse with access to appropriate care, advice and support. Given that the Safeguarding Policy is also applicable to Adults at Risk, and the website and SIP do not differentiate between child and adult Survivors of abuse, it is unclear why the formal support offer seems limited to those who allege abuse when a child. The Franciscans should provide clarity on this within the Safeguarding Policy.

4.3.3 Case records of concern management outside the last 12 months demonstrate that the Franciscans have carefully sought to provide appropriate care and support to Survivors, including funding counselling, and to apologise for the abuse individuals have suffered. Contact with the Safeguarding Lead has been at the Survivor's request and has been caring and compassionate. It is also evident that the support and guidance of RLSS is routinely sought to ensure appropriate care for those who report having been harmed. Due to their experience of supporting Survivors in the recent past, the Franciscans have developed a specific

section of their Safeguarding Policy which details the care and support that will be provided to a Complainant. This includes the offer of a meeting with the Minister Provincial and signposting to support services such as Safe Spaces.

Areas for development

4.3.4 The Franciscans acknowledge that any future apologies that are issued to Survivors should come directly from the Minister Provincial, with the support of RLSS and the Safeguarding Lead. To support the Minister Provincial, or his successor, in any future meetings with Survivors, the Franciscans should consider sourcing relevant training in being trauma informed to ensure they are equipped to provide a compassionate and caring response.

4.3.5 If new allegations or concerns are raised by Survivors, the Franciscans must ensure that learning is drawn from these cases, reported to and overseen by the trustees with minutes taken which explain what learning has been identified and how it will affect subsequent policy or practice. The learning should inform future reviews of the Safeguarding Policy as the Franciscans experience of previous case management has guided the current policy.

Graded: Results Being Achieved

4.4 Standard 4 Effective management of allegations and concerns

Strengths

4.4.1 The Safeguarding Policy sets clear guidelines for how the Franciscans will respond to allegations of abuse. This includes Friars reporting any concern to the Safeguarding Lead immediately. The Safeguarding Lead is expected to make any onward referrals within 24 hours of receiving the concern, unless there are exceptional reasons not to. The reference to the possibility of not reporting concerns should be removed from their Safeguarding Policy as it is contrary to the policy of the Catholic Church in England and Wales, as referenced in the CSSA

Management of Allegations and Concerns Policy¹¹, which states that all allegations of abuse must be reported to statutory authorities. He is also expected to inform the Minister Provincial of the new safeguarding concern and liaise with RLSS. If there is immediate danger to an individual, then the Safeguarding Policy mandates that emergency services be contacted. A flowchart in the Safeguarding Policy supports Friars in making decisions about how and when to report allegations or concerns.

4.4.2 Documentary evidence seen in person for this audit demonstrates that the Franciscan Safeguarding Lead shares information in a timely way with RLSS when concerns are received. Information is provided to support statutory investigations and Charity Commission Serious Incident¹² notifications are completed as expected. Updates on cases that have been open are provided to trustees for their meetings and records are stored in locked cabinets with access limited to those who need it.

4.4.3 The Minister Provincial is qualified in Canon Law and, as Chair of Trustees, can ensure that the management of all allegations and concerns are compliant with it.

Areas for development

4.4.4 Trustees must ensure that they quality assure the management of any new concerns that they receive. This should include demonstrating that they are compliant with their own policy expectations and that they also evaluate and review the effectiveness of relevant policies. They also must ensure they are consulted and sighted on any Charity Commission notifications that are submitted.

4.4.5 The current Safeguarding Lead has been in post for over twenty years and has accumulated significant skills and experience in safeguarding over that time. The Franciscans must ensure that they have succession and handover plans in place so that, when the Safeguarding Lead steps down, the benefit of those years of experience are not lost.

Graded: Results Being Achieved

¹¹ [National Safeguarding Policy](#)

¹² [How to report a serious incident in your charity - GOV.UK](#)

4.5 Standard 5 Management and support of subjects of allegations and concerns (respondents)

Strengths

4.5.1 The Safeguarding Policy makes specific provision for the expected level of care Respondents to allegations receive. It recognises their vulnerability in an investigation process and stipulates that the Safeguarding Lead should manage their case in liaison with RLSS. Respondents should be allocated a support person from within the Franciscans and aid in any legal processes that occur. This would include in Canon Law where an external source of advice and guidance would be found for them. Nobody is currently trained to fulfil the support role and the Franciscans leadership should consider how they will assist anybody who is asked to fulfil a support role to equip them to be effective.

4.5.2 There are no current members of the Franciscans subject to safeguarding plans. Concerns that have been raised, where safeguarding records were seen by the CSSA, relate to deceased members. However, the Franciscans' close liaison with RLSS in matters related to Survivors demonstrates that they would also engage with their support in effectively managing Respondents. This would include in assessing risk, agreeing and reviewing safeguarding plans.

Areas for development

4.5.3 Individuals in ministry who were interviewed by the CSSA did not know how they would be supported by the Franciscans in the event of an allegation being made against them. It was also acknowledged that in England there was no identified accommodation where an individual withdrawing from ministry could promptly be moved to and supported. Accommodation options in Ireland could be available if it was appropriate for the individual concerned to leave the UK. The Franciscans should ensure that clergy know they would be supported, as directed in the Safeguarding Policy, and steps should be taken to identify potential sources of accommodation for anyone stepped down from ministry.

4.5.4 Outside the timeframe of this audit, when the Franciscans were working with the Diocese of Brentwood for safeguarding matters, they have stepped members down from ministry when concerns have been raised. It is possible that some individuals may seek a return to public ministry in the future. Decisions about the appropriateness of return of individuals to ministry should be made based on risk assessments by RLSS and with the full oversight of the trustee board.

Graded: Firm Progress

4.6 Standard 6 Robust human resource management

Strengths

4.6.1 The Franciscans do not employ any of their own staff. Those that support parishes are employed by the relevant diocese who are responsible for their safer recruitment. Similarly, the Franciscans have no direct volunteers for their Order. The Franciscans Novitiate is in Ireland. Three Friars that minister in a parish in Brentwood were received from overseas. All were appointed to the UK by the Minister General and had a Testimonial of Suitability¹³. The Minister Provincial and Safeguarding Lead confirmed that Friars from overseas do not start in ministry until vetting checks are complete and safeguarding training expectations met. One of the Friars from overseas did not start in ministry for four months as his vetting and training were not complete.

4.6.2 Although the Franciscans do not currently directly employ staff or engage volunteers, the Safeguarding Policy does address safer recruitment expectations. This includes that Friars, and any employees and volunteers, be subject to the appropriate level of DBS check for their role and that previous employment references are acceptable. The Safeguarding Lead holds records of all Friars' DBS checks and renewal dates from the diocese where they minister. New employees

¹³ Written confirmation from a Religious Superior that the individual is in good standing with no known safeguarding concerns.

will be expected to affirm they have received a copy of the Safeguarding Policy, understand it and their specific responsibilities within it.

4.6.3 The Complaints Policy of the Members of the Irish Province of the Order of Friars Minor resident in Great Britain is made available on the Franciscans website¹⁴. Whistleblowing is addressed in Appendix 2 of the Safeguarding Policy. It commits the Franciscans to encouraging and allowing anyone to raise a concern without fear of victimisation or disadvantage. No complaints or whistleblowing concerns have been raised in the last 12 months.

Areas for development

4.6.4 Vetting and training information is not routinely recorded in minutes as reported to trustees for their meetings as they are confident that all Friars are compliant with expectations. Liaison with the relevant diocese, and the Franciscans own records, confirm this to be accurate. However, the minutes subsequent to each of the trustees meetings should demonstrate that this remains the case so that, if it is not, the trustees are promptly made aware and can take remedial action.

Graded: Results Being Achieved

4.7 Standard 7 Training and support for safeguarding

Strengths

4.7.1 The Safeguarding Policy states that Franciscan Community Members who work with the Public should complete Safeguarding Training equivalent to Level 2. The Friars in active ministry are all compliant with the training expectations of the diocese where they minister, and therefore with the Safeguarding Policy directions. The Safeguarding Lead keeps records of their attendance on a spreadsheet. He has completed RLSS training for his specific lead role which meets the Policy expectation of Level 3 training.

¹⁴ [Complaints Policy](#)

4.7.2 A specific Safeguarding Training Plan has been developed for 2025/6 which, in its introduction, recognises safeguarding training and education as a priority. Responsibility for accessing safeguarding training opportunities is left to the individual Friar who is then supposed to inform the Safeguarding Lead of any training completed so records can be kept.

4.7.3 The Safeguarding Lead circulates training events held by RLSS in his Safeguarding newsletters. However, there is no mandate that Friars must complete additional training beyond that which is provided by the diocese where they minister.

Areas for Development

4.7.4 As noted in 4.6.3, training compliance is not routinely reported to trustees for their meetings. Feedback from Friars has not been sought as to the effectiveness of the training they have received and their views on subjects for future training provision have not been canvassed. Seeking feedback and opinions will enable the Franciscans to recognise gaps and plan future training expectations for a review of the Safeguarding Training Plan.

4.7.5 The Safeguarding Training Plan states that members of the trustees/CIO will avail themselves of safeguarding training events as they apply to their role. Some, but not all, current trustees have completed dedicated training for trustees in England and Wales. Ensuring that all trustees have completed RLSS training for trustees will fulfil this provision of the plan.

Graded: Firm Progress

4.8 Standard 8 Quality Assurance and Continuous Improvement

Strengths

4.8.1 The Franciscans are members of RLSS and demonstrated that they proactively seek their support and guidance in safeguarding matters. They comply with Diocesan safeguarding expectations and have facilitated a CSSA audit to assist

them in improving practice. The recently completed SIP will enable trustees to have oversight of their progression against the eight safeguarding standards of the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

Areas for Development

4.8.2 Trustees should ensure that progress against the SIP is routinely discussed at their meetings and individuals and groups held to account for their role in its delivery. Minutes taken at the meeting should reference the progress made against the SIP. They should also consider if recommendations from CSSA audit should be incorporated into the plan and how they will identify future safeguarding improvements to be made.

Graded: Results Being Achieved

5. Summary of overall findings

5.1. The primary ministry of the Order of Friars Minor in England and Wales is providing clergy for three parishes in two dioceses. Those providing this ministry are compliant with the safeguarding expectations of the respective dioceses where they work. The Friars have recently developed a Safeguarding Policy and Safeguarding Implementation Plan. Adhering to the Policy and making progress against the plan will ensure that safeguarding practice continues to improve and develop.

5.2 It will be important for the Franciscans to act to embed their new Safeguarding Policy and Safeguarding Improvement Plan. Trustees should regularly review progress against the SIP and receive information that assures them that vetting and training expectations are consistently met.

5.3 Overall, the evidence seen for this audit demonstrates that the Franciscans have achieved an overall rating of Results Being Achieved against the eight safeguarding standards of the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

6. Recommendations

To support improvement, the following recommendations are made:

Within 3 months

- Trustees to review progress against the SIP at their meetings
- Trustees to decide what vetting and safeguarding training information they receive for each of their meetings
- Add a message from the Minister Provincial to the safeguarding section of the website
- Consider if the Safeguarding Policy should extend the offer of support to Survivors of abuse as an adult

Within 6 months

- Ask Friars to affirm they have read, understood and agree to abide by the expectations of Integrity in Ministry
- Identify safeguarding risks associated with their ministry and how these will be managed in a risk register
- Ensure Friars are aware of the support they would be entitled to in the event of a concern or allegation about them

Within 12 months

- Review the effectiveness of the Communication Plan with feedback from target audiences
- Ensure those who may meet with Survivors of abuse have attended relevant training in being trauma informed
- Review the Safeguarding Policy drawing learning from any casework that has taken place
- Succession plan for the role of Safeguarding Lead to minimise the impact of any change
- Consider accommodation options for those who may need to be stepped down from ministry

- When reviewing the Training Plan, evaluate with the Friars the quality of the training that has been provided and seek their views on what future training they need
- Ensure all Trustees have completed RLSS training for trustees

7. Arrangements for follow-up

7.1 In line with an overall rating of Results Being Achieved, the earliest potential date of the next audit of the Order of Friars Minor by the CSSA is in two years. If the CSSA becomes aware of a significant Safeguarding concern or allegation in the intervening period, then an earlier audit will be required.