



# Independent Safeguarding Culture Review

## Mission Church Morriston

Christian Safeguarding services (CSS) have been asked by the leadership at Mission Church Morriston (MCM) to conduct a Comprehensive Independent Safeguarding Culture Review. This has arisen from a series of 7 formal complaints that have been raised with the church leaders.

CSS is a specialist safeguarding training and consultancy provider that works with churches and other Christian Faith Based Organisations across the UK, supporting the development of best practice in safeguarding. CSS are members of both the Evangelical Alliance and Affinity and are working with a number of other organisations including the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC) and The Evangelical Fellowship of Congregational Churches (EFCC), More information about CSS can be found at: <https://thecss.co.uk>

The purpose of the review is to gain a clear understanding of the safeguarding processes and culture of the church; seeking to identify both positive and problematic aspects, and also to understand the range of experiences and how widespread these are. CSS will then support and work with the leadership to develop and implement an approach to safeguarding that is both legally compliant and biblically faithful. This will involve supporting the church to build on the positives and address the problematic aspects and will include training for church leaders, a clear action plan for addressing the areas of concern and support to implement the necessary changes. Once this process is complete, CSS will continue to support MCM as they continue to develop and embed a culture of safety and effective safeguarding practice into the future.

The church officers have expressed support for and commitment to the process and to learning from the findings and establishing a rigorous and timely response to the conclusions and recommendations of the review. Although we are only at the start of the process, the leadership are clearly demonstrating their commitment and are cooperating fully with the review.

The scale and scope of the review is extensive, and will, as a consequence, take some time to complete. It is initially anticipated that the entire process (including the review and the implementation of the recommendations and changes that are needed) will run through till September 2021. This will allow a reasonable amount of time for anyone who wishes to contribute to the review to do so. Both CSS and MCM are committed to hearing from as many people as possible about their experiences of the church.

CSS and the leadership of MCM are committed to providing opportunity for as many people as possible to contribute to the review. This includes anyone who has currently or in the past has had involvement with MCM. We want to hear both from those who have had positive experiences and those who have had negative experiences of the church. The opportunity to participate formally will run from 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021 to the end of May 2021. More detail will be provided shortly about how to participate; however, this can be done either in writing or verbally. All contributions will be confidential and any reference to the information provided will be anonymised and summarised with only essential profiling information being passed on to the church and its leadership.

If you would like more information or if you wish to ensure that you are able to contribute to the process, please contact Paul Harrison either by e-mail: ([paul@thecss.co.uk](mailto:paul@thecss.co.uk)) or by calling, (Phone: 0116 218 4420). Information can also be provided by the church leaders.

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Christian Safeguarding Services