



# The Charter

## Charter for the Safety of People within the Churches of the Anglican Communion

### *Pastoral support where there is abuse*

1. We will provide pastoral support for the abused, their families, and affected parishes and church organizations by:
  - a. listening with patience and compassion to their experiences and concerns;
  - b. offering spiritual assistance and other forms of pastoral care.

### *Effective responses to abuse*

2. We will have and implement policies and procedures to respond properly to allegations of abuse against clergy and other church personnel that include:
  - a. making known within churches the procedure for making complaints;
  - b. arranging pastoral care for any person making a complaint of abuse;
  - c. the impartial determination of allegations of abuse against clergy and other church personnel, and assessment of their suitability for future ministry;
  - d. providing support for affected parishes and church organizations.

### *Practice of pastoral ministry*

3. We will adopt and promote by education and training standards for the practice of pastoral ministry by clergy and other church personnel.

### *Suitability for ministry*

4. We will have and implement policies and procedures to assess the suitability of persons for ordination as clergy or appointment to positions of responsibility in the church including checking their background.

### *Culture of safety*

5. We will promote a culture of safety in parishes and church organizations by education and training to help clergy, other church personnel and participants prevent the occurrence of abuse.