



“Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore, honour God with your bodies.”1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Drugs Policy 2021

Lighthouse Church St. Mary's, Pype Hayes, Birmingham B24 0TB
0121 382 3585; <https://lighthouseonline.church>

The Church of St Mary's is at the heart of community life in Pype Hayes, and its Drug Policy wants to reflect that we in no way condone the use or misuse of drugs nor the supplying of drugs and/or illegal substances within the church boundaries.

And in that light we would want these premises and the people who gather here to be free from the pressure of illegal drugs.

We are aware of the realities of life, the weaknesses and brokenness in some of our lives, and we would want to work with those people with the help of health and drug protection services, to restore health in those areas.

We will actively co-operate with other agencies such as Community Police, Social Care and Health, together with other Health and Drug agencies, to deal with incidents of drug use and misuse.

Where it is suspected that drugs are being sold on this site, details regarding those involved and as much information as possible will be passed on to the police.

Responsibility of Incumbent and PCC

The Incumbent/Churchwardens in an Interregnum, with the full support of the PCC, takes overall responsibility for this policy and its implementation.

We will ensure that all persons and groups using this site are made aware of this policy by displaying our Drugs Policy posters. (See **Appendices 4 and 5**)

The policy will be reviewed annually by the PCC.

How to respond to drug-related incidents

If the individual concerned is at immediate risk – unconscious, having trouble breathing, seriously confused or disoriented, or has taken a harmful toxic substance – (s)he will be treated as a Medical Emergency.

If there is no risk of immediate harm the incident will be recorded in the Church incident logbook; in the case of under 18's, the parents will be informed by the Incumbent at the earliest opportunity.

If person(s) are found dealing drugs on the premises, it is the responsibility of the PCC to communicate with that person(s) to insure that such behaviour stops, and if it does not stop, to ban the person(s) from the premises.

(See **Appendix 1** for fuller information)

Link to Diocesan Policy

<http://www.cofebirmingham.com/church-life/safeguarding/>

Dealing with the media

The Incumbent/Churchwardens in an interregnum will take responsibility for liaising with the media via:

Bishop's Director of Communications: Fiona Hanscomb

Tel: 0121 426 0438, M: 07973 173 195; Email: FionaH@cofebirmingham.com

1, Colmore Row,
Birmingham B3 2BJ

Useful phone numbers

St Mary's Pye Hayes Church Office: Incumbent/Churchwardens in Interregnum

Tel: 0121 382 3585

Bishop's Adviser for Safeguarding: Steph Haynes

Tel: 0121 426 0400; M: 07342 993 844; Email: StephH@cofebirmingham.com

1, Colmore Row
Birmingham B3 2BJ

Bishop's Adviser for Youth Work/Growing Younger: Emma Sargeant

Tel: 0121 426 0400; E: emmas@cofebirmingham.com

1, Colmore Row
Birmingham B3 2BJ

Release (Drugs, The Law & Human Rights) 020 73242989

www.release.org.uk

Birmingham Drug & Alcohol Team (NHS) (0121) 227 5890

Birmingham.secure@cri.cjsm.net

Turning Point Birmingham Drug Line (0121) 665 4030

www.turning-point.co.uk

Local Police Station 101

Appendix 1

Drug Situations – Medical Emergencies

The procedures for an emergency apply when a person is at immediate risk of harm. A person who is unconscious, having trouble breathing, seriously confused or disoriented or who has taken a harmful toxic substance, should be responded to as an emergency.

Always

- ❖ Assess the situation
- ❖ If a medical emergency, send for medical help and an ambulance

Before assistance arrives

If the person is conscious:

- ❖ Ask the person what has happened and to identify any drug used
- ❖ Collect any drug sample and any vomit for medical analysis
- ❖ **Do not** induce vomiting
- ❖ Keep the person under observation, warm and quiet

If the person is unconscious:

- ❖ Ensure that the person can breathe and place in the recovery position
- ❖ **Do not** move the person if a fall is likely to have led to spinal or other serious injury which may not be obvious
- ❖ **Do not** attempt to make the person sit or stand
- ❖ **Do not** leave the person unattended or in the charge of an under 18yr old

When medical help arrives:

- ❖ Pass on any information available including vomit and any drug samples

**Record details in Church Accident / Incident Book (in Church Office)
as soon as you have dealt with the emergency and inform the Incumbent**

Adapted from the Right Responses © DfES 2003

The Law

MISUSE OF DRUGS ACT 1971-MAXIMUM PENALTIES

	POSSESSION	SUPPLY
CLASS A Cocaine, Crack, Ecstasy, Heroin, LSD, Magic Mushrooms (19/7/05), Methamphetamine (Inc. Crystal Meth) (18/1/07) & Class B drugs prepared for injection	7 years imprisonment or a fine or both	Life imprisonment or a fine or both
CLASS B Cannabis. Amphetamines, Barbiturates, Codeine in concentration above 2.5%, Dihydrocodeine (DF118), Ritalin	5 years imprisonment or a fine or both	14 years imprisonment or a fine or both
CLASS C Anabolic Steroids (supply), GHB, Benzodiazepine Tranquillisers, Rohypnol, Ketamine (Jan '06)	2 years imprisonment or a fine or both	14 years imprisonment or a fine or both

Passing drugs amongst friends is supplying. Allowing your house or premises to be used for drug misuse is also illegal.

A conviction for any Misuse of Drugs Act offence can affect future employment. Many other countries may refuse visas to people with drug convictions. Misuse will often invalidate insurance policies, including holiday, vehicle and health cover.

To stop someone committing an offence with a drug, you can either destroy it or hand it over to the police.

Appendix 3

Support Groups

Betel UK – Independent Christian Charity

01564 822 356

Aquarius 0121 622 8181

www.aquarius.org.uk/birmingham-young-people

UK Midlands charity provides advice and counselling on alcohol and drugs problems.

Talk to Frank

www.talktofrank.com; Tel: 0300 123 6600

Catch 22 – Social Business

www.catch-22.org.uk

DRUGS POLICY

It is illegal to bring drugs onto the St Mary's Church premises.

It is illegal to make drugs whilst on the St Mary's Church premises.

It is illegal to sell drugs whilst on the St Mary's Church premises.

If you do any of these things whilst on St Mary's Church premises, we will obey the law and notify the police.

This is a strict no-tolerance policy regarding illegal drugs.

OUR DRUGS POLICY

It is against the law to bring illegal drugs onto the premises, or to sell them while you are here.

We want you to have a good time when you are with us, so please remember, NO ILLEGAL DRUGS.

To protect the people who use and work here, we have a policy which we keep to.

We keep an eye out for any drugs or harmful substances and we don't ignore it if people bring them onto the premises.

We regularly visit all the inside and outside areas and if we suspect there has been any drug taking or selling we may call the Police. We may also ban the people involved.

If the people involved are under 18, where possible we may also inform the parents.

It is important to us that you understand what will happen if illegal drugs are brought or made whilst you are here.

We agree to do our best to keep the premises drug-free.

PCC of St Mary's Pype Hayes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Trev Meardon', written in a cursive style.

Date: 14/09/2021

Rev Trev Meardon, Incumbent/Vicar