

keep this all in strict confidence and said you would be contacting the Sensitive/irrelevant Social Services. Also I told them that they had every right to contact the police directly and asked AN-A138 not to return any texts which she received from AN-F20

g. I am concerned that what seems to have started off as a someone showing friendship in February this year after a two month gap had become a conversation that by the 10th of June showed signs of "Grooming".

h. AN-A138 spoke to her Grandma first then to her parents and has not answered AN-F20 and had not received any correspondence from him as of this morning."

14. I also enclosed transcripts of the text messages that AN-F20 had sent to AN-A138 which included messages such as "I wonder what a proper kiss would be like" and "when I think about you sometimes and the hugs we have". There were also multiple requests from AN-F20 to AN-A138 to keep the messages secret.

15. Following this, I stayed in touch with the ADSA while she coordinated next steps with the LADO (and through the LADO, the police). On 21 August 2017, she informed me that the police did not intend to take any further action, and suggested that it was therefore now appropriate for the two of us to speak to AN-F20 on the issue. I committed to arranging a meeting, but there was a delay in setting up that meeting because of personal (family) reasons on my part, and the fact that I was particularly busy with parish management duties during that time. However, from the point the allegations were first raised with me in June 2017, I had already been keeping a close eye on AN-F20's activities at Church, and continued to do so throughout this period. I was aware at all times that I had a

from our conversation was that [AN-F20's wife] considered that [AN-F20] enjoyed the attention, and was like "Peter Pan", rather than her thinking that [AN-F20] was grooming children. She set up a meeting with [AN-F20] on 13 November 2017, and said she would herself be in attendance.

18. I then met [AN-F20] along with his wife on 13 November 2017. I was accompanied by the ADSA, and the key points of this meeting are set out in **ACE026442**. Four key actions were agreed:

- a. [AN-F20] would write to the family of [AN-A158] through me, but that [AN-F20] would otherwise not seek to contact them and would respect their need for space;
- b. The ADSA would contact the family to update them regarding the meeting;
- c. The ADSA would draft a voluntary safeguarding agreement for [AN-F20]'s conduct; and
- d. I would update the PSO and the church wardens.

19. At the meeting, the ADSA explained the reasons for putting in place a safeguarding agreement. Her notes record the following:

- a. That "*her role is to ensure the future safety of all church community at [church A] and that she needs to be able to adequately risk assess any risk that [AN-F20] presents (in view of the fact that we now know that this is not an isolated incident)*"; and

[REDACTED]

on that occasion, the event was sold out and so they were unable to attend in any case. At the time, I acknowledged to the ADSA that the situation would need to be moved on quickly to avoid such a situation occurring again, although I was mindful the agreement was soon going to be signed. Going forward, if a meeting can soon be facilitated by my successor between [AN-F20] and [AN-A138]'s family, such complications could be avoided.

### PSO's role

27. As I note in paragraph 15 above, in August 2017, the ADSA had suggested that it would be appropriate for the two of us to speak to [AN-F20] to address the issue. Ordinarily, the PSO would be involved in such a conversation (as the ADSA also suggested to me in an email of 6 September 2017), but the allegations were raised around the time our then-PSO, [Name Redacted], was about to resign. By the end of 2017, a new appointee, [Name Redacted] had been identified but he had not been fully trained (or briefed on this case). I therefore continued to take the lead at the parish level, at least for the rest of 2017.
28. However, [the new PSO] began taking a more active role in the case in 2018. I understand that the ADSA gave him an initial briefing on the key issues in March 2018 prior to him being a signatory to the Agreement. He was then a signatory to the Agreement. In the lead up to the signing of the Agreement, [AN-F20] was informed that the PSO and the churchwardens would have sight of the Agreement.

[Redacted]