



## Policy Persons of Concern - Possessors of Child Pornography

### Background

Child Pornographic Material, also referred to as child sexual exploitation material or child exploitation material, is material that contains images of real children being sexually exploited at the point the image or movie is produced, they are crime scene pictures and should be considered in this manner.

There is some evidence that possessors of Child Pornographic Material go on to become abusers of children, in any event the Child Pornographic Material is evidence of child abuse.

It is an offence to possess Child Pornographic Material.

Consistent with God's gracious forgiveness, granted to any who seek it through following Jesus, there is the possibility that a person, who has in the past possessed, Child Pornographic Material will wish to be part of a worshipping community, part of the church, whilst clearly a person of concern.

This policy seeks to ensure that protection of children takes primacy when dealing with a Person of Concern.

Insurers may require that specific provisions be made, and agreements entered with any Person of Concern, for insurance to have effect.

### Policy

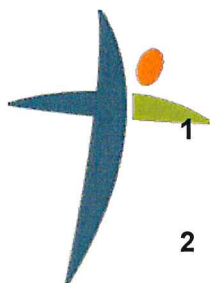
It is imperative that children and the vulnerable be protected and that protection takes primacy when dealing with a Person of Concern. It is the responsibility of the Board<sup>1</sup> to decide whether to allow a Person of Concern to join, or remain in, their worshipping community.

The outcome of a decision to permit a Person of Concern to be a part of any church must include:

1. Entry into an "Agreement with Person of Concern – Possessor of Child Pornography" – see sample attached.
2. Clear board minutes recording:
  - a. The existence of discussions with the Person of Concern
  - b. Any recommendation that the Church permits the Person of Concern to attend the church
  - c. The decision to permit, or not permit the Person of Concern to attend the church
  - d. The agreed monitoring of the Person of Concern
  - e. The agreed reporting of and on the Person of Concern
  - f. Approval of the "Agreement with Person of Concern" – signed by all parties
3. Constant and consistent monitoring of the Person of Concern
4. Regular consistent reporting of the monitoring of the Person of Concern and, in particular, including any breaches of the agreement by the person.
5. Clear ongoing board minutes recording:
  - a. All reporting
  - b. Any breaches of the agreement
  - c. All decisions arising from breaches of the agreement
  - d. All reports made to any authority about the Person of Concern

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<sup>1</sup> Board, Elders, Leadership Team – whoever it is that have the power to manage the affairs of the church constitute the Board in this context



## ?? Church of Christ

### Person of Concern Agreement – Possessor of CEM (Pornography)

1

#### Parties

The parties to this Agreement are ?? Church of Christ Inc ABN ?? ??? ??? Firstname Surname, a Person of Concern

2

#### Purpose

The purpose of this Agreement is to state the conditions upon which the Person of Concern may attend, the Church.

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#### Acknowledgements

3.1 The parties are committed to the physical, emotional and spiritual welfare and safety of all children and vulnerable people involved in the Church.

3.2 The Person of Concern<sup>1</sup>:

- has admitted to possessing and or accessing Child Pornography
- is accused of the offence of Possession of Child Pornography
- has been charged with the of Possession of Child Pornography<sup>2</sup>
- has been convicted of the offence of Possession of Child Pornography
- has disclosed the conditions of all and any court orders arising from the conviction
- has been convicted under the Community Protection (Offender Reporting) Act 2004

3.3 The Person of Concern is<sup>3</sup> a member of the church, has been attending, desires to attend the Church.

3.4 In order to ensure the physical, emotional and spiritual welfare and safety of children and vulnerable people involved in the Church, and to enable the Person of Concern to attend the Church, the parties freely commit themselves to abide by the provisions of this Agreement.

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#### Commitment of the Person of Concern to the Church

The person of Concern will not:

- 4.1 possess or access and Child Pornography or Child Exploitation material
- 4.2 visit any property of the Church, except for specified Sunday worship services, unless authorised by the Senior Minister, in writing.
- 4.3 attend any church event not on church property, at which children and or vulnerable people may be present unless authorised by the Senior Minister, in writing.
- 4.4 accept nomination for election for, or undertake, any leadership role in the Church.
- 4.5 approach or talk to any child or vulnerable person, before or after a church service, whilst on church property
- 4.6 enter any toilet or other similar restricted space without being accompanied by the Senior Minister or Pastoral Carer

The Person of Concern will:

- 4.6.1 disclose if any new or additional charges are brought

<sup>1</sup> Delete those not relevant

<sup>2</sup> Conviction may require that the church be told of the person and the agreement

<sup>3</sup> Delete those not relevant

Person of Concern

Senior Minister

Board Chairman



## ?? Church of Christ

### Person of Concern Agreement – Possessor of CEM (Pornography)

- 4.7 comply with all reasonable directions given by the Senior Minister, or a person specified below
- 4.8 meet regularly, and as requested, with the Senior Minister or Pastoral Carer.
- 4.9 The Person of Concern understands that if any person makes a complaint against him, it will, subject to confirmation, be immediately reported to the Senior Minister, the Church Board, the Executive Minister of the Churches of Christ in Western Australia and may be reported to the police.

#### 5 Commitment of the Church to the Person of Concern

- 5.1 The Church accepts the Person of Concern as a member of the Church community and encourages him to use his gifts appropriately in the Church.
- 5.2 The Church commits itself to provide pastoral supervision and support of the Person of Concern
- 5.3 The Senior Minister appoints the person/s named below to provide pastoral supervision and support of the Person of Concern.
- 5.4 The Senior Minister may appoint additional persons to provide pastoral supervision and support of the Person of Concern and will advise the Person of Concern of their identity, in writing.

#### 6 Disclosure

- 6.1 This Agreement will be kept confidential except as set out.
- 6.2 The Person of Concern understands that the Church will disclose this Agreement:
  - 6.2.1 to the Board of the Church (whose approval is required to the agreement)
  - 6.2.2 to any person undertaking the role of Senior Minister
  - 6.2.3 to the person or persons providing pastoral supervision and support of the Person of Concern
  - 6.2.4 to the Executive Minister of the Churches of Christ in Western Australia
- 6.3 The Person of Concern understands that the Senior Minister, the Board of the Church and the Executive Minister of the Churches of Christ in Western Australia, may disclose this Agreement:
  - 6.3.1 to any person, whether or not a member of the Church, where they reasonably consider that it is necessary to ensure the welfare and safety of any person or persons; and
  - 6.3.2 where the Person of Concern wishes to be involved, or becomes involved, in another Church, to the Senior Minister and or Board of that Church.

#### 7 Cessation of Involvement of the Person of Concern in the Church

- 7.1.1 If the Person of Concern ceases to be involved in the Church and wishes to be involved in another Church, he will notify the Senior Minister or the Executive

Person of Concern

Senior Minister

Board Chairman





## ?? Church of Christ

### Person of Concern Agreement – Possessor of CEM (Pornography)

Minister of the Churches of Christ in Western Australia.

- 7.2 If the Person of Concern breaches any provision of this Agreement, he will no longer participate in any Church activity unless and until an Agreement in similar terms is entered into.
- 7.3 If the Person of Concern ceases to be involved in the Church for whatever reason, or breaches any provision of this Agreement, this Agreement will cease to be in force and the Senior Minister:
- 7.3.1 will notify the Church Board and the Executive Minister of the Churches of Christ in Western Australia forthwith, in writing; and
- 7.3.2 where they reasonably suspect that the Person of Concern wishes to be involved, or has become involved, in another church, may notify that organisation.
- 7.3.3 Upon this agreement ceasing to be in effect a new agreement is required before the Person of Concern can attend any Church function.

## 8 Review

- 8.1 This Agreement may be reviewed by the parties from time to time and should be reviewed annually.
- 8.2 Any agreement reached in any review, including a variation to this Agreement, must be recorded in writing, dated and signed by all parties and the original varied Agreement sent to the Executive Minister of the Churches of Christ in Western Australia.

### Pastoral Carers

The following persons are Pastoral Carers of the Person of Concern

Name

Email

Telephone

Person of Concern

Date

Senior Minister

Date

Board Chairman

Date

Person of Concern

Senior Minister

Board Chairman