

Sample A

[LM Name] LOCAL QUAKER MEETING (sample A)

Contract for persons known to have been convicted of sexual offences involving Children – [LM Name] Meeting [date]

Preamble

[LM Name] Quaker Meeting seeks to accept all who come who come to Meeting for Worship and take part in other Quaker activities. However as a body that has responsibility for Children and Young Persons we are required to ensure that we safeguard their welfare. Thus we ask you to agree the terms of the contract set out below. The terms of the contract will be reviewed initially after 3 and 6 months, and then at 12 month intervals.

The Meeting Child Protection Group (members are currently xxxxxxxx, xxxxxxxx and xxxxxxxx) is available for you to contact at any time. You should contact one of them if you have any concerns about your relationship with any member or attender, and in particular if you have concern about children or young persons in any setting – not just in the Quaker context.

Terms of contract

- 1). I will never allow myself to be in a situation where I am alone with Children or Young Persons during any Quaker activity/event.
- 2). I will decline invitations of hospitality in the homes of parents and children associated with Quaker activity where Children or Young Persons will be present, unless I have gained approval in advance of one of my named contacts (above), and the host parents..
- 3). I will not, at Meeting for Worship or other Quaker activity, place myself in close proximity to Children or Young Persons.
- 4). I accept that the Child Protection Group has been asked to have responsibility for my pastoral care. I have been given telephone numbers of three Friends whom I can contact at any time should I require advice or support.
- 5). I understand that if I become a regular worshipper in any other religious organisation then it will be the duty of [LM Name] Meeting to inform that body with the information that you are monitored by the Meeting Child Protection Group.

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6). I understand that if there are serious concerns about my behaviour with regard to a Child or Young person this will be communicated to the appropriate authorities.

Phone Numbers.

Xxxxxxxx 00000 000000

xxxxxxx 00000 000000

xxxxxxx 00000 000000 [phone numbers of the members of the Meeting Child Protection Group]

Signed

and (On behalf of [LM Name] Meeting Child Protection Group

Date

Guidance notes

This contract has implications for elders and overseers and Children's Committee members – see separate paper [Is this the document we are adopting as 7-12?]

Implications of draft contract for sex offenders for Children's Committee Clerk, Elders and Overseers

The Clerk of Children's Committee will be informed of the names of all known sex offenders who attend Meeting for Worship, and other Quaker activities. Records of such offenders must be kept confidentially, and stored in such a way to avoid casual access.

The Clerk of the Meeting Child Protection Group and others who may be asked to do so will discreetly monitor the behaviour of sex offenders during Meeting for Worship and other Quaker activities.

A small number of Friends – usually Elders or Overseers – will be asked to provide pastoral care to one or more known sex offenders who take part in Quaker activities. Each known sex offender will be provided with telephone numbers of certain Friends he/she can contact at any time.

Any serious concern about the behaviour of known sex offenders will be communicated to the appropriate authorities. (Name and contact details of appropriate police officer to be provided and accessible to those who need to know).

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From time to time parents will be reminded to monitor their own children when they are not involved in specific children's activities. They should also be reminded that risk to children and young persons is not limited to known sex offenders, as those with a record of convictions do not usually volunteer information about themselves.

Elders need to record when a contact is due to be reviewed and make arrangements for this to happen before the expiry of an existing contract.

Sample letter introducing contract

[LM Name] LOCAL QUAKER MEETING

FROM [LM Name] MEETING CHILD PROTECTION GROUP

Please reply to xxxxxxxxxxxx,

Telephone 000 000 E-mail xxx@xxxx

Dear *[name of person]*

Safeguarding Children

I am writing to you as I understand that you have not been to Meeting for Worship at *[LM Name]* for some time. I trust you are well and able to be with us in the near future.

There have been a number of recent developments that have made it necessary to revise the Meeting policy on Safeguarding Children. In particular advice from Friends House and the Churches Child Protection Agency is that we should have a formal written contract with those we know to have a conviction relating to children.

[LM Name] Meeting have appointed xxxxxxxx, xxxxxxxx and myself to implement this new policy. We wish to explain the policy and obtain your agreement to the contract as soon as possible. I am writing to ask if you would be able to meet two of us after Meeting for Worship on the coming Sunday xxxx or the following Sunday xxxxxx. It would assist us if you can let me know which of these two Sundays you could meet us.

(I enclose a copy of the contract to which we would be asking you to agree).

Please call or e-mail me so that we can make the necessary arrangements for privacy at the Meeting House.

Yours in friendship

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Sample B

[LM Name] LOCAL MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Agreement relating to the attendance of an offender at Meeting for Worship

1. I will never allow myself to be in a situation where I am alone with children/young people
2. I will obtain the agreement of [first named Friend], or if this is not possible, one of the other Friends named below before joining any group activity or attending events arranged by the Meeting outside the regular Meetings.
3. I will only sit where directed by the named Friend and will not go near children or young people before or after Meeting for Worship.
4. I will decline invitations of hospitality where there are children in the home and will not contribute to the [LM Name] Quaker website without the prior agreement of one of the four named Friends on each occasion.
5. I accept that one of the four signatories must be present if I am to attend Meeting for Worship or other event or accept invitations from people attending Meeting for Worship.
6. The signatories will be aware that I am subject to the Sex Offender Register. I accept that certain other people may need to be told of my circumstances, with my permission,
7. I accept that contact will need to be made with my Probation Officer
8. I accept that a named Friend may provide me with pastoral care if I want it. If others need to be involved, they must be informed of my situation, with my permission.
9. I will not attend any other place of worship without first informing my Probation Officer and one of the Friends named below.
10. I understand that if I do not keep to these conditions, then I may be barred from attending this Meeting and that in such circumstances the responsible Friend will inform the statutory Agencies.
11. I understand that this contract will be reviewed every six months by the named Friends and the Probation Service. I understand that it will remain in force for an indefinite period and that a review can be requested by any party.

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Signed (person being supervised)

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Date.....

Signed (first named Friend)

.....

Date.....

Signed (named Friend)

.....

Date.....

Signed (named Friend)

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Date.....

Signed (named Friend)

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Date.....

Signed (for the Probation Service)

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Date.....

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