

Alexander Kubeyinje, an experienced social work director, has been appointed as the Church of England's new permanent national director of safeguarding. He will start the role in September and takes over from Zena Marshall, who has been interim director since January 2021.



Alexander has held a range of senior roles in children's social care including at Lambeth, Southend and Bedford. He is currently completing an interim role as director of children's social care for Herefordshire. His work includes vast experience of child protection and safeguarding practice, and he is committed to ensuring the Church is a safe place for all, continuing the work to ensure the right systems are in place for children, young people, vulnerable adults and the community to be able to worship and take part in church-related activities, feeling protected and safe.

Alexander studied at Havering College of Further Education

Commenting on his appointment Alexander said: "I am excited to be taking on the role of National Director of Safeguarding for the Church of England. I am passionate about equality, diversity and the protection of the most vulnerable in our communities."

William Nye, Secretary General to the Archbishops' Council, said: "I am delighted that Alexander Kubeyinje has agreed to take on this role at a time when the Church is consolidating a range of new safeguarding developments, particularly as a response to IICSA's recommendations.

"While we acknowledge there is still a lot of work to do Alexander's senior level experience will build on the vital work carried out by Zena Marshall who has had led the team on an interim basis for the past 18 months."

Bishop Jonathan Gibbs, the Church of England's lead safeguarding bishop, said: "I warmly welcome the appointment of Alexander as the Church's new Director of Safeguarding and along with the other lead safeguarding bishops, I look forward to working with him.

"His experience will provide continuing strong leadership of the National Safeguarding Team at a time of increasing demand and scrutiny.

"While there have been many safeguarding improvements in the past few years, we must be mindful we have not responded well to survivors and victims and that must be our priority.

"I would also like to thank Zena Marshall for her professional leadership of the Team over the past 18 months."

Biography

Alexander is the son of Nigerian immigrants who came to the UK in the 1960s. He was born and raised in Lambeth and attended school in South London. Alexander is a qualified social worker, practice leader and accomplished Director with over 21 years of experience in safeguarding.

He enjoys spending time with his wife, five children and chihuahua "Bentley". He has coached grass roots football for many years and is an integral part of his community.

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