

9. Summary of Pastoral Standards for Publication

CPSA PASTORAL STANDARDS

ALL WHO MINISTER IN THE CHURCH

- Should care for God's people with compassion and integrity
- Should avoid abusing any person in their pastoral care, or anybody else
- Should live as Christians with sound habits of worship, daily prayer and Bible reading, self control in moral behaviour, trustworthiness in relationships, financial integrity and compassion in outreach to the needy
- Need to know the procedures applying to management of money, and observe them scrupulously
- Should avoid wilfully stirring up trouble or dispute in the church, or slander, defamation or lying about others
- Should take special care in counselling relationships and where confidential information is shared
- Should keep confidences
- Should exercise special care in dealing with young people, and in situations of possible sexual attraction.

All are accountable to the church as the body of Christ, for everything we do in the church's ministry and mission. All who minister must do so in line with the Constitution and Canons of the CPSA, the rules of our dioceses, and the decisions of all competent bodies in the province, diocese and parish.

These principles apply to bishops, clergy, lay ministers, churchwardens, parish councillors, Sunday School teachers, and all other paid and voluntary workers in the church's life and ministry. These are set out in the Permanent Resolutions of Provincial Synod, "Pastoral Standards, Values and Practices of the CPSA".

The Church must provide appropriate training, support and supervision for all its paid and volunteer workers.

The Church has clear procedures for presenting and dealing with allegations of pastoral misconduct when they occur. *These can be found in Act XV of Provincial Synod, "Procedures for Clergy and Laity in Ministry", available within the Canons and rules of the diocese in the vestry of every church.*

(As revised Lent 2003)

Note: This summary is provided to help people know the Church's commitments and the steps to follow in case of problems. It should be displayed on notice boards, in parish buildings.