

# Safe Ministry to Children Ordinance 2020 Amendment Ordinance 2023

No 26, 2023

## Long Title

An Ordinance to amend the *Safe Ministry to Children Ordinance 2020*.

The Standing Committee of the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney Ordains as follows.

## 1. Name

This Ordinance is the Safe Ministry to Children Ordinance 2020 Amendment Ordinance 2023.

## 2. Amendment

The *Safe Ministry to Children Ordinance 2020* is amended as follows –

- (a) insert a new subclause 7(2) as follows (and renumber the existing subclause 7(2) as 7(3)) –
  - “(2) A person is screened if the prescribed standards of screening have been applied in respect of that person by the relevant screening authority.”,
- (b) in clauses 8(b)(vi), 9(b)(iv) and 10(b)(iv) delete the words “or another denomination” and insert instead the matter “, another denomination or institution”,
- (c) in clauses 8(b)(vi) and 10(b)(iv) delete the words “authorised for ministry” and insert instead the words “permitted to function”,
- (d) in clause 9(b)(iv) delete the words “licensed for ministry” and insert instead “authorised to function”,
- (e) insert a new subclause 16(6) as follows –
  - “(6) An audit will not be required under this clause if an equivalent audit or an audit of compliance with the Child Safe Standards is required pursuant to the laws of the Commonwealth or New South Wales and the report of the audit is publicly available.”,
- (f) amend Part 11 as follows –
  - (i) insert the following new definitions in alphabetical orders –

“**authorisation to function** means a licence or any written instrument by which a member of the clergy is appointed, authorised, permitted or sanctioned to exercise ministry as a member of the clergy and **authorising to function** and **authorised to function** have a corresponding meaning;

**Child Safe Standards** means the child safe standards in the *Children’s Guardian Act 2019*;

**denomination** means a religious body or a religious organisation declared to be a recognised denomination for the purposes of the Marriage Act 1962 (Cth), other than the Anglican Church of Australia, that holds the Christian Faith as set forth in the Nicene Creed and the Apostles’ Creed;

**institution** means an institution that is not an institution of this Church or of a Province or of a denomination;

**institution authority** means a person or body of an institution with the power to elect, appoint, suspend or dismiss a person as an officer, employee or volunteer of that institution;

**permission to function** means a licence or any written instrument by which a person who is not a member of the clergy is appointed, authorised, permitted or sanctioned to exercise ministry and **permitting to function** and **permitted to function** have a corresponding meaning;”,
  - (ii) in the definition of “church ministry assessment” substitute each instance of the word “information” with “RA Information”,

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- (iii) in the definition of “church worker”, delete the word “authorised” and insert instead the words “permitted to function”,
- (iv) rename the definition of “information” as “RA Information” (and reorder in the Dictionary to be alphabetical) –
  - (A) insert the words “or institution” after the words “denomination”, and
  - (B) insert the words “or of persons working for the institution” after the words “undertaking ministry”,
- (v) insert the following matter after the word “ordain” in the definitions of “denominational authority”, “diocesan authority” and “provincial authority” –  
“authorise to function, permit to function,”, and
- (vi) insert the following matter at the end of the definition of “responsible authority” –  
“or  
(d) an institutional authority;”

I Certify that the Ordinance as printed is in accordance with the Ordinance as reported.

R TONG  
Chair of Committee

I Certify that this Ordinance was passed by the Standing Committee of the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney on 14 August 2023.

B BOUNDS  
Secretary

I Assent to this Ordinance.

KANISHKA RAFFEL  
Archbishop of Sydney

14/08/2023