

16 June 2008

To: Captains, Commissioners, Divisional Secretaries, Executive and Camp Group Members

Dear Colleague

Use of Church of Scotland premises for Residential Experiences, Sleepovers, etc

Please find attached an information sheet on the above topic, which I ask you to read carefully. This will affect any Company who currently uses Church of Scotland halls for any residential experience and it is crucial that you follow the advice given to ensure the safety and well being of girls and leaders in your care. Please note this also includes a sleepover in your own Church Hall.

I am very conscious that this will come as a surprise to you, as it has done to ourselves and to many Churches, but it is good that we are now able to address the situation accordingly and that, with a little extra effort, we can still use facilities for up to 2 nights providing the guidelines are followed. Sadly, we live in a society that is regulated by risk assessment and insurance but, equally, we cannot ignore the rules that now prevail as none of us would wish to put the safety of our members in jeopardy.

For those of you who have used Church of Scotland premises for longer camps, etc, this provision will no longer be available but it is our intention to work with the Camp Group to provide information on premises which will be suitable for a stay of up to 7 nights. As this information becomes available it will be posted on the website.

If you require any further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Goodfellow
National Director