General Assembly extract 2006

h) new regulation 88A:

“88A

In order to ensure that children and young persons in the Congregation are kept safe, Sessions or Parish Councils shall develop and implement a Safety and Protection policy in respect of children and young persons who are under their care. This policy may include checks, including police vetting checks, as appropriate, on all persons who are involved in the care or supervision or religious education of children and young persons to ensure that they are responsible and of good character, and suitable to be involved in positions of responsibility with children and young persons.

i) new regulation 88B:

“88B

(i) All persons, who are engaged, in a paid capacity, by Sessions or Parish Councils, in positions involving ministry with children and young persons, and families, shall, as a minimum requirement:

a. Participate in a course of training relating to safety and protection issues which is approved by the Sessions or Parish Councils concerned;

b. Accept, and have professional supervision of their work from a suitably qualified person who is not a member of the parish concerned.

c. Be subject to a police vetting check.

(ii) Where the appointee for a position involving ministry with children and young persons, and families, does not in the opinion of the Session or Parish Council have a relevant qualification, or previous experience working with children, young persons and families, such persons shall be encouraged to undertake a suitable course involving the following areas:

a. Vision and goals for ministry with children;

b. Biblical foundations;

c. Understanding children;

d. Models and strategies for ministry with children;

e. Safety and protection issues;

f. Developing skills for ministry with children;

g. Resources and guidelines.

j) new regulation 172:

“172

(s) When employing any person, in a paid capacity, in a position involving ministry with children and young persons, and families, Presbyteries shall follow the requirements of Regulations 88A and 88B, as if, in place of the words “Sessions and Parish Councils”, the word “Presbyteries”, was inserted”