



## Policy Statement on Hazardous Waste



St Columba Church

Parish of Holy Trinity with St Columba, Fareham

- Hazardous litter or drug-related waste, may occasionally be found around the grounds of our churches. Whilst it can take various forms, discarded needles are of particular concern.
- Anyone finding this type of litter should not try to remove it but instead to inform the Parish Office staff. The report should indicate the nature of the waste and its location. The Parish Office staff will keep a record of all such reports.
- We believe that enabling trained staff to deal with this type of litter is the best way of protecting all concerned. Our duty is to make sure all members of our community are kept safe and secure, so informing the Parish Office should be the first option.
- At Holy Trinity, if the office is not open, the waste could be removed, in line with the following guidelines:  
Collect box containing specialist equipment - located on high shelf in Parish Centre Hall storage cupboard. This equipment consists of 'turtle skin' gloves, over gloves, a 'sharps box', large tweezers and instructions. These instructions must be followed to ensure the safe disposal of needles and the other associated waste.  
After returning equipment to the cupboard, the incident must be reported to the Parish Office so the staff can log it and also be aware of the presence of safely deposited needles in the sharps box provided.
- At St Columba there is a special pair of gloves and a yellow sharps box for needles in the clergy vestry. The reporting to the Parish Office, in line with the above, is still required.
- The Parish Office staff will be responsible for periodically arranging for the removal of the used sharps box and a replacement being put in place.

**Agreed and paper copy signed August 2021**