

HOW THE VBS & THE ISA AFFECT PHAB & YOUR CRB CHECKS

This is just a note on the changes to CRB-checking that will come into effect from **July 2010** due to the introduction of the new Vetting & Barring Scheme (VBS) on 12th October 2009.

With the advent of the VBS, PoCA, PoVA and List 99 have been replaced by the Children's List and the Vulnerable Adults List.

The VBS is a response to the Richard Inquiry, which followed the Soham murders in 2002 and recommended that "those who wish to work with children or vulnerable adults...be registered [to] confirm that there is no known reason why an individual should not work with these clients."

The VBS will be implemented by the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA), a body of trained caseworkers who will manage the new register, using information from police sources, regulatory bodies and information referred from a range of other organisations and individuals to make the decisions over who should be barred from working with vulnerable people.

From **26th July 2010** Phab volunteers can apply for registration with the ISA, using a new joint CRB/ISA application form. This will be along the lines of the current CRB form but will include an ISA registration option. As a matter of standard procedure, from 26th July all new Phab CRB applicants will be registered with the ISA. This procedure will become mandatory for new applicants from November 2010.

DON'T PANIC! We have until 2015 to have all existing Phab volunteers rechecked and registered with the ISA.

I will of course apprise you of any changes or fine-tuning to the service and its practice as they are made known to me and from July 2010 all CRB application forms will be accompanied by guidance notes.

The new service will remain free-of-charge for all volunteers.

For more information on VBS:

- www.isa.gov.org.uk
- 0300 123 1111 (ISA information line)