

St Edmund's PCC Absence Management Policy

1. Purpose of the Policy

- 1.1. This policy aims to provide clear guidelines to all staff employed by St Edmund's PCC in managing attendance and the responsibilities of the employee and employer.
- 1.2. St Edmund's PCC will operate a fair and consistent approach when managing absence. However, St Edmund's PCC acknowledges the importance of the consideration of individual circumstances and, where appropriate, recognising the need for support in the event of illness.
- 1.3. Absence relating to unpaid leave, maternity, paternity and adoption leave is not within the bounds of this policy.

2. Self-Certified Absence

- 2.1. Short-term periods of time away from work due to illness can be self certified by completing a Self-Certification Form on return to work. Short term periods of absence last no more than seven days.

3. Certified Absence

- 3.1. Any periods of absence away from work due to illness lasting more than seven days will require a Doctor's certificate.

4. Notification of Absence Procedure

- 4.1. Employees are required to notify St Edmund's PCC of their absence in accordance with the procedure detailed below.
- 4.2. The employee must contact his / her manager as soon as possible on the first day of absence, by 9.15am at the latest. The reason for absence and the expected length of absence should be given. This will enable the manager to make any necessary arrangements for cover.

5. Documentation

- 5.1. The employee will be required to complete a Self-Certification Form on returning to work after any periods of absence lasting up to seven days.
- 5.2. Absences lasting more than seven days will require a medical certificate completed by the employee's Doctor. If the absence continues and medical certificates are repeatedly issued, it is the employee's responsibility to ensure that there are no breaks in the dates of the issuing of the medical certificates.

- 5.3. St Edmund's PCC reserves the right, at any stage of absence, to require the employee to undergo a medical examination by a medical practitioner of their choice and / or to request a medical report from the employee's GP or specialist.

6. Return to Work Interview

- 6.1. The Return to Work interview is designed to:

- 6.1.1. establish and record the reasons for absence;
- 6.1.2. provide an opportunity to provide assistance and support to the employee which may prevent further absence;
- 6.1.3. provide an appropriate forum to discuss the employee's health (and whether they are indeed well enough to return to the workplace);
- 6.1.4. provide an appropriate forum to review the employee's attendance record;
- 6.1.5. provide an appropriate forum to discuss an issues that may affect the employee's health.

- 6.2. The Return to Work Interview must take place as soon as is reasonably practicable (and in any case within 48 hours) following the employee's return from sick leave after every period of absence, regardless of the duration of the absence.

- 6.3. The interview will be conducted by the employee's line manager or supervisor and will be recorded in writing. Should it not be practicable for the employee's manager to conduct the interview, it should be delegated to an appropriate deputy. It should be performed in a suitable environment with full consideration given to confidentiality.

- 6.4. The Return to Work Interview Form should be signed by the employee and their manager and will be filed on the employee's personal file.

7. Unauthorised Absence

- 7.1. Any periods of sickness absence which are not covered by a Self Certification Form or Doctor's Certificate, or where the notification procedure has not been followed, will be considered as unauthorised absence. Such periods of absence will be unpaid.

This policy was adopted by St Edmund's PCC, Roundhay, at a PCC meeting on:

DATE: 21st February 2022

signed for and on behalf of the PCC by:

Mrs Anne Smith [PRINT NAME]

SIGNED: EAM Smith

Review date: February 2023