



SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Introduction

Poynton Town Council is committed to taking all reasonable steps to safeguard the welfare of children and vulnerable persons. The Council is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice.

1. Who does this policy cover?

A child under the age of 18.

A vulnerable adult. This includes anyone over the age of 18 who:

- Has needs for care and support; and
- Is experiencing, or is at risk of abuse or neglect; and
- As a result of those needs are unable to protect themselves against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it

This policy applies to all staff, including senior managers, elected members, volunteers, agency staff, students or anyone working on behalf of Poynton Town Council.

2. Poynton Town Council recognises that:

- The welfare and interests of the child/young person or vulnerable adults is paramount
- All children and vulnerable adults, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

3. Our Policy – What we will do

- Promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- Adopt safeguarding best practice through policies, procedures and a code of conduct for staff, elected members and volunteers.
- Ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation.
- Provide effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training to ensure that everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate

training and learning opportunities to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns.

- Ensure that appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents or concerns of abuse and support is provided to the individual(s) or raise or disclose the concern.
- Share information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children appropriately.
- Ensure that confidential detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and stored securely in line with data protection legislation.
- Appoint a nominated safeguarding lead and deputy lead.
- Recruit staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made; including Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks when appropriate.
- Share the safeguarding policy and safeguarding information and good practice with staff, elected members, volunteers and all service users.

This Policy makes it clear how staff, elected members and volunteers are expected to perform when dealing with all service users including children. It specifically ensures that claims made of abuse by internal staff will be investigated and dealt with.

Designated Person

Safeguarding Lead

Haf Barlow Town Clerk,

Tel 01625 872238.

Email haf.barlow@poyntontowncouncil.gov.uk

Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Kate McDowell

Tel 01625 872238.

Email kate.mcdowell@poyntontowncouncil.gov.uk

In a safeguarding emergency where a young person or vulnerable adult is at immediate risk of harm call 999.

Refer concerns about Children to Cheshire East Consultation Service

0300 123 5012 (office hours) or 0300 123 5022 (out of hours)

Refer concerns about Vulnerable adults immediately to Adult Social Care

0311 123 5010 (office hours) or 0300 123 5022 (out of hours)