



TRING TOWN COUNCIL

Safeguarding Policy

This document has been guided by the NSPCC example of a Safeguarding Policy (October 2016) and amended in 2018 to include vulnerable people and protect them from harm, including the systems and measures that are put in place to ensure vulnerable people live in safety – free from abuse and neglect. A vulnerable person is either a child or an adult at risk.

This policy applies to all staff, volunteers and Members or anyone working on behalf of Tring Town Council.

The purpose of this policy:

- To protect children and vulnerable people who receive Tring Town Council services including the children of adults who use those services
- To provide staff, volunteers and Members with the overarching principles that guides our approach to safeguarding and child protection.

Tring Town Council believes that a child or vulnerable person should never experience abuse of any kind. We have responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and vulnerable people and to keep them safe. We are committed to practise in a way that protects them.

Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of law and guidance that seeks to protect children and vulnerable people, namely:

- Children Act 1989
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child 1991
- Data Protection Act 1998 and GDPR 2018
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Children Act 2004
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Special educational needs and disability (SEND) code of practice: 0 to 25 years – Statutory guidance for organisations working with and support children and young people who have special educational needs or disabilities; HM Government 2014
- Information Sharing: Advice for practitioners providing services to children, young people, parents and carers: HM Government 2015
- Working together to safeguard children: a guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children: HM Government 2015

This policy should be read alongside our policies and procedures on:

- recruitment and Training Policies
- role of the designated safeguarding officer
- dealing with disclosures and concerns about a child or young person
- managing allegations against staff, volunteers and members
- recording and information sharing
- Code of Conduct for staff, volunteers and Members
- Social Media Policy
- Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Health and Safety Policy
- Lone working policy and procedure

We recognise that:

- the welfare of the child is paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989
- all children and vulnerable people, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have a right of equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communications needs or other issues
- working in partnership with children, vulnerable people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting welfare.

We will seek to keep children and vulnerable people safe by:

- valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- appointing a Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) for children and young people, a deputy and a lead board member for safeguarding
- adopting child protection and safeguarding practices through procedures and a code of conduct for staff, volunteers and Members
- providing effective management through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures
- recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- recording and storing information professionally and securely, and sharing information about safeguarding
- using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families, carers appropriately
- using our procedures to manage any allegations appropriately
- ensure we have effective complaints measures in place
- ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for children, young people, staff, volunteers and Members by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance

Members

It is not considered that there is a need for DBS checks to be undertaken for Members of Tring Town Council as they are unlikely to find themselves in a 1 to 1 situation with children in their role as a Town Councillor.

Contact Details

Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO)

Name: Emma Cave

emmacave7@hotmail.co.uk

01442 825968

07834 700339

Deputy DSO

Name: Clerk to the Council

clerk@tring.gov.uk

01442 823347

CEOP

www.ceop.police.uk>

NSPCC Helpline

0808 800 5000

Hertfordshire County Council Children's Services

0300 123 4043

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

Approved on June 2018 by Finance and Policy Committee. Amended November 2018

Date of Review: November 2019