

# North Town

C O M M U N I T Y  
S U P P O R T G R O U P



## Safeguarding Policy

This policy applies to all members and volunteers of North Town Community Support Group.

### **The purpose of this policy.**

The purpose of this policy is:-

- To protect children, young people and vulnerable adults who receive support services from us and
- To provide volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding.

Children and young people refers to those between the ages of 0-19 (up to age 25 with special educational needs). Vulnerable adult refers to someone who is over 18 years of age who is getting or may need help and services to live in the community.

North Town Community Support believes that a child, young person or vulnerable adult should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children, young people and vulnerable adults and to keep them safe. We are committed to work in a way that protects them.

### **Legal framework**

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of law and guidance namely:

- Children Act 1989
- United Convention of the Rights of the Child 1991
- Data Protection Act 1998
- 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: HM Government 2014
- Information sharing: Advice for practitioners. HM Government 2015
- Working together to safeguarding children. HM Government 2015

### **We recognise that:**

- The welfare of the child or vulnerable adult is paramount.
- All children and vulnerable adults regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- Abuse comes in many forms including: physical, financial, material, sexual, psychological, emotional. It also manifests in discrimination and neglect.
- Some children and adults are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues.

### **We will seek to keep children, young people and vulnerable adults safe by:**

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them.
- Appointing a Designated Safeguarding Officer 'DSO' who is a member of the North Town Community Support Group Coordinating Team.
- Adopting child and vulnerable adult protection and safeguarding practices and procedures.
- Establishing and enforcing clear guidelines for volunteers covering all aspects of our support functions.
- Providing effective management, support and training for volunteers.
- Recruiting volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made.
- Sharing concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know about suspected abuse.
- Ensuring we provide a safe physical environment for children, young people, vulnerable adults, and volunteers.
- Applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance.

### **Contact details**

Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO): Karuna Tharmananthar. Tel: 07975 862127

Email: [karunat@btinternet.com](mailto:karunat@btinternet.com)

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

This policy was last reviewed on: 21<sup>st</sup> May 2020.