



20. Safeguarding Policy

Jan 2020

The purpose and scope of this policy statement

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect children, young people and adults who become known to Sussex Community Rail Partnership through the course of our work and who may be at risk of abuse.
- to provide parents, staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding including that they have a clear responsibility to take action when they suspect or recognise that a child, young person or adult at risk may be a victim of significant harm or abuse.

This policy statement applies to anyone working on behalf of Sussex Community Rail Partnership, including senior managers and the board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers, sessional workers, agency staff and students.

We believe that:

- everyone, regardless of age, disability, gender, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation has the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children, young people and adults, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them in line with ESCC Safeguarding Guidelines

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

- valuing, listening to and respecting them
- appointing a nominated safeguarding officer and a deputy safeguarding officer
- developing safeguarding policies and procedures which reflect best practice
- using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately
- developing and implementing an effective social media safety policy in accordance with existing staff guidance
- maintaining the anti-bullying environment and ensuring that the policy is followed to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- sharing information about child protection and safeguarding best practice with children, their families, staff and volunteers via the website
- recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures
- implementing a code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately
- ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, adults, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance
- recording and storing information professionally and securely and in accordance with GDPR requirements



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Related policies and procedures

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies and procedures, including:

- Procedures for responding to concerns about a child, young person or adult's wellbeing
- Dealing with allegations of abuse against a child, young person or adult
- Role of the designated safeguarding officer
- Managing allegations against staff and volunteers
- Safer recruitment policy and procedures
- Adult to child supervision ratios
- Code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- Anti-bullying policy and procedures
- Social media guidance
- Photography and image sharing guidance
- Child protection records retention and storage policy
- Whistleblowing policy

DBS Disclosures

SCRCP is not a Children's Services Authority therefore scope for working directly with children, young people or vulnerable adults is limited. DBS disclosures should only be sought as appropriate to the post held. SCRCP will refer any member of staff or volunteer to DBS for consideration for the barred list(s) if SCRCP thinks a person has:

- harmed or poses a risk of harm to a child or vulnerable adult
- has satisfied the harm test; or
- has received a caution or conviction for a relevant offence and;
- the person they're referring is, has or might in future be working in regulated activity and;
- the DBS may consider it appropriate for the person to be added to a barred list

Contact details

Designated safeguarding officer

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Safeguarding Director Lead Jon Freeman

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

Status	Draft agreed by	Considered by Board	Final version approved	Review
Date		Nov19	Jan 20	Annually
Date Reviewed	Reviewed By		Comments	
Jan 21				