

Safeguarding Policy (Child)

This policy applies to all members, volunteers or anyone working on behalf of the London and Southern Counties Regional Committee, and to members, volunteers and supporters of all band staking part in the Regional Contest.

The purposes of this policy are:

1. To protect children, who receive L&SCRC services from harm. This includes the children of adults who use our services.
2. To provide staff and volunteers, as well as children and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

L&SCRC believes that a child, young person or adult with care and support needs should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children, young people and adults at risk and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up based on law and guidance that seeks to protect children and adults at risk, namely:

- Children Act (1989)
- United Convention of the Rights of the Child (1991)
- Data Protection Act (1998) and subsequent data protection guidance
- Sexual Offences Act (2003)
- Children Act (2004)
- Protection of Freedoms Act (2012)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children: A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children; HM Government (2018)
- The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act (2006)
- The Human Rights Act (1998)
- The Children and Families Act (2014)
- Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) code of practice: 0 to 25 years. Statutory guidance for organisations which work with and support children and young people who have special educational needs or disabilities; HM Government (2014)
- General Data Protection Regulations (European Union) (2017)
- Information sharing: advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers; HM Government (2015)
- The Care Act (2014)
- The Care Act (2014) Care and Support Statutory Guidance (specifically the safeguarding section of this)
- The Mental Capacity Act (2005)

The UK's four nations – England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales – each have their own framework of child protection legislation, guidance and practice to:

- identify children who are at risk of harm
- take action to protect those children

- prevent further abuse occurring. Although the child protection systems are different in each nation, they are all based on similar principles. A summary of the key legislation and guidance is available from: <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-protection-system>

We believe that:

- children should never experience abuse of any kind
- we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them.
- the welfare of children is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take
- working in partnership with children, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have an equal right to protection from all types of harm or abuse
- some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues. Extra safeguards may be needed to keep children who are additionally vulnerable safe from abuse

We will seek to keep children safe by:

- valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- appointing a nominated child protection lead for children, a deputy and a lead trustee/board member for safeguarding
- adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and a code of conduct for members and volunteers
- developing and implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures
- providing effective support and training for volunteers with responsibility for safeguarding
- recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children, parents, volunteers and members
- making sure that children and their families know where to go for help if they have a concern
- sharing concerns with agencies who need to know and involving parents and children appropriately.
- Using L&SCRC procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately
- ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, members and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance
- building a safeguarding culture where members and volunteers, children and their families, treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns
- sharing information about anyone found to be a risk to children with the appropriate bodies. For example: Disclosure and Barring Service, Services, Police, Local Authority/Social Services.

Useful contact details:

Safeguarding Lead: Jane Stewart 07980 407831

Deputy Safeguarding Lead: James Haigh 07734 319548

Police: [online](#) or telephone 101 or 999 (in an emergency)

Adult Safeguarding concern: [hcs portal](#)

Child Safeguarding concern: 0300 123 4043.

NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000 or help@nspcc.org.uk

ChildLine: 0800 1111 (textphone 0800 400 222) or www.childline.org.uk

The Samaritans: <https://www.samaritans.org/> tel: 116 123

National Domestic Abuse Helpline: <https://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk/> tel: 0808 2000 247

Brass Bands England Safeguarding Officer: 01226 771015

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

This policy was last reviewed on: 22nd November 2025

Signed:

L&SCRC Safeguarding Lead