



Cyngor Dinas Llanellwy St Asaph City Council

Safeguarding Policy

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This policy outlines the duty and responsibility of St Asaph City Council (the Council or SACC) in respect of safeguarding for those using Council facilities, taking part in Council events and activities, and receiving services provided or commissioned by the Council.
- 1.2 This policy supports the Council's staff, contractors and volunteers in fulfilling their statutory responsibilities in accordance with current legislation regarding safeguarding and welfare of its residents and users of its facilities. This includes how to report concerns if they suspect a child or vulnerable adult may be a victim of significant harm or abuse.
- 1.3 None of the activities of the Council involves any Councillor or employee coming into direct contact with children or vulnerable adults

2. Principles and Definitions

- 2.1 Safeguarding means protecting children, young people and vulnerable adults from abuse or neglect. This includes those who may be held in slavery or servitude.
- 2.2 The term children or young people is used to refer to anyone under the age of 18 years.
- 2.3 The term Vulnerable adult is used to refer to someone over the age of 18 years with care and support needs who is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of, abuse or neglect. This can include people with learning/physical/sensory disabilities, older people, people with mental ill health, and people with drug/alcohol problems.
- 2.4 Whilst key accountability for safeguarding lies with Denbighshire County Council ("DCC"), information sharing plays a critical role in the detection and prevention of safeguarding issues, and the City Council has a duty to report any such concerns to the relevant authority.

3. Relevant Legislation

- 3.1 The Childrens Act 1989, and 2004.
- 3.2 Modern Slavery Act 2015.
- 3.3 Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015.

4 Responsibilities

- 4.1 Those working for or on behalf of the City Council have a responsibility to report incidents or concerns of suspected abuse or neglect according to the arrangements set out in this policy.
- 4.2 The Council will signpost members of the public to the correct authority if they approach SACC with concerns relating to safeguarding.
- 4.3 It is not the responsibility of any Councillor, employee, volunteer, or contracted service provider to determine whether abuse may have or is at risk of taking place.
- 4.4 The Council will promote a safeguarding culture to protect children, young people and vulnerable adults and will:
 - 4.4.1 Act appropriately in the best interests of the child, young person, or adult at risk.
 - 4.4.2 Endeavour to keep residents and users of services safe from abuse by reporting suspected abuse and sharing information when appropriate.

5 Expectations of Behaviour and Safe Working Practices

- 5.1 The Council will ensure a safe environment on its premises and activity areas and undertake regular safety assessments of its facilities.
- 5.2 All children and vulnerable adults using the Council facilities are to be under the supervision of their carer or guardian.
- 5.3 All hirers of SACC premises and those organising activities or events on Council property, which may be attended by children, young people, or vulnerable adults, are required to have a suitable Safeguarding Policy in place, setting out how they will provide an environment where all participants are protected from harm.
- 5.4 City Council staff, councillors, contractors, and volunteers who have not been subject to a DBS check should not find themselves in situations where they may be alone with children, young person, or vulnerable adults, during their duties.
- 5.5 SACC will ensure, as far as practicable, that photos or videos where children or vulnerable adults can be identified are not taken at events without written permission from parents/carers. Notices will be displayed at events warning parents and carers that photography is taking place.

6. Recruitment and Training

- 6.1 All staff and Councillors will be informed of their safeguarding responsibility during the induction process and reminded on an ongoing basis to report any concerns. This policy will be displayed on the Council website and drawn to the attention of inductees.
- 6.2 Any staff or Councillors who are expected or likely to have direct and unaccompanied contact with children, young people, and vulnerable adults will undergo an appropriate level DBS check and must access appropriate training.

7. Procurement, Third Party Service Providers and Grant Recipients

7.1 Where SACC works with, commissions or grant-funds organisations which encounter children, young people, and vulnerable adults, they will be required to have a safeguarding policy, which will be available to the Council on request.

8. Dealing with Safeguarding Issues

8.1 If there is a concern about the welfare of a child, young person, or vulnerable adult, this should be reported to DCC without delay. See the table at the end of this policy.

8.2 If the person is in immediate danger, the Police should be called on 999.

9. Modern Slavery/Human Trafficking

9.1 The Modern Slavery Act 2015 placed a duty on specified authorities to report and provide notification to the National Crime Agency about any potential victims of modern slavery or trafficking that staff encounter.

10. St Asaph City Council Modern Slavery Statement

10.1 SACC understands that modern slavery is real and could be happening in the local community.

10.2 SACC is fully committed to the elimination of unlawful trafficking and exploitation of people and aims to safeguard and protect the victims.

10.3 SACC opposes slavery and human trafficking and never knowingly conducts business with partners, contractors, supply chain or employers involved in such practice.

10.4 Any supplier wishing to conduct business with the Council must fulfil any obligations placed upon them by The Modern-Day Slavery Act, 2015.

10.5 Any organisation, corporation, company, employer, or individual who provides services to SACC and who is found to knowingly undertake practices of modern-day slavery will have their contract immediately terminated.

10.6 SACC will immediately forward any concerns or allegations made to Councillors or Staff regarding modern slavery by using the online reporting system at <https://www.modernslaveryhelpline.org>.

APPENDIX A

Safeguarding: Further Guidance and Information

Abuse: is a form of maltreatment that can occur in several forms which are not mutually exclusive, including:

- child sexual exploitation;
- female genital mutilation;
- forced marriage;
- child trafficking;
- physical abuse;
- domestic violence;
- sexual abuse;
- psychological or emotional abuse;
- financial or material abuse;
- modern slavery/human trafficking;
- discrimination, organisational or institutional abuse;
- neglect/self neglect (including self-injury) and acts of omission (ignoring medical, emotional, or physical care needs).

Safeguarding:

Reporting, Advice and Support We are all responsible for the safety and welfare of children, young people, and adults.

There are a range of agencies you can contact if you for advice and support if you suspect that a child, young person, or adult may be a victim of significant harm or abuse.

Reporting Concerns	Details
Children, Young People and Families:	https://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/en/health-and-social-care/children-young-people-and-families/children-young-people-and-families.aspx
Safeguarding Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults	https://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/en/health-and-social-care/safeguarding/safeguarding.aspx
Modern Slavery	https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/modern-slavery
Prevent	https://www.northwales.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/t/prevent/prevent/
North Wales Police (non-emergency)	Call 101
NSPCC	https://www.nspcc.org.uk/about-us/our-services/nspcc-helpline/
Childline	https://www.childline.org.uk/
In an emergency, or if you suspect someone is in immediate danger	Phone 999

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