

## **HAVENSTREET COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

### **SAFEGUARDING POLICY**

#### **GENERAL STATEMENT**

The Havenstreet Community Association (HCA) is intent on ensuring that Trustees, volunteers and other users of the Community Centre or at events organised on its behalf away from the Centre are mindful of the duties and responsibilities in relation to Safeguarding Adults at risk.

- All adults have the right to be safe from harm and must be able to enjoy HCA events free from fear of abuse, neglect and exploitation.

#### **Objectives**

- Everyone who attends or uses the Community Centre is entitled to do so in a safe and enjoyable environment.
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse and poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- Trustees and volunteers involved in organised events have a responsibility to report concerns to the appropriate authority.

#### **Definition of an Adult at Risk?**

- Adult at Risk is a person aged 18 or over who is in need of care and support regardless of whether they are receiving them, and because of those needs are unable to protect themselves against abuse or neglect.
- Abuse is a violation of an individual's human and civil rights by another person or persons.
- Adult is anyone aged 18 or over.
- Adult safeguarding is protecting a person's right to feel safe, free from abuse and neglect.

#### **Types of Abuse taken from the Care Act 2014**

- Self-neglect – this covers a wide range of behaviour: neglecting to care for one's personal hygiene, health or surroundings.
- Discriminatory – discrimination is abuse which centres on a difference or perceived difference particularly with respect to race, gender or disability or any of the protected characteristics of the Equality Act
- Physical Abuse – includes hitting, slapping, pushing, kicking, misuse of medication, restraint or inappropriate sanctions.
- Sexual Abuse
- Financial or Material Abuse – including theft, fraud, internet scamming, coercion in relation to an adult's financial affairs or arrangements.
- Neglect – including ignoring medical or physical care needs.

- Emotional or Psychological Abuse – this includes threats of harm or abandonment, deprivation of contact, humiliation, blaming, controlling, intimidation, coercion, harassment, verbal abuse

### **The Role of Key Individual Agencies**

- Adult Social Services - All local authorities have a Safeguarding Adults Board, which oversees multi-agency work aimed at protecting and safeguarding vulnerable adults. It is normal practice for the board to comprise of people from partner organisations who have the ability to influence decision making and resource allocation within their organisation.
- The Police - The Police play a vital role in Safeguarding Adults with cases involving alleged criminal acts. It becomes the responsibility of the police to investigate allegations of crime by preserving and gathering evidence. Where a crime is identified, the police will be the lead agency and they will direct investigations in line with legal and other procedural protocols.

### Legal Framework

- The Care Act 2014.
- The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims (Amendment) Act 2012
- The Equality Act 2010
- The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Mental Capacity Act 2005
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- The Human Rights Act 1998
- The Data Protection Act 2018

**The Havenstreet Community Association will, as a direct course of action, consult with, report to or seek assistance from either of the two key agencies or any other appropriate body**

### **REVIEWS**

This was approved by the General Committee on 28/01/2021 and will be reviewed annually.

If there is any significant change in legislation or recommendation from an appropriate Association/Representative Body/ or through local circumstances the policy and procedures will be reviewed as soon as is reasonable possible and in any event before the next HCA General Committee Meeting.