



Thurlaston Parish Council

Vulnerable Adults Safeguarding and Protection Policy

All councillors and volunteers of Thurlaston Parish Council have a duty to SAFEGUARD vulnerable people with whom they may come into contact through the Council's activities.

What is Safeguarding?

In the UK, safeguarding means protecting peoples' health, wellbeing and human rights, and enabling them to live free from harm, abuse and neglect.

For the Council, we understand it to mean protecting people, including children and at risk adults, from harm that arises from coming into contact with our councillors and volunteers.

Vulnerable Adults:

The welfare of a vulnerable adult is paramount and is the responsibility of everyone. We all have the right to live our lives free from abuse. It is recognised that certain groups of people may be more likely to experience abuse and are less able to access services or support to keep themselves safe. This group may include adults with:

- Learning / physical/sensory disability
- Mental Health / ill Health for dementia
- Frailty due to age
- Acquired brain injury
- Certain types of physical illness

Abuse:

Abuse can be physical, sexual, financial, neglect, discriminatory, emotional, psychological or institutional. Abuse can be perpetrated by anyone - relatives, partners, friends, care workers, or strangers - and can happen anywhere. It can be the result of an act or failure to act.

More information and guidance can be obtained from the Leicestershire & Rutland Safeguarding Board at <http://lrsb.org.uk>

All councillors and volunteers will be made aware of this policy.

Reporting concerns:

All suspicions or allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and dealt with in line with the following guidance provided by the Leicestershire & Rutland Safeguarding Board. You do not need to know everything about the situation or what is happening. You may just be worried or feel that something is not right. It is not up to you to investigate or decide if abuse has taken place, but it is your duty to report any concerns to the appropriate authority. If you have any safeguarding concerns about an individual, you should in the first instance contact the Clerk of the Council who will in turn contact:

Leicestershire Adult Social Care - 0116 3050004 or

Leicestershire Police - 999 if the person is in immediate danger or a crime has been committed, 101 if the person is not in immediate danger.

If the Clerk of the Council is not available and the situation is urgent, do not delay and contact either Leicestershire Adult Social Care or Leicestershire Police to report your concerns.

Wherever possible, consent will be obtained from the adult before sharing personal information with third parties. However, in some circumstances, obtaining consent may be neither possible nor desirable, as the safety and welfare of the vulnerable adult is the priority.

Policy Adopted: