

How to make a Safeguarding Referral for children and young people:

If you are worried about a child or young person and think they may be a **victim of abuse or neglect**, you need to refer this immediately by telephone to **Leicestershire Children's Social Care on 0116 305 0005 (24hrs)**.

How to make a Safeguarding Referral for adults at risk:

If you are worried about an adult and think they may be a victim of abuse or neglect you need to refer this immediately by telephone to **Leicestershire Adult Social Care** by calling:

0116 305 0004 (Monday to Thursday 8:30am to 5pm, Friday 8:30am to 4:30pm)

Tel **0116 255 1616** for Out of Hours duty

Whether you are contacting Leicestershire County Council Children's or Adult Social Care they will listen to what you have to say.

Where can I get more information?

Where can I get more information?

Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Partnerships Business Office: <https://lrsb.org.uk/>

<http://www.leicestershire.gov.uk>

Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council



Rutland
County Council



Safeguarding for Town and Parish Councils A bitesize guide



This guide has been developed by the seven local councils across Leicestershire

What is safeguarding?

Everybody has the right to be safe no matter who they are or what their circumstances.

Safeguarding is about protecting children, young people and adults from abuse, neglect or harm.

We are all responsible for the safety and welfare of children, young people and adults at risk of harm.

What has it got to do with my council?

Every town and parish council has a moral duty to ensure the safety and welfare of children, young people and adults at risk of harm.

The safeguarding agenda reaches across all of the services of town and parish councils and in a variety of ways.

It applies to every organisation and individual (including volunteers, partners and contractors) that are involved in the work that we do.

This could be for example, in looking after a play-space, running the village hall, providing a village event, and community and volunteer schemes.

Other reasons why safeguarding is a priority for town and parish councils:

- ◆ Adequate safeguarding policy and procedures are required by many grant giving bodies;
- ◆ There is a strong public expectation for public bodies to have effective and robust safeguarding arrangements in place;
- ◆ It's an essential part of risk assessment;
- ◆ A safeguarding policy is about protecting you too. It will provide councillors and officers with advice and information to help ensure you don't put yourselves in situations where false allegations could be made against you.



Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

What are the key things I need to know?

Keeping children, young people and adults safe is everyone's responsibility:

- ◆ You must never keep concerns about safety, abuse or neglect to yourself;
- ◆ It is not your responsibility to investigate concerns but you should tell an appropriate professional about it without delay;
- ◆ If you have significant concerns for someone's immediate safety you should call 999; and
- ◆ By law, individuals up to the age of 18 are considered to be children.

Leicestershire's borough and district councils have published a Safeguarding Policy template to help town and parish councils to review their existing safeguarding arrangements or put them into place for the first time.

This leaflet and associated policy template provides some background on the nature of abuse and what safeguarding is about. We hope that this supports your parish or town council to develop and adopt its own consistent approach to safeguarding within Leicestershire.