



CONSORTIUM
for stronger lgbt+ communities

Safeguarding
For organisations working with children and
vulnerable adults

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Safeguarding

- **Responsibility**
- **Legal definitions**
- **Continuum of concern activity**
- **Local Safeguarding boards / barriers**

Please note – due to the difficult subject matter, do feel free to take time out if needed

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Introduction

If your group works with children and or vulnerable adults, you will require robust safeguarding policies and procedures tailored to your group's specific circumstances.

Additionally, the Charity Commission advises that safeguarding should be a priority for ALL charities, not just those working with groups traditionally considered at risk.

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Responsibility

Assessing whether a child or adult is experiencing abuse is the responsibility of professionals within the Local Authority.



Your role as providers of services is not to make that assessment but to safeguard by informing the Local Authority if you believe or suspect that abuse has taken place or that a child or adult might be at risk.

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Definition

Children are defined as any individual up to the age of 18

Safeguarding children is defined in the DfE document 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' as:

- protecting children from maltreatment
- preventing impairment of children's health or development
- ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

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Definition

Vulnerable adults are defined as individuals aged 18+ who are, or may be in need of community care services because of their:

- mental health
- other disabilities
- age
- illness
- A person who is or may be unable to take care themselves
- A person who is unable to protect themselves against serious harm or being taken advantage of

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Definition

Safeguarding vulnerable adults is defined under the Care Act 2014 as:

- protecting the rights of adults to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect
- people and organisations making sure that the adult's wellbeing is promoted including, where appropriate, taking fully into account their views, wishes, feelings and beliefs in deciding on any action

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Definition

Categories of abuse

- Physical
- Sexual
- Emotional
- Neglect
- Financial or material abuse
- Psychological
- Discriminatory abuse
- Domestic abuse
- Organisational abuse
- Modern slavery

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Procedures

- Recognising abuse
- Procedures to respond to concerns and disclosures of abuse
- Procedures to respond to allegations involving staff/vols

Access our **Safeguarding Toolkit** to develop your safeguarding policy or review / audit your existing policy

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Procedures

Activity - continuum of concern

Please note – due to the difficult subject matter, do feel free to take time out if needed

Review the different scenarios and decide where they should sit on our *'continuum of concern'*

Low level of concern ----- High level of concern

Are all of the scenarios 'safeguarding' issues...?



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Procedures

Your Local Safeguarding Board coordinates all local work to safeguard children and vulnerable adults

LSBs provides training (*usually free*) to individuals who work with young people/vulnerable adults.

An internet search of 'safeguarding board (your area)' will take you to the website.

The website for your local Safeguarding Board will provide guidance around safeguarding and information about local pathways and protocols and key services in the local area.

Most will have "report a concern" link, though you may have to search.

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Procedures

Activity - Group discussion

Barriers to working with the Local Safeguarding Boards

Potential solutions...?

- Follow LSB procedures
- Ensure referrals are objective: focus on the facts not supposition
- If you feel the response is inadequate you can challenge
- Contact Ton for network support



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Procedures



**IF IN DOUBT
SHARE.**