



Angmering Community Land Trust

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

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Purpose

The purpose of this Safeguarding Policy is to set out what Angmering Community Land Trust (ACLT) will do to recognise, identify and protect from abuse vulnerable adults and children with whom our organisation may come into contact with.

It is also intended to raise awareness and understanding amongst our Board Members, Ordinary Members, Volunteers, Staff and members of the community who may interact or engage with our organisation in its widest sense.

Scope

Managing the issue of safeguarding relies on people's understanding and their ability to recognise behaviour that may constitute abuse and taking prompt action. The Policy shall apply to any members of the community, ACLT members, staff and volunteers who come into contact with ACLT.

This policy should be read in conjunction with our other policies including the Equality & Diversity Policy, Anti-Social Behaviour Policy and GDPR Policy.

Point of Contact

The first point of contact for reporting any matters of concern shall be the Board Secretary (Gareth Cornford) who can be contacted by email on gareth.cornford@angmeringclt.org.uk or by post c/o Angmering Community Centre, Foxwood Avenue, Angmering, West Sussex BN16 4FU.

The Board Secretary shall liaise with the Chairman to determine the most appropriate course of action.

What is Safeguarding?

Safeguarding is about protecting children and vulnerable adults from abuse, neglect or self-neglect.

Safeguarding places obligations on organisations who come into contact with children or vulnerable adults, to identify issues and take action where necessary.

A vulnerable adult is someone over 18 who:

- Has need for care and support
- Is experiencing, or is at risk of abuse or neglect
- Is unable to protect themselves against significant harm or exploitation

All children, by virtue of their age (under 18), are considered to be vulnerable and therefore fall under the scope of "safeguarding".

Types of Abuse

- Domestic abuse, physical and psychological
- Financial or material abuse
- Forced marriage and honour-based violence
- Human trafficking and modern slavery
- 'Cuckooing' - taking over a vulnerable person's home for criminal activity
- Organisational abuse including restraint and restriction on movement
- Sexual abuse or exploitation
- Neglect and self-neglect

Reporting

Comprehensive notes and records of actions taken should be made about any complaint regarding Safeguarding that is referred to ACLT.

Advice and guidance should be sought at an early stage from West Sussex Adult Social Care or Children's Services as appropriate.

If the circumstances appear to be of an urgent nature or constitute an 'emergency', then Sussex Police should also be informed.

Where information is passed to ACLT and is from an anonymous source, this should be passed on to the appropriate authorities. Care must be exercised before acting on such information.

Under normal circumstances the 'person of concern' should be informed of the action that ACLT is intending to take unless this is likely to put that person at further risk.

All notes or reports should be marked 'Confidential' and must not be shared without good reason.

ACLT Board Members, Staff or Volunteers

ACLT do not usually work with children or vulnerable adults. However, there may be times when they do come into contact with children and vulnerable adults in the course of our normal activities or when undertaking specific projects and pieces of work.

In such circumstances, the specific activity will be subject to a risk assessment to identify and manage risks.

Implementation and Review

The Members of the Board of ACLT are responsible for ensuring implementation of this Policy and its annual review.