



## Safeguarding Advice

### Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to protect people, particularly children, at risk adults and beneficiaries of assistance, from any harm that may be caused due to their coming into contact with volunteers from The Faversham Society:

- The conduct of personnel associated with the Society
- The design and implementation of programmes and 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<sup>1</sup>

In our sector, we understand it to mean protecting people, including children and at-risk adults, from harm that arises from coming into contact with our volunteers or programmers.

### Scope

- All society volunteers
- Associated personnel whilst engaged with work or visits related to the Society, including but not limited to the following: consultants; volunteers; contractors; programme visitors including journalists, celebrities and politicians

### Prevention

The Society will:

- Design and undertake all its programmes and activities in a way that protects people from any risk of harm that may arise from their coming into contact with the Society. This includes the way in which information about individuals in our programmes is gathered and communicated
- Ensure all volunteers have access to, are familiar with, and know their responsibilities within this policy
- Ensure volunteers are aware of the lone working and health and safety advice to ensure they are aware of the risks of any lone working

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<sup>1</sup>

## **VOLUNTEER RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **Child safeguarding**

Volunteers must not:

- Ever be alone with a child on site
- Engage in sexual activity with anyone under the age of 18
- Sexually abuse or exploit children
- Subject a child to physical, emotional or psychological abuse, or neglect
- Engage in any commercially exploitative activities with children including child labour or trafficking

### **Adult safeguarding**

Volunteers must not:

- Ever be alone with a vulnerable adult
- Subject an at-risk adult to physical, emotional or psychological abuse, or neglect
- Sexually abuse or exploit at risk adults

### **Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse**

Volunteers must not:

- Exchange money, employment, goods or services for sexual activity. This includes any exchange of assistance that is due to beneficiaries of assistance
- Engage in any sexual relationships with beneficiaries of assistance, since they are based on inherently unequal power dynamics

Additionally, volunteers are obliged to:

- Contribute to creating and maintaining an environment that prevents safeguarding violations and promotes the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy
- Report any concerns or suspicions regarding safeguarding violations by a Society Volunteer to an appropriate manager or member of the Board

The Society will also accept complaints from external sources such as members of the public, partners and official bodies.

### **How to report a safeguarding concern**

Volunteers who have a complaint or concern relating to safeguarding should report it immediately to their line manager. If the volunteer does not feel comfortable reporting to their or line manager (*for example if they feel that the report will not be taken seriously, or if that person is implicated in the concern*) they may report to any other appropriate member, such as a member of the Board of Trustees.

