



Safeguarding Policy

Date adopted: 1st Sept 2025

Next review date: 1st Sept 2026

Approved by: SLACC CIO trustees

1. Purpose of this Policy

This policy is to ensure that SLACC protects the welfare of children, young people, and adults at risk who come into contact with our charity. We are committed to providing a safe environment and acting promptly and appropriately if any safeguarding concerns arise.

2. Who this Policy Applies To

South Lakeland Action on Climate Change – towards transition CUO Charity no 1139474

South Lakeland Action on Climate Change – towards transition CIO Charity no 1202875

Waste into Wellbeing (WiW) – a project of SLACC which has its own identity with governance provided by SLACC trustees.

This policy applies to:

- All trustees, volunteers, and contractors of SLACC/WiW
- Anyone working on behalf of SLACC/WiW

3. Legal Framework

This policy is based on UK legislation and guidance, including:

- Children Act 1989 & 2004
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)
- Care Act 2014
- Charity Commission guidance on safeguarding

4. Our Commitments

We will:

- Promote the welfare of children and adults at risk
- Take all safeguarding concerns seriously
- Work with local safeguarding partners
- Ensure safe recruitment of staff and volunteers
- Provide training and support on safeguarding
- Respond appropriately to concerns or allegations

5. Definitions

- **Child:** Anyone under the age of 18
- **Adult at risk:** An adult who has care and support needs and is at risk of harm or abuse

6. Recognising Abuse

Abuse can include:

- Physical, emotional, or sexual abuse
- Neglect
- Financial or material abuse (especially with adults at risk)
- Discriminatory or institutional abuse

We are alert to signs of abuse and report concerns promptly.

7. Reporting a Concern

If anyone connected with SLACC/WIW has a safeguarding concern:

- Report it immediately to our Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO):
Name: Anne Blackburn
Phone: 07776253245
Email: anneblackburn@slacc.org.uk
- **Second line contact**
Name: Chris Rowley
Phone: 07774 561947

Email: slacc@slacc.org.uk

If the concern is urgent or someone is at immediate risk, call 999 or contact the local authority safeguarding team.

- Concerns about **Child or Young Person** Safeguarding should be reported to:

Westmorland and Furness Safeguarding Hub 0300 3732724

- Concerns about **Adult** Safeguarding should be reported to:

The Westmorland and Furness Safeguarding Adults helpline 0300 373 3301

This information is displayed on the kitchen larder noticeboard.

8. Confidentiality and Record-Keeping

We keep all safeguarding concerns confidential and only share information with those who need to know. All reports are documented and stored securely.

9. Safe Recruitment and Training

We follow safer recruitment procedures including:

- **References and DBS checks.** Volunteer activities are assessed to ascertain whether a DBS check and/or references are needed. All volunteers working with children will be required to have an enhanced check. All volunteers working on activities which are specifically designed for vulnerable adults, or which involve an element of training or advising vulnerable adults will also require an enhanced check. DBS checks are carried out through Community Action Suffolk and the results are also recorded on the Better Impact system along with the expiry date. The Better Impact system prevents volunteers from signing up for shifts they are not qualified for.
- **Clear roles and expectations.** Roles are described on the Better Impact system and lead volunteers ensure that all volunteers on shift have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities.
- **Induction** Volunteers are given an induction to the organisation and the role that they have volunteered for. This covers health and safety, safeguarding and equality, diversity and inclusion and lone working. Written guidelines are given for our procedures in the café, kitchen, larder and events.
- **Safeguarding training** Basic safeguarding training is offered to all volunteers delivered by Cumbria Adult Learning.

10. Linked Documents

Lone working policy

Safeguarding procedures

11. Review and Responsibility

The Board of Trustees of SLACC is responsible for ensuring this policy is reviewed annually or after any safeguarding incident.