



# Peacehaven Town Council

## Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Persons policy statement

*Peacehaven Town Council is committed to taking all reasonable precautions to safeguard the welfare of children and vulnerable persons that use its services and promoting a positive safeguarding culture and environment.*

### Purpose, Policy, and Scope

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect children and vulnerable persons who interact with Peacehaven Town Council from harm.
- to provide staff and volunteers, as well as children and young people and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding.

This policy applies to anyone working on behalf of Peacehaven Town Council, including employees, Councillors, volunteers, sessional workers, agency staff and students.

### Legal Framework

This Policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children and vulnerable persons in England, including:

- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act (2006)
- Equality Act (2010)
- Human Rights Act (1998)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)

### Supporting Documents

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies, procedures, guidance and other related documents, including:

- Equality and Diversity Policy
- Health and Safety Policy Statement
- Members Code of Conduct
- Induction, training, supervision and support
- Complaints Policy



## How we keep Children and Vulnerable Persons safe

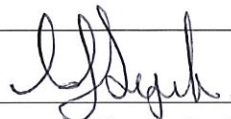
- The welfare of the child or vulnerable person is paramount.
- All children and vulnerable adults have the right to protection from abuse.
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly.
- All staff, volunteers and elected Members of the Council have a responsibility to report concerns to the Town Clerk who will refer the matter to the relevant service for formal investigation. You must refer, you must not investigate.
- Ensuring that the Council practices safe recruitment in checking the suitability of staff and volunteers to work with children and vulnerable people.
- Councillors, volunteers and other members of staff will not be subject to DBS checks unless there is a change in the council duties which requires regular contact with children and vulnerable people.
- Peacehaven Town Council has a 'duty of care' to protect others from harm; this includes a range of processes including risk assessment and health and safety practices
- No member of the Town Council, staff, helpers or other volunteers will have unsupervised access to children or vulnerable persons.
- All members of staff, helpers and volunteers will be made aware of this policy and the relevant procedures. Relevant training in this area will be provided
- Hirers of our facilities are made aware of our Child Protection and Vulnerable Adult policy and where appropriate, at the time of their booking, will be asked to produce a copy of their safeguarding policy.
- Town Council meetings are open to anyone to attend and arrangements in place to ensure the safety of everyone in attendance.

Signed:



Tony Allen, Town Clerk

Signed:



Lucy-Jo Symonds, Chair of Council

Date:

19<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Date:

19<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Policy Review Date: 30/11/2022

