



Safeguarding

Did you know that safeguarding is as much about creating a safe culture in your organisation as having robust policies and procedures?

Trustees, staff and volunteers all have a duty of care to keep people safe from harm and being among people in an organisation who are open, positive and transparent about safeguarding can help to change people's perceptions.

Creating a positive safeguarding culture within your organisation can be introduced in a number of ways, such as:

- Talking about safeguarding during recruitment and induction of new staff, volunteers and trustees.
- Providing training for people across the organisation to help them understand their responsibilities.
- Appointing a named person in your organisation for safeguarding referrals.
- Regularly reviewing your practice, discussing what was done well and improvements that could be made.
- Having information on display, on your website or visible to people using your service to highlight your commitment to safeguarding.
- Encouraging staff and volunteers to look out for a change in mood or behaviour amongst themselves and service users.

It's important to manage safeguarding well in your organisation because abuse, harassment and harm can happen to anyone. Safeguarding should be a priority as it instils trust in all members and develops good practice habits and behaviour within an organisation.

Here at Durham Community Action, we can offer advice and support around safeguarding, such as creating or reviewing policies, helping you think about ways to create a culture of safeguarding and helping you access training.

Our next Community Development online workshop [Understanding Safeguarding for Voluntary & Community Organisations](#) is on 24th November and will cover the importance of having a safeguarding policy, understanding your responsibilities for safeguarding within your organisation and what to include in your safeguarding policy.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email us at info@durhamcommunityaction.org.uk