

Glanton Parish Council

Safeguarding Policy

1. Purpose

Glanton Parish Council is committed to promoting a safe environment for children, young people and vulnerable adults when carrying out council activities or services.

Although the Council does not directly provide care services or regularly organise activities specifically for children or vulnerable adults, it recognises its responsibility to act appropriately where safeguarding concerns arise.

2. Scope

This policy applies to councillors, employees, volunteers and anyone acting on behalf of the Council.

3. Principles

The Council will:

- treat all individuals with respect;
- take concerns seriously;
- promote a safe and respectful environment;
- respond appropriately to safeguarding concerns;
- work with relevant agencies where necessary.

The welfare of children and vulnerable adults is an important consideration in all council activities.

4. Safeguarding Concerns

If a councillor, employee or volunteer becomes aware of a safeguarding concern, they should report it to the Clerk or Chair as soon as possible.

Where there is an immediate risk of harm or danger, emergency services should be contacted without delay.

The Council will normally refer safeguarding concerns to the appropriate safeguarding authority or statutory agency rather than investigate matters itself.

5. Confidentiality

Safeguarding concerns will be handled sensitively and information will only be shared where necessary and lawful.

The Council recognises that safeguarding concerns may override normal confidentiality requirements where there is a risk of harm.

6. Conduct

Councillors, employees and volunteers acting on behalf of the Council should:

- behave appropriately and professionally;
- avoid inappropriate or private communications with children or vulnerable adults;
- avoid situations where they are alone with a child or vulnerable adult unnecessarily;
- report concerns promptly.

Any allegations or concerns relating to inappropriate behaviour should be taken seriously and reported appropriately.

7. Events and Activities

Where the Council is involved in public events or activities, reasonable steps will be taken to promote a safe environment.

Parents, carers and responsible adults remain responsible for children attending public events unless expressly stated otherwise.

8. Review

This policy will be reviewed every two years or sooner if required by changes in legislation, guidance or council operations.