

# Safeguarding Policy Hazlerigg Parish Council

## Purpose

This document sets out the safeguarding policy for Hazlerigg Parish Council.

We are committed to ensuring all employees and councillors are aware of:

- The legislation, policy and procedures for safeguarding vulnerable people
- Their role and responsibility for safeguarding vulnerable people
- What to do or who to speak to if they have a concern relating to the welfare or wellbeing of a vulnerable person

## Commitment

Hazlerigg Parish Council is committed to safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults when they are engaged in services organised and run by Hazlerigg Parish Council.

We believe everyone has the right to live free from abuse or neglect regardless of age, ability or disability, sex, race, religion, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, marital or gender status. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

We will keep anyone, specifically children, young people and vulnerable adults safe from abuse and any suspicion of abuse will be dealt with promptly and proportionately. We will act in the interests of the individual in question at all times.

We will treat any concern made by a service user, employee, volunteer or child/vulnerable adult in a professional and sensitive manner. Concerns cannot be anonymous and should be made in the full knowledge that, during the course of any enquiries, details may be made available to third parties to prevent harm.

We will not tolerate harassment of any service user, employee, volunteer or child/vulnerable adult who raises concerns of abuse.

This policy will be reviewed annually.

## Procedure

Any concerns will be brought to the immediate attention of the Parish Clerk who should report the concern to Newcastle City Council Children's Service or Adult Services departments. Contact details for both services are detailed in this policy. If a crime is in progress, or an individual in immediate danger, a call will be made to the police.

## Confidentiality

Those raising the concern must be made aware that the concern will be shared with appropriate people, but will be treated in confidence as far as is reasonably possible.

Employees and councillors must not discuss the concern except with the designated officer and any agent of the organisation responsible for investigating the concern.

Safeguarding is covered by the following legislation:

- The Human Rights Act 1998
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- The Equality Act 2010
- Serious Crime Act 2015
- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Voyeurism (Offences) Act 2019
- The Data Protection Act 2018
- General Data Protection Regulations 2018

This policy was adopted on 30th April 2026

Signed by *S Barbara* SHEILA BARBOUR, VICE CHAIR

Name in Full Hazlerigg Parish Council

Date: 30th April 2026

Review Date: 29th April 2027

Newcastle City Council Contact Details:

### **Children's Services**

During office hours call us on 0191 277 2500, Monday to Friday, 8.45am to 5pm.

### **Adult Services**

During office hours call Community Health and Social Care Direct on 0191 278 8377, Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm