



# *Upper Stoodley Residents Association*

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## **ADULTS AND CHILDREN'S SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT**

### **1. General Statement**

Upper Stoodley Residents' Association (USRA) exists to promote the common interests of all the residents within the membership area, including children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Children, young people and vulnerable adults are likely to be present and involved in some of the activities we undertake to improve the local community and at social and leisure activities organised for residents, their families and friends.

USRA is fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children, young people and vulnerable adults. We believe that all children and adults have the right to protection from abuse and should be able to live free from the fear of abuse.

USRA is committed to ensuring that disclosures of abuse and safeguarding concerns are taken seriously and acted upon appropriately.

USRA is committed to ensuring that all members understand their roles and responsibilities in respect to safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Committee members and members will endeavour to work together to encourage the development of an ethos which embraces difference and diversity and respects the rights of all children, young people and adults.

### **2. Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to outline the duties and responsibilities of USRA in respect to safeguarding. The key objectives of this policy are to:

- Explain the responsibilities of USRA Committee, the designated Safeguarding Lead and members in respect of the safeguarding of children and adults at risk.
- Enable members who receive disclosures of, witness, or suspect abuse to make informed and confident responses
- Ensure that prompt action is taken to minimise the risk of harm occurring from any further abuse
- Ensure that information relating to safeguarding is kept securely and only shared on a need-to-know basis

### **3. Scope**

Safeguarding is about protecting the safety, independence and wellbeing of people at risk of abuse, and is everybody's responsibility.

This policy relates to all children, young people and vulnerable adults who become known to USRA through the course of our work and who may be at risk of abuse.

Assessing whether children, young people or vulnerable adults are experiencing abuse is the responsibility of professionals within the local authority. USRA's role is therefore not to assess whether abuse has taken place, but to safeguard by informing the local authority if information becomes known to us that could indicate that abuse may have taken place, or that a child or adult may be at risk of abuse.

For the purpose of this policy a child is defined as a person under the age of 18 and an adult is defined as a person aged 18 or over. A young person is a child aged 13 to 17.

For the purpose of this policy an adult at risk of abuse is defined as "someone who has care and support needs and is therefore unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect".

#### **4. Responsibilities**

All members of USRA have a responsibility to promote the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults at risk. It is everybody's responsibility to recognise the signs of, and to report, abuse wherever it is seen, suspected or disclosed. Members must also respond appropriately to any disclosure and take any immediate action necessary to protect children and adults at risk.

Members should report any safeguarding concerns to the Safeguarding lead or Deputy Safeguarding lead.

The Safeguarding lead is responsible for dealing with all instances relating to safeguarding concerns that arise within USRA. They will respond to all safeguarding concerns and make appropriate referrals to the local authority or the Police.

The Safeguarding lead will ensure that USRA Committee receives necessary reports on safeguarding issues, and may call a special meeting of the Committee where a safeguarding issue requires the Committee's urgent attention.

Name of Safeguarding Lead: Michelle O'Gorman

Telephone number: 07789 483286

Name of Deputy Safeguarding lead: Martin Ashton

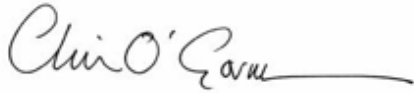
Telephone number: 01706 812696

Where any member of the Association is concerned about an individual whether child or adult under the remit of this policy, contact should be made in confidence with the Safeguarding Lead or her Deputy. The Safeguarding Lead or Deputy will then refer the matter to the relevant authority in line with the policy and procedural framework of Calderdale Safeguarding Children and Safeguarding Adults Boards.

## **5. Approval**

Policy statement approved by the committee of Upper Stoodley Residents' Association: 7 January 2019

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris O'Gorman', followed by a horizontal line.

**Chris O'Gorman**  
**Chair**