



## **Brighter Better Orrell Safeguarding Policy**

The **Brighter Better Orrell** Community Group abides by the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, young people and adults at risk and is committed to safeguarding practice that reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice requirements and is in line with Wigan Council's multiagency Safeguarding Procedures

- We recognise the welfare of our community is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take
- Everyone, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation has an equal right to protection from all types of harm or abuse
- Some individuals are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues

### **Purpose**

The **Brighter Better Orrell** community group will:

- Protect children, young people and adults at risk, who engage with or take part in **Brighter Better Orrell's** activities, from harm. This includes the children of adults with whom we engage.
- Provide staff and volunteers, as well as children, young people and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child and adult safeguarding

This policy applies to anyone volunteering and supporting **Brighter Better Orrell**, including Committee Members, volunteers and contractors. Failure to comply with the policy and related procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in exclusion from the community group.

### **Definitions**

The Children Act 1989 definition of a child is:

In England a child is defined as anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday.

Child protection guidance points out that even if a child has reached 16 years of age and is:

- living independently
- in further education
- a member of the armed forces
- in hospital
- in custody in the secure estate

they will then be afforded protection.

**Safeguarding children:** In England, safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children derives from the Children Act 1989 and is defined in both The Children Act 2004 (and Section 11 guidance) and Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018), as follows:

- protecting children from maltreatment.
- preventing impairment of children's health or development.
- ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care.
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

**Section 17** of the Act places a general duty on all local authorities to 'safeguard and promote the welfare of children within their area who are in need.'



**Section 47** of the Act requires the local authority to investigate the child's circumstances where they have 'reasonable cause to suspect that a child ... is suffering, or is likely to suffer, significant harm,' and to 'take any action to safeguard or promote the child's welfare.'

Local authorities also have some responsibilities to young people over 18 years – for example, those with disabilities and those who have been 'looked after'. Services offered as part of CSC may therefore include:

- services for looked-after children, including fostering and residential care
- court liaison and advisory services
- adoption
- child protection
- family support
- services for children with disabilities.

### **Children -Types of Abuse**

Children may be at risk of neglect and abuse or exploitation from within their family and from individuals they come across in their daily lives. There are 4 main categories of abuse, which are: sexual, physical, emotional abuse, and neglect. It is important to be aware of more specific types of abuse that fall within these categories, they are:

- Bullying and cyberbullying
- Child sexual exploitation
- Child Criminal exploitation
- Child trafficking
- Domestic abuse
- Female genital mutilation
- Grooming
- Historical abuse
- Online abuse

### **The Care Act 2014**

Adult safeguarding is the process of protecting adults with care and support needs from abuse or neglect (hereafter referred to as "adults"). It is an important part of what many public services do, but the key responsibility is with local authorities in partnership with the police and the NHS.

### **Adults at Risk**

- An adult who is 18 years or over and has needs for care and support (whether or not the authority is meeting any of those needs),
- is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect, and
- as a result of those needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.

Adults who may need support and protection from abuse or neglect. Those with eligible Care and Support Needs Care and support' is the term used to describe the help some adults need to live as well as possible with any illness or disability they may have.

It can include help with things like:

- getting out of bed
- washing
- dressing
- getting to work
- cooking meals
- eating
- seeing friends
- caring for families
- being part of the community



### People who may be more at risk are those with -

- Learning Disabilities/autism
  - Mental health diagnosis
  - Chronic ill health
  - Brain injury
  - Dementia
  - Frailty
  - Disabilities
- (This list is not exhaustive)

### Types of Adult Abuse

The ten main categories in the Care Act (2014) are:

- Physical
- Sexual (abuse/exploitation)
- Emotional
- Financial or material
- Neglect or acts of omission
- Discriminatory
- Organisational/institutional
- Domestic abuse (including Forced Marriage, Honour Based Violence and Female Genital Mutilation)
- Modern Slavery
- Self - Neglect

### Safeguarding as Part of the Deal

In the safeguarding of children and young people, **Brighter Better Orrell** is committed to the principles to the Wigan Borough Deal. <https://www.wiganlscb.com/Community-Groups/Safeguarding-as-part-of-The-Deal.aspx>

In the safeguarding of vulnerable adults, **Brighter Better Orrell** is committed to the principles of the Wigan Safeguarding Partnership <https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Docs/PDF/Resident/Health-Social-Care/Adults/Safeguarding-Adults-Policy.pdf>

### Legal Framework

**Brighter Better Orrell** has drawn up this policy on the basis of legislation and guidance that aids the protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults, and reflects the importance of safeguarding whilst promoting their welfare.

### The Prevent Duty

Although **Brighter Better Orrell** does not have a legal Prevent duty, we will still work to **prevent radicalisation and extremism** as part of our overall safeguarding responsibilities.

The following organisations have a duty, under section 26 of the Counterterrorism and Security Act 2015, to identify vulnerable children, young people and adults to prevent them from being drawn into terrorism. This is known as the Prevent duty.

- schools
- registered childcare providers
- local authorities
- the police
- prisons and probation services
- NHS trusts and foundations
- Other organisations may also have Prevent duties if they perform delegated local authority functions



Individuals can be exposed to different views and receive information from various sources. Some of these views may be considered radical or extreme.

**Radicalisation** is the process through which a person comes to support or be involved in extremist ideologies. It can result in a person becoming drawn into terrorism and is in itself a form of harm.

**Extremism** is vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

## Training and Awareness

**Brighter Better Orrell** will ensure an appropriate level of safeguarding training is available to its volunteers and any relevant persons linked to the organisation who requires it.

For all who are volunteering, this requires them to:

- Understand what safeguarding is and their role.
- Recognise an individual potentially in need of safeguarding and take action.
- Understand how to report a safeguarding issue.
- Understand dignity and respect when working with vulnerable children and adults.
- Have knowledge of the Safeguarding Policy.

Wigan Volunteer Hub provides free Eyes and Ears training for community groups <https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Docs/PDF/Council/The-Deal/Volunteering/Eyes-and-Ears-training.pdf>

## Confidentiality

**Brighter Better Orrell** expects all members and volunteers to maintain confidentiality. Information will only be shared in line with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and Data Protection.

However, information should be shared with the Local Authority if a person is deemed to be at risk of harm or **contact the police if they are in immediate danger, or a crime has been committed**.

## Recording and Record Keeping

A written record must be kept about any incident concerning safeguarding. This must include details of the person involved, the nature of the concern and the actions taken, decision made and why they were made.

All records must be signed, dated, and stored securely and confidentially in line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

## Social Media

All members and volunteers should be aware of the **Brighter Better Orrell** social media code of conduct.

## Use of Mobile Phones and other Digital Technology

All members should be aware that when photographing or making video recordings of children, young people or adults at risk, in public places, it is best practice to seek consent from the individual or the person with parental/guardian responsibilities, however in private areas, e.g., schools, nurseries, etc. it is unlawful to do so without implicit consent as it is likely to breach privacy laws.

## Whistleblowing

Whistleblowing occurs when a person raises concerns about a dangerous or illegal activity, or any wrong doing within an organisation. It is important that people within the **Brighter Better Orrell** group have the confidence to come forward to speak or act if they are unhappy with anything, including concerns about another member or volunteer. There is also a requirement to protect whistleblowers.



## **Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)**

The BBO Committee and its volunteers do not carry out any unsupervised, regulated activities with adults at risk and children. However, a number of committee members and volunteers have undergone an enhanced DBS check.

The [Disclosure Barring Service](#) definition of a volunteer is outlined in the Police Act 1997 (criminal records) Regulations 2002:

“Any person engaged in an activity which involves spending time, unpaid (except for travel and other approved out-of-pocket expenses), doing something which aims to benefit some third party and not a close relative.”

To qualify as regulated activity, this work must be done unsupervised. Regulated activity in relation to adults at risk means any work that involves:

- providing health care or social work to an adult
- providing personal care to an adult who requires it due to their age, illness or disability
- providing assistance with general household matters to an adult due to their age, illness or disability
- providing assistance in the conduct of an adult’s own affairs
- conveying an adult, because of their age, illness or disability, to or from a place where they will be receiving health care, social work or relevant personal care.

Regulated activity in relation to children means work that involves:

- teaching, training, instructing, caring for or supervising children, or providing advice or guidance on well-being, or driving a vehicle only for children
- working in a limited range of establishments (‘specified places’), with opportunity for contact, e.g., schools, children’s homes or childcare premises.

## **Allegations against People Who Work in Positions of Trust (PiPoT) With Adults with Care and Support Needs**

This applies to allegations or concerns raised about a person, whether an employee, volunteer or student, paid or unpaid who works with or cares for adults with care and support needs. These individuals are known as People in Position of Trust (PiPoT) and the process is the Position of Trust (PiPoT) process.

Please refer to the Safeguarding Adults Board web site for all associated policies and Procedures <https://www.wigansafeguardingadults.org/index.aspx>

## **Mental Capacity:**

The Mental Capacity Act (MCA), applies to people over 16 years of age. This legislation is designed to protect and empower people who may lack the capacity to make decisions about their care and treatment. The MCA defines someone is lacking capacity, because of an illness or disability such as a mental health problem, dementia or a learning disability, who cannot do one or more of the following four things:

- Understand information given to them about a particular decision
- Retain that information long enough to be able to make the decision
- Weigh up the information available to make the decision
- Communicate their decision.

Refer to the Mental Capacity Act Code of Practice, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mental-capacity-act-code-of-practice>.

Should anyone have concerns regarding an adult’s capacity and need advocacy support for safeguarding, support and guidance will be sought from Wigan Adult Social Care.



## **Reporting**

### **Know how to report your concerns –**

If you are worried about a child, young person or adult at risk you may wish to talk to them, listen calmly and reassure them that it's not their fault and encourage them to tell you what's happened.

For adults you must ascertain their wishes and ensure they are aware of the safeguarding process, Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP), is not simply about gaining an individual's consent, although that is important, but also about hearing people's views about what they want as an outcome.

If you believe a person to be at immediate risk of harm or in need of emergency medical attention, call the emergency services on 999. Otherwise, if you're worried about a child or young person call Wigan Children's Social Care Team on - **01942 828300**.

If you're worried about an adult then contact Wigan Adult Duty team on - **01942 828777**.

## **Contacts**

### **Adult Referrals for Safeguarding and Care Act Assessments**

Adult Social Care - 01942 828777

### **Wigan Council Specialist Assessment Team (Children's Social Care Referral Team)**

01942 828300 (24 hour Monday-Sunday)

### **Wigan Council Early Help Hub**

01942 486262

### **Designated Officer**

Diane Kitcher

[LADO@wigan.gov.uk](mailto:LADO@wigan.gov.uk)

01942 486042

[Online Notification Form](#)

### **Police**

Emergency – 999

Non-emergency – 101

### **NSPCC Helpline**

0808 800 5000

### **Brighter Better Orrell Group**

#### **Senior Lead for Safeguarding**

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#### **Deputy Senior Lead for Safeguarding**

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#### **Council Link Person**

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## **Review and Approval**

This policy will be reviewed every 2 years, or sooner if relevant legislation or national guidance changes.