

East Sussex Community Voice

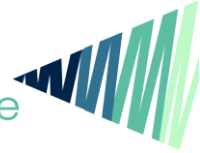
Safeguarding Policy Statement

Policy Schedule

Version	Date of next review by ESCV Board	Date of adoption by ESCV Board
1	n/a	March 2021
2	March 2023	June 2023
3	June 2024	August 2026
4	August 2028	
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1 Purpose and scope of this Policy Statement

- 1.1 East Sussex Community Voice (ESCV) is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults at risk of abuse or neglect.
- 1.2 The purpose of this policy statement is:
- to protect adults and children who receive or participate in East Sussex Community Voice's services from harm.
 - to provide staff and volunteers, as well as adults and children with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding.
- 1.3 This policy applies to anyone working on behalf of East Sussex Community Voice, including managers and the board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers, sessional workers, agency/temporary staff, sub-contractors and students.
- 1.4 This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies, procedures, guidance and other related documents:
- Data sharing and information security policy
 - Equal opportunities policy
 - Code of conduct for staff and volunteers
 - Privacy policy
 - Complaints policy
 - Whistleblowing policy
 - Health and safety policy
 - Induction, training, supervision and support procedures



- Safeguarding children and young people policy
- Safeguarding adults policy

2 Our Safeguarding principles

2.1 We believe that:

- All adults and children have the right to live free from abuse and neglect
- We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all people, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them.

2.2 We recognise that:

- all people, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have an equal right to protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- some people are additionally at risk of abuse or neglect because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues.
- extra safeguards may be needed to keep safe children and adults who are additionally at risk from abuse or neglect.

3 Safeguarding at East Sussex Community Voice

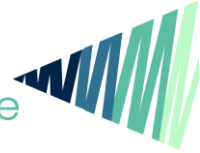
3.1 ESCV is signed up to and complies with the East Sussex County Council (ESCC) and pan-Sussex policies and procedures on Safeguarding Adults and Safeguarding Children and these apply to all staff, Board members, volunteers and partner organisations.

3.2 All ESCV staff, Board members and volunteers are subject to rigorous checks for their suitability to undertake their chosen role within ESCV. This includes during the interview process and the obtaining of satisfactory references prior to employment.

3.3 Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks are undertaken where roles involve working directly with adults at risk, children and young people.

3.4 All staff, board members and volunteers undergo training in safeguarding as part of their induction programme and on a rolling annual refresher basis.

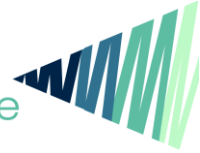
4 Raising a safeguarding concern



- 4.1 If any ESCV member of staff, board member, volunteer, or member of a partner organisation has a concern that a child or adult is in immediate danger, they should contact emergency services on 999.
- 4.2 If any ESCV member of staff, board member, volunteer, or member of a partner organisation has any concerns regarding the safety and wellbeing of a child or adult then they should discuss their concerns with Vicki Harrison-Carr, ESCV CEO and Safeguarding lead for ESCV (contact number 07794 100 291).
- 4.3 If the Safeguarding lead is not available then contact should be made with Vanessa Taylor, Non-Executive Director and Safeguarding Adviser on the ESCV Board of Directors, via the ESCV Business Support Officer (contact number 07794 097713).
- 4.4 It is the responsibility of the Safeguarding lead to ensure the concern is raised with the East Sussex Single Point of Access (SPOA) where there is a concern about a child, or Health and Social Care Connect (HSCC) for concerns about an adult.
- 4.5 If neither ESCV CEO Vicki Harrison-Carr or Non-Executive Director Vanessa Taylor is available to consult, then ESCV staff should discuss the safeguarding concern with a colleague before raising the concern with the SPOA or HSCC. Staff should record their actions in the ESCV safeguarding log. All safeguarding referrals and near miss incidents should be recorded in the safeguarding log.
- 4.6 The contact details for the East Sussex Single Point of Access (SPOA) are: telephone 01323 464 222; email 0-19.SPOA@eastsussex.gov.uk. The Out of Hours Emergency Duty Service contact details are: telephone 01273 335 905; email edschildren@easttsussex.gov.uk.
- 4.7 The contact details for East Sussex Health and Social Care Connect (HSCC) are: telephone 0345 60 80 191; online [Report a concern about an adult | East Sussex County Council](#). For Out of Hours emergency support the telephone number is 01323 636 399.

5 Monitoring of this Policy Statement

- 5.1 This policy statement will be reviewed and updated once every two years by the East Sussex Community Voice Board.



- 5.2 This policy may be revised sooner if there is a change in working premises, conditions or laws directly affecting safeguarding or any other aspect embedded in the document.

6 Further information on Safeguarding

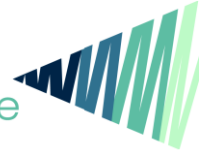
This policy is informed by the Care Act 2014, the Children Act 1989 and 2004, and relevant safeguarding guidance.

East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board
<https://www.eastsussexsab.org.uk/>

Guidance on Raising on Concern About Abuse and Neglect
<https://www.eastsussexsab.org.uk/what-is-safeguarding/raise-a-concern/>

7 Compliance, monitoring and review

- 7.1 The Board of East Sussex Community Voice has the ultimate responsibility for implementing and reviewing this policy. The board will scrutinise our work to ensure that we meet our legal, ethical and operational commitments.
- 7.2 The East Sussex Community Voice Chief Executive holds the day-to-day responsibility for ensuring that this policy is implemented.
- 7.3 This policy will be reviewed and updated on a two-year rolling basis by the East Sussex Community Voice Board.
- 7.4 This policy may be revised sooner if there is a change in working premises, conditions or laws directly affecting data protection or any other aspect embedded in the document.



8 Approval and Adoption

Author/Reviewer	Matthew Ryan, Engagement Manager
Sponsor	Vicki Harrison-Carr, Chief Executive
Date of approval and adoption	20 th August 2026
Date of next scheduled review	August 2028

Signature of East Sussex Community Voice CIC Board Chair

Name	Vanessa Taylor
Signature	
Date	25.08,2026