



Safeguarding Statement and Policy

Documented First Created	February 2022
Last Reviewed	N/A
Next Review	January 2023
Responsible	Chris Bestley

1. Introduction and purpose

The welfare of all children and vulnerable adults accessing the services of Green Ilminster CIC is of paramount importance to the Board of Directors.

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect children, young people and vulnerable adults who participate in activities or receive services from Green Ilminster CIC and its various projects (For example Green Ilminster CIC Campaigning and day to day running, Ilminster Tree Project, Ilminster Share and Repair, Litter picks, Green Drinks and additional events/duties) from harm. This includes the children of adults who use our services or volunteer within our organisation.
- to provide volunteers, as well as children, young people, vulnerable adults and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding. This policy applies to anyone volunteering or working on behalf of Green Ilminster CIC, including directors and volunteers

2. Definitions

Adult at risk of abuse or neglect

For the purposes of this policy, adult at risk refers to someone over 18 years old who, according to paragraph 42.1 of the Care Act 2014:

- has care and support needs
- is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect
- as a result of their care and support needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.

If someone has care and support needs but is not currently receiving care or support from a health or care service they may still be an adult at risk



Green
Ilminster

Children and young people are defined as those persons aged under 18 years old. This policy will apply to all staff, contractors and volunteers and will be used to support their work.

“Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children” is defined in Working Together 2018 as:

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

3. Persons affected by this policy

- All volunteers
- All visitors and contractors

4. Our Policy

- Green Ilminster has a zero-tolerance approach to abuse.
- All volunteers under the age of 18 must be with a responsible adult. Minors may not volunteer independently.
- Vulnerable adults who volunteer with Green Ilminster should be accompanied at all times by a suitable adult (this can be a support worker, carer, family member etc).
- There are no excuses for not taking all reasonable action to protect adults at risk and children from abuse, exploitation, radicalisation and mistreatment.
- Green Ilminster recognises that under the Care Act 2014 it has a duty for the care and protection of adults who are at risk of abuse. It is committed to promoting wellbeing, harm prevention and to responding effectively if concerns are raised.
- The welfare of the child and/ or adult at risk is paramount and all adults have the right to protection from abuse.



Green
Ilminster

- We are committed to working with appropriate agencies and the police etc. to ensure the reporting of abuse is appropriate and in line with local and national requirements and Information Sharing guidance.
- We will create an environment where volunteers and staff feel able to raise safeguarding concerns and feel supported with their safeguarding responsibilities
- All volunteers and staff are given an induction to the organisation; which includes awareness of their safeguarding responsibilities and procedures to be followed if they have a safeguarding concern
- All volunteers and staff are required to report any suspected abuse.
- All Volunteers must be clear on appropriate behaviour and responses and follow our Volunteer Code of Conduct.
- There is Designated Lead for safeguarding at Green Ilminster
- The Designated Safeguarding Lead for Green Ilminster will fulfil their safeguarding responsibilities in a way that ensures that adults and children are safeguarded from harm. The Safeguarding Lead is responsible for following up and reporting any suspected reports of abuse.
- A member of the Board will have leadership responsibility for Green Ilminster's safeguarding arrangements
- This policy will be reviewed annually by the Board.