



Safeguarding Policy Statement

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Leadership Safeguarding Commitment

All too often we read in the news of churches and charities being embroiled in claims of abuse, either of children/young people or of adults with care and support needs. It is a reminder to us that we have both a moral and a legal responsibility to ensure the safety of those we work with. Whilst the Trustees are legally responsible for safeguarding, the Leadership (Elders, Trustees and Leadership Team) of the church take safeguarding seriously, and this short statement outlines how we go about it.

The Leadership endorse and follow all national and local safeguarding legislation and procedures.

The Leadership endeavour to ensure that an atmosphere of open communication is engendered whereby children/young people and adults with care and support needs (i) will feel comfortable in approaching any of the Leaders for assistance or guidance; and (ii) are provided with information on where to get help and advice in relation to abuse, discrimination, bullying or any other matter where they have a concern.

The Leadership are committed to (i) working with statutory agencies as appropriate; and (ii) offering pastoral care and support to any of Salway Evangelical Church's members or contacts who have been affected by abuse.

The Leadership will, in line with current legislation and guidelines:

- Ensure that the building complies with relevant Health and Safety, Equal Opportunity and Disability Discrimination legislation.
- Maintain a register of workers whose designated role is to work with children, young people or adults with care and support needs.
- Ensure that suitable procedures are in place for the recruitment of workers to roles to which the Safeguarding Policy applies.
- Ensure that all workers who have regular contact with children, young people or adults with care and support needs are DBS-checked.
- Ensure that all workers receive Safeguarding training on a regular basis.
- Ensure that the Safeguarding Policy and its attendant guidance is correctly implemented.

- Ensure that procedures are in place for (i) identifying adults with care and support needs; (ii) agreeing care plans; (iii) recording incidents, actions and discussions involving, or pertaining to, the safeguarding of individual adults with care and support needs.
- Ensure that those who engage with children, young people or adults with care and support needs are suitably supported and protected.
- Ensure that procedures are in place for (i) identifying any in the church who may be a risk to the welfare of others; (ii) agreeing measures to ensure safety for all.
- Ensure that the wider church is regularly informed about safeguarding policy and procedures.
- Appoint and train safeguarding co-ordinators and support them in their role.
- Receive, and respond to as appropriate, specific safeguarding concerns or incidents.
- Ensure that the Safeguarding Policy and its implementation and effectiveness are reviewed annually.

There are a number of things we would like the church to be aware of with regard to Safeguarding:

1. Safeguarding is a whole-church responsibility. This means that if any one of us has a safeguarding concern, we must take action. More on this later.
2. We have a safeguarding policy in place, and it covers the safeguarding of both children/young people and adults with care and support needs. For England, this is defined as:

The adult safeguarding duties under the Care Act 2014 apply to an adult, aged 18 or over, who:

- has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs) **and**;
- is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect; **and**
- as a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.

Care and support is the mixture of practical, financial and emotional support for adults who need extra help to manage their lives and be independent - including older people, people with a disability or long-term illness, people with mental health problems, and carers. Care and support includes assessment of people's needs, provision of services and the allocation of funds to enable a person to purchase their own care and support. It could include care home, home care, personal assistants, day services, or the provision of aids and adaptations.

3. If you have any concerns about a child or adult with care and support needs in the church, do please contact our Safeguarding Co-ordinator (Jenny Mumford) or our Deputy Safeguarding Co-ordinator (Paul Watkins), or our Trustee for Safeguarding (Andy Pople).
4. In the event of a safeguarding concern, we have contact with, and will work with, a number of local and national agencies such as Redbridge Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub, Redbridge Adult Social Services, the police, and Thirtyone:eight
5. Regular Training is provided for all our workers, both paid and voluntary, and all workers have been provided with a copy of our Safeguarding Policy.

Adoption of the policy

This policy was agreed by the leadership and will be reviewed at least every 3 years on: 1st July

Signed by: *Jenny Mumford*

Position: Safeguarding Co-ordinator

Signed by: *Paul Watkins*

Position: Deputy Safeguarding Co-ordinator

Signed by: *Andy Pople*

Position: Trustee Responsible for Safeguarding

Date: 31st January 2026