

SAFEGUARDING FOR TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS **via Zoom 22nd November 2022**

Simon Mould (Cornwall Council Head of Community, Safety and Localism) led this workshop on the launch of a safeguarding toolkit for town and parish councils

The workshop started off with a case study – don't make assumptions about what behaviour is caused by and why; don't assume that someone else has reported it or that professionals are involved. If you see/feel something, say something!

Everybody has the right to be safe. CC has statutory duties to protect children (legally 17 and under), young people and vulnerable adults. Vulnerability isn't necessarily permanent eg pregnancy, illness etc. Safeguarding applies to every organisation and individuals connected to that organisation including volunteers, partners and contractors.

Organisations need a policy in place to show commitment to safeguarding and often a policy is needed to apply for grants. Public expectation is good practice and having a policy will protect councillors, officers and staff. If something is reported to the town or parish council it doesn't need to be investigated but should be reported to the appropriate Cornwall Council service. If there is immediate danger then call 999.

Toolkit

Website: www.cornwall.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/what-is-safeguarding/ covers a wide number of issues including modern slavery, domestic violence

The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) can be contacted on 01872 326536 or on lado@cornwall.gov.uk. Website is www.cornwall.gov.uk/lado

Adult Social Care Access Team (part of Safer Cornwall) 0300 1234 131
adultsafeguardingconcerns@cornwall.gov.uk

Concerns over people in positions of trust (PiPoT) who work with adults with needs harming or may harm an adult they are in contact with – call 0300 1234 131
www.cornwall.gov.uk/safeguardingadults

Next steps

Recognise Safeguarding as a priority
Adopt a designated lead person
Adopt a policy
Review contact details regularly so they are up-to-date and to hand

Sharron Kelsey