



Greener Padbury Group SAFEGUARDING POLICY AND STATEMENT

Padbury is a volunteer membership organisation open to all residents of Padbury Village. There is a core membership of maximum nine members, who are key members of the constituted group.

No staff are employed by Greener Padbury Group. No direct services are provided to children, young people or vulnerable adults or their families.

The Greener Padbury Group exists to promote environmental community activities and awareness raising and to improve the environmental value of the immediate areas surrounding Padbury village.

Greener Padbury Group abides by the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and is committed to safeguarding practice that reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice requirements.

- We recognise the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take
- All children, 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 children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

Purpose:

Greener Padbury Group will:

- Protect any children, young people and vulnerable adults who receive Greener Padbury's activities/services from harm.
- Provide staff and volunteers, as well as children and young people and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

This policy applies to anyone working on behalf of Greener Padbury Group including the board of trustees, paid consultancy staff and volunteers. Failure to comply with the policy and related procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the organisation.

Definitions:

The Children Act 1989 definition of a child is: anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday, even if they are living independently, are a member of the armed forces or are in hospital.

Adult at Risk:

- An adult who 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.



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Child and Adult Abuse: Children and adults may be vulnerable to 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

Safeguarding children: Safeguarding children is defined in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 as:

- 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.

Legal Framework:

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England. A summary of the key legislation is available from nspcc.org.uk/learning.

Greener Padbury Group should have in place arrangements that reflect the importance of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people as well as vulnerable adults.

Training and Awareness:

Greener Padbury Group will ensure an appropriate level of safeguarding training is available to its Trustees, Employees, Volunteers and any relevant persons linked to the organisation who requires it (e.g. contractors).

For all employees who are working or volunteering with children, this requires them as a minimum to have awareness training that enables them to:

- Understand what safeguarding is and their role in safeguarding children.
- Recognise a child/young person/vulnerable adult potentially in need of safeguarding and take action.
- Understand how to report a safeguarding Alert.
- Understand dignity and respect when working with children.
- Have knowledge of the Safeguarding Children Policy.

Similarly, employees and volunteers may encounter concerns about the safety and wellbeing of an adult at risk of abuse.



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Confidentiality and Information Sharing:

Greener Padbury Group expects all employees, volunteers and trustees 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 child 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 concern regarding an adult or child with safeguarding needs. This must include details of the person involved, the nature of the concern, the actions taken, decisions made and why they were made.

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

Safe Recruitment & Selection:

Greener Padbury Group is a volunteer membership organisation. We do not employ staff. However, in the event we commission services from external bodies, we are committed to safe employment and safe recruitment practices that reduce the risk of harm to children from people unsuitable to work with them or have contact with them.

Social Media:

All employees and volunteers should be aware of Greener Padbury Group social media policy and procedures and the code of conduct for behaviour towards the children we support.

Use of Mobile Phones and other Digital Technology:

All trustees and volunteers should be aware of Greener Padbury Group Safeguarding policy and understand that it is unlawful to photograph children and young people without the explicit consent of the person with parental responsibilities.

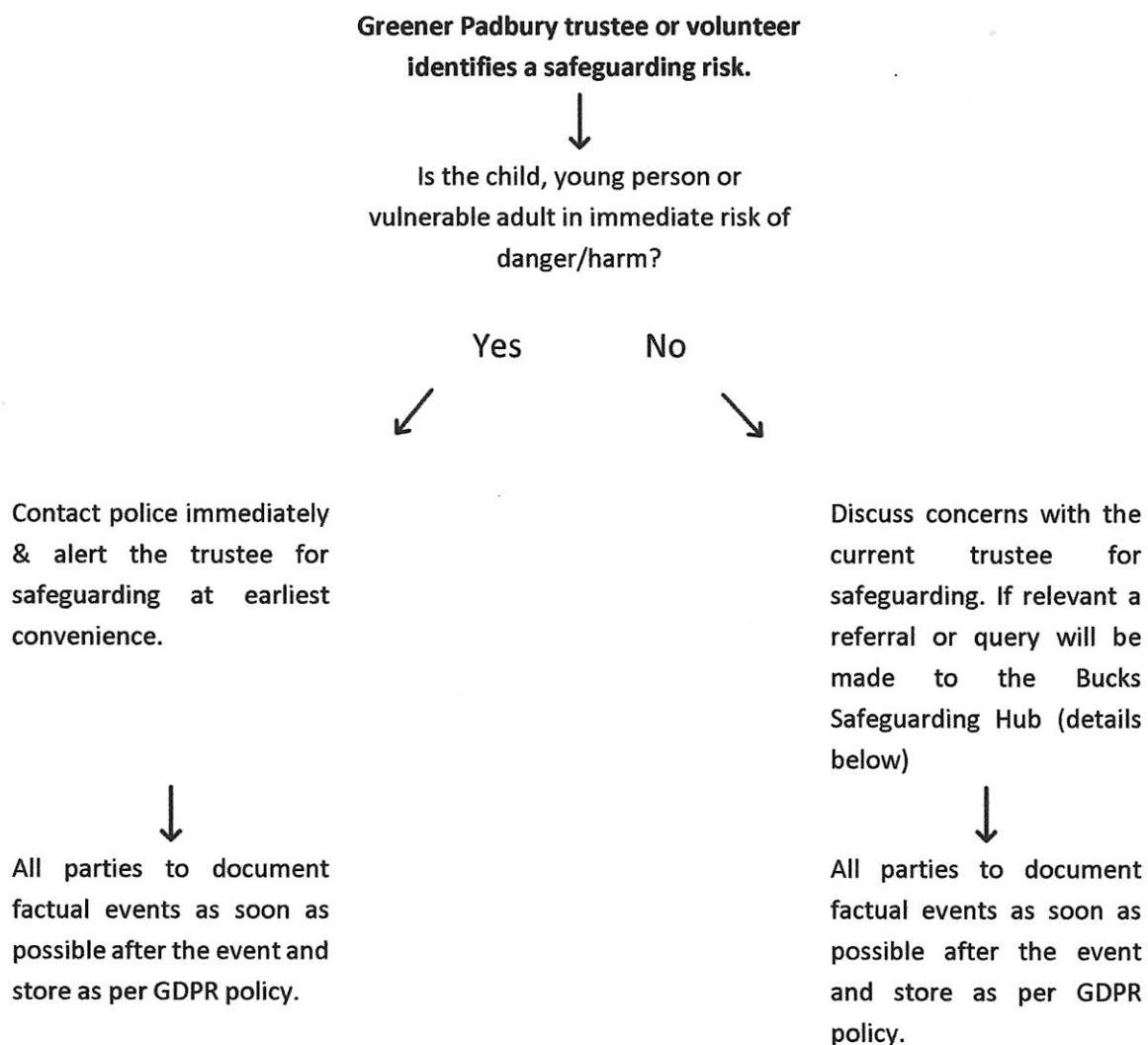
Whistleblowing:

It is important that people within Greener Padbury Group have the confidence to come forward to speak or act if they are unhappy with anything. Whistleblowing occurs when a person raises a concern about dangerous or illegal activity, or any wrong doing within their organisation. This includes concerns about another employee or volunteer. There is also a requirement to protect whistleblowers.



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Example of reporting an incident





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Important Contacts:

Trustee for Safeguarding:

Name: Lucy Read

Email address: lucyread@hotmail.co.uk

Telephone number: 07599 919589

**Bucks Safeguarding Hub 01296 383962
between 9am-5pm Monday to Friday**

Duty Team OOH 0800 999 7677

Police

Emergency – 999

Non-emergency – 101

NSPCC Helpline

0808 800 5000

Approved by Chair Cassandra Rigg

Date of review: February 2026

Date: 10 February 2025