

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL PRISON VISITORS

SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT 2024

Registered Charity number 1099041

The NAOPV recognises the importance of safeguarding and tries to ensure that everyone with whom we work is safe, feels secure and is appropriately supported

This written policy on safeguarding is made available to all members of the NAOPV and OPVs who are non-members. It is also publicly accessible on our website.

The NAOPV aims to inform and support those who visit in prisons as Governor appointees - OPVs

The purpose of this Policy statement is to provide members/volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding.

This Policy applies to anyone working on behalf of NAOPV, including trustees, members, and volunteers.

Legal framework

This Policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to implement safeguarding in England & Wales.

Supporting documents

This Policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies, procedures, guidance, and other relevant documents:

- role description for the designated safeguarding officer
- dealing with disclosures and concerns about a vulnerable person
- managing allegations against members and volunteers
- recording concerns and information sharing
- code of conduct for members/volunteers
- whistleblowing
- health and safety
- induction, training, supervision, and support
- supervision statements.

We recognise that:

- the welfare of any vulnerable adult is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take
- working in partnership with the associated prison establishment is key to maintaining the welfare of vulnerable adults
- all vulnerable adults, 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 adults are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues

We will seek to keep vulnerable adults safe by:

- valuing, listening to and respecting them
- appointing for vulnerable adults a lead trustee/ executive committee member for safeguarding
- adopting safeguarding best practice through our Policies, procedures, and Code of Conduct for members/volunteers
- providing awareness for members/volunteers through dissemination of this policy so that all members/volunteers know about and follow our behaviour codes confidently and competently
- recording and storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance *[more information about this is available from the Information Commissioner's Office: ico.org.uk/for-organisations]*
- sharing information about safeguarding as required
- using our procedures to manage appropriately any allegations against members/volunteers
- promoting an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any issues that may arise
- being aware that all prisons have their own dedicated, publicised, effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- being aware that prisons are required to provide a safe physical environment for their vulnerable adults and for our members/volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance
- building a safeguarding culture where trustees, members/volunteers treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.

Contact details

Nominated safeguarding lead

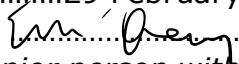
Name: Elizabeth McQuay

Phone/email: law@elizabeth mcquay.co.uk 07711 142705

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

This policy was last reviewed on

.....29 February 2024.....(date)

Signed: ..... *[this should be signed by the most senior person with responsibility for safeguarding in your organisation, for example the safeguarding lead on your board of trustees]*. Date: 1 March 2024

To be reviewed February 2025