



TATWORTH AND FORTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Safeguarding Policy November 2025

Approved by Full Council

4th December 2025

Minute No 213/25

Website <http://www.tatworthandfortonparishcouncil.org.uk/default.aspx>

Clerk Nigel Tinley 01460 220063 clerk@tatworthandfortonparishcouncil.org.uk

1. Purpose

This policy sets out the Parish Council's commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of vulnerable people during its activities. While the Council has limited interaction with children and vulnerable adults, it recognises its responsibility to ensure safety when such contact occurs.

2. Scope

Applies to all councillors, volunteers, and contractors involved in Council activities.

Relevant primarily for the annual Christmas party for older residents and any occasional community events.

3. Policy Statement

Provide a safe and welcoming environment for all participants.

Take reasonable steps to prevent harm, abuse, or neglect.

Respond promptly and appropriately to any safeguarding concerns.

4. Definitions

An **Adult at Risk** is an adult who:

has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs such as elderly and frail due to ill health, physical disability or cognitive impairment, or someone with a learning disability or has a physical disability, or mental health needs including dementia or a personality disorder, or a person who misuses substances or alcohol), and;

is experiencing, or is 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.

(Safeguarding Adults Multi-Agency Policy, June 2019)

Abuse: Includes physical, emotional, sexual, financial, neglect, discriminatory, psychological, and organisational abuse, as well as modern slavery and domestic violence.

There are many other types of abuse such as Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), Coercive Control and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE).

5. Key Principles

Duty of Care

Everyone involved in Council activities shares responsibility for safeguarding.

Respect and Inclusion

Treat all individuals with dignity, regardless of age, ability, or background.

Proportionality

Measures will be appropriate to the level of risk and nature of the event.

6. Procedures

Event Planning

Ensure venues are accessible and safe.

Identify any specific needs of attendees (e.g., mobility support).

Supervision

At least two responsible adults present during events involving vulnerable people.

Reporting Concerns

Any safeguarding concern should be reported immediately to the Designated Safeguarding lead Parish Clerk, currently Nigel Tinley. If not available the Parish Council chairman, currently Councillor Richard Down.

Clerk will escalate to local safeguarding authority if necessary.

Reporting Pathways

For concerns about a **vulnerable adult**, refer to **Somerset Adults Safeguarding Board** at Initial Response Service – 0300 123 2224, Out of Hours: Adult and Mental Health- 01823 368244

For immediate danger, contact emergency services by dialling **999**.

Emergency Contact

Keep a list of emergency numbers (police, local safeguarding board) at events.

7. Training

Mandatory safeguarding training, refreshed every 3 years, is available to all staff. Training will incorporate:

- How to recognise signs of abuse and neglect.
- What to do if you are concerned.

8. Review

Whilst the Council does not currently deal with young persons it appreciates that a DBS background check would be required if we this changes.

Policy reviewed annually or after any safeguarding incident.