



# West Horsley Parish Council

## Child Protection Policy

### 1. Purpose and Scope

To protect children and young people, where the Council has dealings with them, from harm. This includes:

- work carried out with and in support of West Horsley Youth; and
- events organised by both the Parish Council and the Youth Council, such as the Teddy Bears' Picnic, Christmas Lantern Parade, Family Fun Run and Youth Movie Nights.

### 2. Legal framework

This policy statement is made with regard to legislation, policy and guidance which seeks to protect children in England. It is drawn from guidance and the summary of the key legislation that is available from [NSPCC.org.uk/learning](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/learning). The Parish Council will comply with the Safeguarding Policy and Guidance determined by Surrey County Council reporting to its Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) as needed.

### 3. Supporting Documents

This policy statement should be read alongside West Horsley Parish Council's organisational policies, procedures, guidance and other related documents including the Code of Conduct and the Youth Council Safeguarding Policy.

### 4. Safeguarding Officers

The safeguarding officers should be the Clerk and Chairman of the Council, plus an independent adult. Their role is to:

- manage allegations or complaints made against Councillors or Officers;
- seek permission of parents/carers for the involvement of the young person;
- obtain permission for the taking/use of photography/video at events run by the Parish Council and Youth Council;
- ensure appropriate risk assessments have been carried out for events involving children and young people.

### 5. Values & Beliefs

#### We believe:

- Children should be heard and allowed to express their opinions within, and to the Council, without fear of abuse in any of its forms.
- We have a responsibility to allow young people to safely engage with Parish Council and Youth Council.
- We have the same responsibility to ensure the safety and well-being of children and young people when attending events put on by the Parish Council and Youth Council for their enjoyment.

#### We recognise:

- The importance of working in partnership with children and young people, their parents and legal guardians, to protect their welfare at all times.

We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- valuing, listening and respecting them;
- appointing a nominated child protection lead for children and young people, a deputy and lead Councillor for safeguarding;
- adopting child protection and best practice through our policies, procedures and Code of Conduct;
- developing and implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures;
- ensuring that all Parish Councillors and related personnel are aware of our safeguarding procedures and undergo specific training on child protection;
- applying the Parish Council's data protection procedure for all matters pertaining to children;
- ensuring that any venue used by the Parish Council and Youth Council in which children are present works or operates from is compliant with the laws and regulatory guidance covering Health & Safety.

## **6. Safeguarding Officers**

The Parish Council has identified the following individuals as safeguarding officers, and will ensure that appropriate training is undertaken so that they may fulfil their roles:

1. Elaine Best, Chairman WHPC [chairman@westhorsley.info](mailto:chairman@westhorsley.info) 01483 284905
2. Julia McClung, Clerk WHPC [clerk@westhorsley.info](mailto:clerk@westhorsley.info) 01483 901905
3. Jane Graham, Independent Safeguarding Officer [jygraham@btinternet.com](mailto:jygraham@btinternet.com) 07703 437 272

The Parish Council has identified the following individual as the Lead Councillor for West Horsley Youth Council:

1. Cllr Vanessa Buosi [cllrbuosi@westhorsley.info](mailto:cllrbuosi@westhorsley.info)

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