

## Our Commitment to Safeguarding as a Funder

*For organisations, collectives, and individuals delivering services to children and/or adults at risk*

At Blaggrave, we partner with organisations that share our vision of lasting change for young people. Safeguarding is fundamental to this work. We expect our partners to:

- **Prioritise safeguarding** by embedding it into organisational culture, with policies and procedures that are appropriate and proportionate to the work you do.
- **Keep people safe** through robust recruitment, including appropriate background checks and references, alongside regular training and guidance for all staff.
- **Proactively manage risks** by effectively recording and responding to safeguarding risks and concerns.

### What we expect from grant partners

All grant partners working directly with the wider public **should** have a safeguarding policy and **must** have some sort of whistleblowing process; those working with children and/or adults at risk **must** have safeguarding arrangements<sup>1</sup> that meet legal requirements.

The safeguarding arrangements should be **relevant to your work**. For example, if you deliver services online, your safeguarding policy should consider how you can deliver online services safely. If you work with adults at risk, your policies must reflect the legal framework for protecting them. If your work is not specifically targeted at adults at risk but you may encounter individuals who could be or become at risk, your safeguarding or wellbeing policy should outline how you will be able to adequately support them.

### What are we looking for in our safeguarding due diligence

As part of our due diligence process, we review the safeguarding arrangements of applicants to check for compliance with legal requirements. This includes reviewing the following:

- Safeguarding policy
- Safeguarding procedure(s)

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<sup>1</sup> By safeguarding arrangements we mean the organisational approach to safeguarding, including safeguarding policy, relevant procedures and considerations on whistleblowing and safer recruitment, for example.

- Their approach to safer recruitment (which may be part of the safeguarding policy or a standalone policy)
- Their approach to training (which may be included in your safeguarding policy or shared separately)
- Their approach to whistleblowing (which may be included in the safeguarding policy and procedure or a standalone policy)

Youth led organisations, groups or individuals who do not meet minimum due diligence requirements may operate under Blagrove's safeguarding arrangements. Further details can be found in our [Safeguarding and Promoting the Wellbeing of Children and Adults Policy](#).

Our [Safeguarding Due Diligence table](#) goes into more detail on what we are looking for in our due diligence.

### **Beyond Compliance: A Culture of Care**

Although our safeguarding due diligence focuses on legal aspects of safeguarding, we encourage all organisations to go further by promoting safety and wellbeing for everyone they work with. While the legal definition of safeguarding applies to specific groups, all organisations have a [duty of care](#) to staff, volunteers, and others you engage with. This includes having policies in place to promote safety and wellbeing of all. However, these are not assessed as part of Blagrove's due diligence.

### **Why we took this approach**

The Charity Commission defines [safeguarding](#) as "the range of measures in place to protect the people who come into contact with charities through their work from abuse and mistreatment of any kind (including neglect)."

A strong safeguarding culture benefits everyone, particularly those working with children and/or adults at risk. Clear policies and procedures do not necessarily indicate strong safeguarding culture, but they are key to embedding one as they ensure that staff, volunteers, trustees and others who come into contact with your organisation are clear on your organisation keeps people who engage with you safe.

### **Additional resources**

We have included some links to information on safeguarding legal requirements and best practices in England, in Annex A.

## Annex A

When developing policies and procedures and guidance, it is important to consider and reference key domestic legislation to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults at risk of harm affected by your work. Below you can find links to useful resources and an overview of relevant legislation, with links. This list is not exhaustive, please ensure you have consulted all legislation applicable to your work.

### Useful resources:

- [NSPCC](#) – includes templates, guidance and training, with a focus on children
- [Ann Craft Trust](#) – includes templates, guidance and training, with a focus on adults
- [Safeguarding and protecting people for charities and trustees](#) – government guidance
- [NCVO](#) – guidance for charities and trustees
- [Directory of Organisations and Useful Contacts](#)
- [Writing your safeguarding policy](#)

## Relevant legislation

### Children

- [The Children's Act \(1989\)](#), and the [Children's Act \(2004\) revised](#)
- [Working Together to Safeguard Children \(2023\)](#), Department for Education
- [The Children and Families Act \(2014\)](#)
- [Protection of Children Act 1999](#)
- [The United Convention of the Rights of the Child \(1991\)](#)
- [Children and Social Work Act 2017](#)

### Adults

- [The Care Act \(2014\)](#)
- [Care and support statutory guidance \(2020\)](#)
- [Mental Capacity Act 2005](#)

### Both children and adults

- [Safeguarding and protecting people for charities and trustees \(2017\)](#), The Charity Commission
- [Online Safety Act \(2023\)](#)
- [The Sex Offenders Act \(1997\)](#) and [the Sexual Offences Act \(2003\)](#)
- [The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act \(2006\)](#), amended by [the Protection of Freedoms Act \(2012\)](#)
- [The Human Rights Act \(1998\)](#)
- [Protection of Freedoms Act \(2012\)](#)
- [SEND Code of Practice: 0–25 years \(2014\)](#)

- [Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015](#)
- [Domestic Abuse Act 2021](#).
- [Information Sharing: Advice for Practitioners \(2015\)](#)
- [Age appropriate design: a code of practice for online services \(2020\)](#).

**There are also wider duties of care including under:**

- [the Data Protection Act 2018](#)
- [Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998](#)
- [Equality Act 2010](#)
- [Malicious Communications Act 1988](#) and [Communications Act 2003](#)
- [Computer Misuse Act 1990](#)
- [Serious Crime Act 2015](#)