

Transition Tynedale Ltd - Safeguarding Policy 2023

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to protect people, particularly children, at-risk adults and beneficiaries of assistance, from any harm that may be caused due to their coming into contact with anyone volunteering for *Transition Tynedale*. This includes harm arising from:

- the conduct of any personnel associated with TT
- the design and implementation of any of TT organised events, projects, talks or activities

The policy lays out the commitments made by *Transition Tynedale*, and informs all associated personnel¹ of their responsibilities in relation to safeguarding.

This policy does not cover:

- safeguarding concerns in the wider community not perpetrated by TT
- this policy does not refer specifically to TT 'staff' as it has no staff; if at any time in the future this changes, this policy will be updated accordingly.

Definition of safeguarding

Transition Tynedale takes safeguarding to mean 'protecting peoples' health, wellbeing and human rights, and enabling them to live free from 'harm, abuse and neglect'.

Transition Tynedale understands this to mean protecting people, including children and at risk adults, from any harm that arises from coming into contact with any of our associated personnel and/ or at any events for which we are directly and solely responsible.

Scope

- associated personnel whilst engaged with work or visits related to TT, including but not limited to the following: consultants; volunteers; contractors; programme visitors including journalists, celebrities and politicians
- any staff contracted by TT

Policy Statement

Transition Tynedale believes that everyone it comes into contact with, regardless of age, gender identity, disability, sexual orientation or ethnic origin has the right to be protected from all forms of harm, abuse, neglect and exploitation. TT will not tolerate any form of abuse or exploitation by any of its associated personnel.

This policy covers the following areas of safeguarding : child safeguarding, adult safeguarding
Transition Tynedale commits to addressing safeguarding throughout its work, through the three pillars of 'prevention, reporting and response'. *Transition Tynedale* also has a dedicated child protection policy.

Prevention

Responsibilities of *Transition Tynedale Ltd*

TT will:

- ensure all its associated personnel have access to, are familiar with, and know their responsibilities within this policy and also the specific TT Child Safeguarding policy if working with children
- design and undertake all its programmes and activities in a way that protects people from any risk of harm that may arise from their coming into contact with TT (This includes the way in which information about individuals in our programmes is gathered and communicated.)
- implement stringent safeguarding procedures if/when recruiting, managing and deploying staff and associated personnel
- ensure any staff, if appointed, receive training on safeguarding at a level commensurate with their role in the organization
- follow up on reports of safeguarding concerns promptly and according to due process

Responsibilities of associated personnel

Child safeguarding (and see also specific TT Child Safeguarding /Protection policy)

Transition Tynedale associated personnel must not:

- engage in sexual activity with anyone under the age of 18
- sexually abuse or exploit children
- subject a child to physical, emotional or psychological abuse, or neglect
- engage in any commercially exploitative activities with children including child labour or trafficking

Adult safeguarding

Transition Tynedale associated personnel must not:

- sexually abuse or exploit at-risk adults
- subject an at-risk adult to physical, emotional or psychological abuse, or neglect

Additionally, *Transition Tynedale* associated personnel are obliged to:

- contribute to creating and maintaining an environment that prevents safeguarding violations and promotes the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy
- report any concerns or suspicions regarding safeguarding violations by any of its associated personnel to the appropriate person

Reporting concerns

Transition Tynedale will ensure that safe, appropriate, accessible means of consulting on and/or reporting safeguarding concerns are made available to anyone we work with.

TT will also accept and investigate complaints from external sources such as members of the public, partners and official bodies.

Mechanism for reporting a safeguarding concern

Any *Transition Tynedale* associated personnel who has a concern or complaint relating to safeguarding should report it immediately to one of the following :

- The *Transition Tynedale Director responsible for Safeguarding*, Ira Hakim Tel: 07599 127788
info@transitiontynedale.co.uk
- The *TT Company Secretary*, Penny Hewart info@transitiontynedale.co.uk

Either, by post to *Transition Tynedale Ltd* (and mark confidential) c/o Transition Tynedale Ltd's Registered Office, c/o Hexham Community Centre, Gilesgate, Hexham NE46 3NP

TT will follow up safeguarding reports and concerns according to policy and procedure, and legal and statutory obligations.

TT will take appropriate action in relation to what has been reported.

TT will offer support to survivors of harm caused by any associated personnel, regardless of whether a formal internal response is carried out (such as an internal investigation). Decisions regarding support will be led by the survivor.

SEE ALSO TT's Child Safeguarding/Protection Policy for specific guidance and advice as regards child protection.

If the person does not feel comfortable reporting to *Transition Tynedale*, then they may report any concerns directly to Northumberland County Council (NCC).

- Reporting **Adult Safeguarding** issues: Onecall: 01670 536 400; Text phone: 01670 536 844; Email: onecall@northumbria.nhs.uk
- Reporting potential **Child Safeguarding concerns** to NCC can also be done via the NCC website, and there are a range of different options to report any issues to, depending on what you believe may be happening.
- Further information about how to report concerns about child and adult safeguarding can be found on the NCC website link below:
<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Care/Support/Safeguarding.aspx>

Confidentiality

It is essential that confidentiality is maintained at all stages of the process when dealing with safeguarding concerns. Information relating to the concern and subsequent case management will be shared on a need-to-know basis only, and will be kept secure at all times.

Policy adopted by Transition Tynedale Ltd in this form, 24.04.23