

Safeguarding in Community Groups Newsletter - Summer 2020



Welcome to the Summer new 'softer look' edition of the newsletter from Wigan Safeguarding Partnership. In this latest edition we take a look at government guidance for charities and trustees relating to safeguarding and protecting people. We also let you know about useful safeguarding resources from NCVO. Also in this edition we highlight a new digital safeguarding tool developed by the government to help charities handle reporting of safeguarding concerns, let you know about a useful guide from the DBS for voluntary and community groups and tell you about our new online podcast & webinar resources.

Safeguarding & protecting people: Government Guidance charities & trustees

Protecting people & safeguarding responsibilities should be a governance priority for all charities. It is a fundamental part of operating as a charity for the public benefit. As part of fulfilling duties as a trustee, reasonable steps must be taken to protect people from harm who come into contact with charities. This includes people who benefit from the charity's work, staff, volunteers & anyone else who comes into contact with charities. The Charity Commission will hold trustees to account and will check to see whether trustees followed this guidance and the law. Trustees are expected to take responsibility for putting things right. Trustees should promote fair, open and transparent culture to ensure that all involved feel able to report concerns & that they will be listened to. More information about the government guidance can be found [here](#)

New! Safeguarding Related Podcasts and Webinars online– Take a Listen!

We're all spending more time at home these days. This is the perfect opportunity to develop your knowledge of safeguarding. Why not listen to a podcast?, or as an alternative to watching TV, why not view a webinar? Take a look at Wigan Safeguarding Partnership's new podcast & webinar sections on our [WSAB](#) & [WSCB](#) websites. Here you'll find a variety of interesting & engaging content from well known organisations such as NSPCC, Ann Craft Trust, The Open University and SCIE. These podcasts are free to listen to.

Useful Safeguarding Resources for Community Groups from NCVO

The National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) have put together a comprehensive collection of [free safeguarding resources](#) aimed at community and voluntary groups, including briefings, guides, podcasts, tools and videos. These resources are straightforward, practical and based on real-world experience in the voluntary sector.

New Safeguarding Digital Tool for Charities

Every organisation that delivers charitable activities has a responsibility to safeguard people from harm or abuse, whether they are staff members, volunteers, or other people who come into contact with a charity through its work. The government has designed a new [digital tool](#) and [guidance](#) to help charities handle the reporting of safeguarding concerns or allegations about the behaviour or actions of a person in their charity. The tool acts as a prompt so that charities can ensure that they have taken all the relevant steps necessary to safeguard charity beneficiaries and to protect the charity.

DBS Guide for Voluntary and Community Groups

The DBS have produced a [guide](#) for voluntary and community groups working with children or vulnerable adults. The guide covers criminal records check in England, the Isle of Man, Wales and the Channel Islands. Amongst a number of subjects the document covers understanding DBS checks, eligibility for DBS checks, defines a volunteer and provides information relating to regulated activities. The guide also provides additional sources of guidance and help.

Did You Know About Our FREE 'Eyes and Ears' Safeguarding Training?

Wigan Safeguarding Partnership run FREE two hour safeguarding awareness sessions called 'Eyes and Ears' which are aimed at individuals, community groups and residents. Sessions are delivered by a Wigan Safeguarding Partnership Trainer. By the end of the course participants will understand the different types of abuse, be able to recognise abuse, know what to do if abuse has occurred, and importantly know how to report abuse. For more information click [here](#). Please note that course have been suspended due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Once sessions have restarted, we will promote these. In the meantime, why not take a look at our [online resources](#) (for further details see article below).

Check Out Our Online Resources for Community Groups

Don't forget to check out both [WSAB](#) & [WSCB](#) websites, which have areas dedicated to community groups . From these page, you can also access our training brochure.

Did you know that the WSAB website has some really useful website links about staying safe and different support that can be found [here](#)

Keep up to date with safeguarding, social care and health- related news on our social media channels on Twitter and Facebook. Search 'Wigan Safeguarding Adults Board' and 'Wigan Safeguarding Children Board' to find our accounts.