

## Safeguarding policy for Children and Adults

### Statement of intent

Colchester Korban Project (Korban) believes that everyone has the right to be safe from harm and must be able to live free from fear of abuse, neglect and exploitation. We will ensure all our staff, volunteers and trustees have a good knowledge of the issues of safeguarding, understand their responsibilities, and are aware of our clear procedure when a protection issued is raised for a child or adult with care and support needs. We are committed to those in our care and to ensuring their rights and wellbeing are looked after while part of the project and when coming into contact with any of our representatives.

Our policy complies with the following:

- [Southend, Essex and Thurrock Safeguarding Adult Guidelines](#)
  - [Care Act 2014](#) and [Care Act statutory guidance](#)
  - [Mental Capacity Act 2005](#) and [SET MCA policy and guidance 2018](#)
- And
- [Southend, Essex and Thurrock \(SET\) Safeguarding and Child Protection Procedures](#)
  - Working Together to Safeguard Children, 2018: HM Government

### Definitions

Korban will house and support young people between 16 - 25 years of age. This policy will use the definitions as follows:

**Child** – Any individual under the age of 18 years (Working together 2015)

**Adult** –Adult safeguarding is to prevent harm and reduce the risk of abuse or neglect to adults with care and support needs (see our full policy for more information).

All staff, volunteers and trustees representing Korban have a duty to promote the welfare and safety of any children and adults with care and support needs who come into contact with the project.

All staff and volunteers who have direct or indirect contact with residents will go through a recruitment, assessment and training process. This includes taking up references and an enhanced DBS check. They will also receive supervision and support commensurate to their role.

While a part of the project, staff, volunteers and trustees may receive disclosures of abuse or observe children, and adults with care and support needs, who are at risk.

Any suspicion, allegation or incident of abuse must be reported to the **Lead for Safeguarding** or **Deputy Lead for Safeguarding** on that working day where possible.

NB. In the event of being unable to contact the **Lead for Safeguarding** or **Deputy Lead for Safeguarding** then call the Children and Families Hub / Essex Social Care Direct on **0345 603 7627** and ask for the 'Priority line'.

*If there is an immediate risk of harm to a child then contact the Police on 999.*

The designated **Lead for Safeguarding** in the organisation is the current Chief Executive, Mark Wood who can be contacted on 01206 869533 / 07435 974356. The Deputy Lead for Safeguarding is Frank Saunders who can be contacted on 07432 523111.

The role of the **Lead for Safeguarding** is to have an overview of all instances involving safeguarding concerns within the organisation. One of the **Deputy Leads for Safeguarding** will be responsible for reporting. They will respond to all safeguarding concerns and enquiries in line with our full policy document. In their absence, the **Lead for Safeguarding** will be responsible.

### **Managing Allegations against staff**

Korban embraces a culture within which staff and volunteers should feel safe to report incidences of poor or abusive practice. In accordance with statutory guidance, any concerns about the conduct of a member of staff should be referred to the Chief Executive, Mark Wood, 01206 869533 / 07435 974356. In his absence or where the concern involves the Chief Executive, the Chair of trustees, Revd Tony Bushell, should be contacted on 01787 222487 / 07484 265258.

Staffing matters are confidential and Korban operates within statutory guidance around Data Protection. Where the concern involves the Project Manager, it should be reported direct to the Chair of Trustees.

SET procedures and guidelines (ESCB / ESAB, 2019) require that, where an allegation against a member of staff is received, the Chief Executive or Chair of Trustees must inform the duty Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) on 03330 139 797 within one working day. No investigation will be undertaken until advice from the LADO has been received.

*Updated: 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023*