

EFT VULNERABLE ADULTS AND SAFEGUARDING POLICY

DEFINITIONS

Vulnerable adults are people over 18 who are unable to protect themselves from harm or being exploited because of disability, age or illness.

Abuse means either harming someone or not ensuring that someone isn't harmed. Abuse or neglect can happen within a family or an organisation, by people who are familiar, or less often by a stranger.

SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES THAT REQUIRE MANAGEMENT:

1. VISITS TO THE WOOD BY RECENTLY BEREAVED PEOPLE:

These are always accompanied by someone experienced – usually the Manager - who assesses any specific vulnerabilities and needs the bereaved person and others attending the burial may have.

2. INITIAL VISITS TO THE WOOD

These are arranged through the office, and special needs will be picked up soon after the initial contact and always when the first accompanied visit to the wood takes place. EFT staff and Trustees usually develop a close relationship with the people choosing to have their bodies / remains buried here.

3. VOLUNTEER DAYS

All volunteer days are attended by at least one trustee, who will be the nominated Safeguarding Officer or their Deputy. Individual helpers will be assessed as to their suitability for the tasks of the day. Supervision is by the Manager / Trustee(s)

4. WORK SESSIONS BY CONTRACTORS

All contractors (tree surgeons, excavator drivers e.g.) provide DBS checks to EFT if required.

5. SCHOOL VISITS

These children will always be accompanied by the appropriate number of school staff, and will remain the responsibility of the school while formally visiting the wood. The Safeguarding Officer or their Deputy will be present for such visits.

6. OPEN DAYS

These will be well attended by Trustees of EFT, including the Safeguarding Officer and/or their Deputy. Any vulnerable adult(s) that we know of will be appropriately cared for by their carer.

RECRUITMENT & TRAINING

EFT takes up references and makes enhanced DBS checks on any staff we might employ. Any vulnerable adult on our premises would be with their own carer.

Induction training will include how to identify a vulnerable person, reporting and safeguarding procedures on Vulnerable Adults, and an understanding of notions of risk, harm abuse, prevention and safeguarding.

Training will be available to all volunteers and Trustees through Team meetings, Board meetings, and with the help of Gwynedd Council.

EFT RESPONSIBILITIES

EFT has appointed a Safeguarding Officer and a Deputy who will ensure this policy and these procedures are carried out.

Everyone who is part of EFT, whether a volunteer, freelance worker/contractor, trustee or employee will:

become or be made aware of who is a vulnerable adult;

be alert to potential indicators of abuse or neglect;

be alert to the risks which individual abusers, or potential abusers, may pose to vulnerable adults; share and help to analyse information so that an assessment can be made of the individual's needs and circumstances;

contribute to whatever actions are needed to safeguard and promote the individual's welfare;

take part in regularly reviewing the outcomes for the individual within specific plans;

work cooperatively with parents and/or other carers (unless this is inconsistent with ensuring the individual's safety).

The EFT in our approach to diversity, seeks to serve the needs of vulnerable adults. In doing so EFT takes seriously the welfare of all vulnerable adults who come into our premises and / or who are involved in our activities.

EFT aims to ensure that they are welcomed into a safe, caring environment with a welcoming and friendly atmosphere.

EFT recognises that it is the responsibility of each one of us to prevent the neglect, physical, sexual or emotional abuse of vulnerable adults and to report any abuse discovered or suspected.

EFT recognises our responsibility to implement, maintain and review - at least annually -this policy and procedures, which are designed to prevent and to be alert to such abuse.

EFT is committed to supporting, resourcing and training those of us who work with vulnerable adults and to providing supervision.

EFT is committed to maintaining good links with the statutory social services when necessary.

Signed on behalf of the Directors of EFT:

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Print Names: Berni Cavanagh

Date 15/11/21

Date of next review November 2022