

Safeguarding Policy

Our commitment to safeguarding:

'Help Witts' is committed to creating an environment which ensures all those accessing services or volunteering with 'Help Witts' feel safe from risk of harm or abuse.

Purpose of policy:

The purpose of the 'Help Witts' safeguarding policy is:

1. To protect, as far as reasonably practical, members of the community who are volunteering or receiving assistance through 'Help Witts' activities through effective safeguarding practice and codes of conduct.
2. To set out the requirements of member of the community who are volunteering or receiving assistance through 'Help Witts' activities to act to protect each other from harm or damage.
3. To make sure we effectively recognise, respond, record and report safeguarding concerns or disclosure so that those who engage with us access the safeguards they need if at risk of harm or damage.
4. To provide those who volunteer with 'Help Witts', all who engage with 'Help Witts' activities, the overarching principles that guide our approach to risk protection.

The policy:

All those who are volunteering or receiving assistance through 'Help Witts' must:

1. Act at all times in accordance with the relevant laws, government guidance and best practice guidance.
2. Not put themselves or others at risk of harm or damage.
3. On no account should any employee, worker or volunteer have any physical contact with a child or vulnerable adult unless this is to prevent accident or injury to themselves or anyone else (e.g. to prevent a fall), or in the case of medical assistance being needed (e.g. to administer first aid), or to provide nursing or other general care, in which case the prior consent of the affected person should be requested where possible. Where appropriate, consent from parents or those with parental or caring responsibility should be obtained.
4. Receive any payment or allowances for carrying out an activity, other than travel or out-of-pocket expenses.
5. Ask for or disclose personal information other than those essential for the services being provided, or to safeguard others.
6. Not disclose personal or sensitive information to others (either online, social media, group chats or otherwise) who they have interacted with under 'Help Witts' activities.
7. Not post pictures or videos of volunteering activities on social media if they include members of the public or people's homes.
8. Keep receipts from any financial transactions.
9. Advocate or sell additional services outside of 'Help Witts' activities.
10. Report any concerns (harm, abuse or other) to the relevant authorities.
11. Report any misinformation or breaches of this safeguarding policy to 'Help Witts'.