Fair Futures Community Interest Company

## Fair Futures CIC

# Vulnerable Adults Safeguarding Policy

Fair Futures CIC is committed to ensuring that vulnerable people who use our services are not abused and that working practices minimise the risk of such abuse. The needs of vulnerable adults must be considered. Fair Futures CIC will ensure the safety and protection of all vulnerable adults involved through adherence to following the Vulnerable Adults Protection Policy.

**Definition**

Vulnerable adults are people who are over 18 years of age and are getting or may need help and services to live in the community. Vulnerable adults may be unable to take care of themselves and unable to protect themselves from harm or exploitation by other people.

We can think of the following groups of people as 'vulnerable adults':

- older people who are physically or mentally frail
- people with learning disabilities
- people with a mental health condition such as dementia or personality disorder
- people who are ill and need help to carry out normal daily functions
- people with physical disabilities
- people who, for whatever reason, are in abusive relationships or are homeless
- people who are seeking asylum or have refugee status
- people who speak little English

**Abuse can include:**

- physical
- financial
- material
- sexual
- psychological
- discriminatory
- emotional abuse
- neglect

Abuse can take place in any setting, public or private, and can be perpetuated by anyone.

Fair Futures Community Interest Company

**Policy aims**
The aim of the Fair Futures CIC Vulnerable Adults Protection Policy is to promote good practice:

- Providing vulnerable adults with appropriate safety and protection whilst in the care of Fair Futures CIC

- Allow all staff /volunteers to make informed and confident responses to specific vulnerable adult protection issues.

**Safeguarding Officer**

The Safeguarding Officer is Janet Holden, her contact details are 07731 402274 and j.holden@fairfuturescic.org. If you have concerns, you must speak directly with the named officer.

If the concern involves the named officer, please contact Melanie Griffin on 07731402276 or fairfutures@outlook.com .

**It is the board of directors' responsibility:**

- To ensure volunteers are aware of vulnerable adult's need for protection
- To notify the appropriate agencies if abuse is identified or suspected
- To support and where possible secure the safety of individuals and ensure that all referrals to services have full information in relation to identified risk and vulnerability
- To DBS check staff and volunteers that will have regular unsupervised contact with vulnerable adults

**Responsibilities of Fair Futures CIC staff and volunteers:**

- To be familiar with the vulnerable adult protection policy
- To take appropriate action in line with the policy of Fair Futures CIC
- To declare any existing or subsequent convictions

**Support for those who report abuse:**

All those making a complaint or allegation or expressing concern, should be reassured that:

- They will be taken seriously
- Their comments will usually be treated confidentially, but their concerns may be shared with the appropriate authorities if they or others are at significant risk

**The Vulnerable Adult has the right:**

- To be made aware of this policy
- To have alleged incidents recognised and taken seriously
- To receive fair and respectful treatment throughout
- To be involved in any process as appropriate
- To receive information about the outcome

Fair Futures Community Interest Company

**Phone numbers of local services:**

Bury Police – 0161 872 5050

Bury adult social services - Social Care and Support - Bury Council
Report an adult safeguarding concern - Bury Council

Tel: 0161 253 5151
adultcareservices@bury.gov.uk

Bury Council – Tel: 0161 253 5000

We are also committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

Adopted on:8th September 2023 Reviewed: 8th September 2026

Next review date: September 2027

Fair Futures Community Interest Company

**Definitions**

Abuse can be defined as any behaviour towards a person that deliberately or unknowingly causes them harm or endangers their life or violates their rights. Types of abuse are (but not limited to):

- **Physical** – hitting, slapping, pushing, kicking, misuse of medication, inappropriate use of restraint, burning/scalding, cutting/wounding

- **Sexual** – including any sexual acts to which the person at risk has not consented or is not able to consent to or is undertaken in the context of exploitative relationships e.g. Child Sexual Exploitation, forced marriage, inappropriate access to images (whether moving or still) depicting acts from the span of sexual behaviour)

- **Psychological/Emotional** (for example being repeatedly made to feel unhappy, humiliated, afraid or devalued by others) – threats of harm or abandonment, isolation or withdrawal from support networks, withdrawal of affection, love and care and supporting a child's proper emotional development

- **Financial or material** (stealing from or denying access to money or possessions) – fraud, exploitation, coercion into lending money, misuse or misappropriation of property

- **Neglect and acts of omission** – ignoring medical or physical care needs, access to social care or education, withholding the necessities of life, medication, nutrition food and heating

- **Discriminatory abuse -** usually motivated by discriminatory and oppressive attitudes towards race gender, culture background, religion physical and/ or sensory impairment, sexual orientation and age

- **Domestic violence** - all forms of abuse can be experienced in a family setting by a partner, family member, or with someone with whom there is a relationship

- **Institutional abuse** - mistreatment of people brought about by poor or inadequate care or support, or systematic poor practice that affects the whole care setting. It occurs when the individual's wishes and needs are sacrificed for the smooth running of a group, service or organisation i.e. in supported/sheltered accommodation

- **Organisational abuse** - including neglect and poor care practice within an institution or specific care setting such as a hospital or care home, for example, or in relation to care provided in one's own home. This may range from one off incidents to on-going ill-treatment. It can be through neglect or poor professional practice as a result of the structure, policies, processes and practices within an organisation.

- **Modern slavery** - encompasses slavery, human trafficking, and forced labour and domestic servitude. Traffickers and slave masters use whatever means they have at their disposal to coerce, deceive and force individuals into a life of abuse, servitude and inhumane treatment.