



Approved by:	Effective date:	Next review:
Trustees	5 May 2023	24 November 2024

## POLICY STATEMENT

Canterbury for Ukraine (C4U) recognises displaced people, refugees and asylum seekers have the same fundamental rights to safety and protection as any other person and the fact that their citizenship status may not have been resolved does not alter this. Canterbury for Ukraine has a commitment to ensuring the safety of everyone involved in its activities. It includes safeguarding children and adults at risk during their interactions relating to its activities, irrespective of their relationship, duration or location; and we recognise the additional needs of children and vulnerable adults with refugee or asylum status, minority ethnic groups and disabilities and the barriers they may face, especially around communication.

## Core Purpose of C4U

C4U is a charitable organization established to support Ukrainian Persons displaced as a result of Russian invasion to Ukraine.

## Who needs to know about the Policy?

- All volunteers, irrespective of their capacity
- Participants of C4U activities
- Partner organisations
- Appropriate external services

## Purpose of the Policy

This Policy aims to:

- a) set out the C4U's responsibility relating to the safeguarding of children and adults at risk.
- b) identify the key roles and responsibilities relating to the safeguarding of children and adults at risk.
- c) facilitate the management of the risk associated with the duty to protect vulnerable groups.

This Policy promotes an environment free from harm, assuring children, adults at risk, members, volunteers, trustees and visitors, that their experience with the C4U will be positive.

C4U's definition of safeguarding means protecting an individual's health, wellbeing and human rights; enabling them to live free from harm, abuse and neglect. It is an integral part of providing high-quality support to the displaced Ukrainian community, in Canterbury and East Kent. Safeguarding children, young people and adults is a collective responsibility.

In our safeguarding arrangements, we use the following terms:

**Child:** References to "child" or "children" means anyone under 18 years of age. The definition is derived from the Children Act 1989 Section 105.

**Adult at Risk:** An "Adult at Risk" is someone over 18 years of age who:

- i. has needs for care and support; and
- ii. is experiencing, or is at risk of, neglect, or physical, mental or emotional harm; and

iii. as a result of those needs are unable to protect themselves against neglect or harm or the risk of it.  
The definition is derived from the Care Act 2014 Section 42(1).

**Refugee:** Article 1 of the United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (1951) defines a refugee as, “any person who owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it.”

## Contacts

The C4U Designated Safeguarding Lead is responsible for:

- Providing advice and guidance on safeguarding relating to C4U events and activities.
- Maintaining the safeguarding guidance related to C4U.
- Providing introductory safeguarding training for C4U volunteers.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead can be contacted by emailing: [canterbury.for.ukraine@gmail.com](mailto:canterbury.for.ukraine@gmail.com)

**ANY SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS CAN BE SUBMITTED VIA THIS [LINK](#)  
OR BY TELEPHONE BY CALLING OR SUBMITTING AN SMS TO  
**07796800177****

## SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT OF POLICY

### INTRODUCTION

Although safeguarding principles remain the same for all vulnerable groups, the way that these principles are applied to displaced people, refugees and asylum seekers may be different, depending on the particular context of the individual or family concerned. From a safeguarding point of view, not all displaced people, refugees and asylum seekers are necessarily vulnerable and their autonomy should be respected. They are, after all they have gone through, survivors and shouldn't be treated as victims. However, refugees and asylum seekers may face certain risks associated with their particular experiences and circumstances. For safeguarding to be effective at the local level there needs to be good communication and sharing of expertise and specialist knowledge between staff, volunteers and partner agencies.

### C4U RESPONSIBILITIES RELATING TO SAFEGUARDING

1. C4U regards it as unacceptable for any individual to experience any form of harm or abuse.
2. Safeguarding is the process of protecting children and adults at risk of being abused, neglected or exploited.
3. Safeguarding concerns may arise as a result of any C4U activity.
4. C4U recognises its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of:
  - a. Children and young adults under the age of 18.
  - b. Adults at risk of harm or exploitation relating to their physical, mental, and psychological well-being or potential to be drawn into criminality.
  - c. Individuals at risk of radicalisation.
  - d. Individuals at risk of exploitation in terms of modern slavery (the act of exercising control or ownership over another person and using this power to exploit them) and human trafficking (the movement of persons with the intent to exploit them).
5. Our responsibility extends to those exposed to our activities for whom the C4U has a duty of care.

6. We have a responsibility under the Equality Act 2010 to ensure that all individuals, regardless of protected characteristics such as age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, marriage or civil partnership have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.
7. C4U will work in partnership with those for whom we have a duty of care. It includes working with appropriate individuals, charities and agencies to promote safeguarding.
8. Our safeguarding responsibilities extend to<sup>1</sup>:
  - a. all children and adults at risk participating in C4U activities or events or with potential to engage in C4U activities or events.
  - b. external organisations/individuals where or in collaboration with which C4U activities take place including volunteers, C4U trustees and staff members.

## OUR APPROACH TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POLICY

Ultimate responsibility for this policy rests with the C4U Board of Trustees:

9. In implementing its safeguarding duties, we will:
  - a. ensure our safeguarding policy is legally compliant and cognisant with best safeguarding practice.
  - b. regard safeguarding as a governance and risk management priority for C4U.
  - c. delegate operational responsibility for the implementation of this policy to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).
  - d. require regular reports from the DSL to the Board of Trustees on all key safeguarding risks.
  - e. take account of relevant guidance and good practice relating to C4U as a charitable organisation.
  - f. provide for the protection of the children, young adults and adults at risk who interact with C4U.
  - g. guide volunteers at events on procedures that must be adopted.
  - h. ensure robust procedures to follow in the event an individual may be experiencing, or be at risk of, harm.
  - i. review of this policy from time to time to incorporate any changes in legal requirements and best practice in safeguarding.
10. In implementing the Policy, we will:
  - a. value the needs, views and best interests of those considered to be at risk.
  - b. recruit volunteers safely by ensuring completing all appropriate checks.
  - c. share information about safeguarding good practice with volunteers.
  - d. provide effective management for volunteers through supervision, support and training.
  - e. share personal information about concerns with individuals appropriately and in line with information-sharing protocols (e.g. GDPR).
11. In following this Safeguarding Policy, Trustees, members and volunteers should work in line with other relevant C4U policies relating to safeguarding (including the Prevent duty), health and safety, data protection and equality and diversity. These are available [here](#).

## SAFEGUARDING RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE PREVENT DUTY

12. C4U has safeguarding responsibilities under the Prevent duty. We regard this as part of our safeguarding arrangements in meeting our responsibilities relating to individuals.
13. Any behaviour which suggests an individual might be at risk of being drawn into terrorism needs addressing in line with our Prevent arrangements to evaluate the matter and put appropriate support in place.
14. As with other types of safeguarding, the threshold for consideration is low. Prevent is concerned with early intervention to safeguard and divert people away from the risk they face.

## SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

15. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, but with special reference to Trustees, members and volunteers.
16. Whilst specific lead responsibilities are identified within C4U, it is everyone's responsibility to safeguard and

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<sup>1</sup> Asylum-seeking children who are unaccompanied are in a highly vulnerable situation and there is specific guidance from the government about how they may be protected. Unaccompanied asylum-seeking children become the responsibility of children's social care on arrival in the UK. Once they turn 18, if they have not yet been granted asylum, they will be transferred to the general National Asylum Support Service (NASS). This transition can create significant stress on the young person.

protect children, young people and adults at risk.

17. Everyone who comes into contact with children and adults at risk has a role in taking prompt action by identifying and sharing concerns.
18. C4U requires all Trustees, members and volunteers who are required to routinely come into contact with children, young people and adults at risk to be vetting via the Disclosure and Barring process (DBS).
19. If identified, any safeguarding concern can be submitted via this [link](#) or by telephone via **07796800177**. These should include concerns relating to:
  - (a) Under-18s
  - (b) Adults at risk
  - (c) Persons 'at risk' where their behaviour is at risk of causing themselves or others harm.

## THE C4U CHAIRPERSON

20. The Chairperson oversees the implementation of this Policy and reports to the Trustees on its implementation.
21. The Chairperson will delegate responsibility for safeguarding to the C4U Safeguarding Lead.

## C4U DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD (DSL)

22. The DSL is the assigned member or trustee responsible for this Policy implementation. The C4U Safeguarding Lead will:
  - a. regularly report to the Board of Trustees on safeguarding risks and trends
  - b. advise the C4U trustees on changes in legislation, regulation and guidance from appropriate external agencies and request updating the safeguarding policy to reflect such changes and guidance.
  - c. ensure adequate safeguarding oversight of events and activity risk assessments.
  - d. coordinate training for C4U trustees, members and volunteers
  - e. liaise with external agencies where individual cases require.
  - f. oversees the handling of individual safeguarding incidents.
  - g. ensures the highest level of confidentiality while ensuring that information is shared as necessary to safeguard individuals.
  - h. ensures the C4U's compliance with legislation, regulation, relevant guidance and the protection of the C4U's reputation.

## INFORMATION SHARING

23. Information sharing within C4U concerning an individual will be limited to the minimum required and will take place where there is a C4U activity or event that involves individuals covered by the Policy.
24. There will be sharing of relevant information concerning safeguarding with external agencies where lawful, and through the processes authorised by the DSL.

## TRAINING

25. The DSL will receive appropriate external safeguarding and Prevent training, relevant to the role, and undertake refresher training on a regular basis.
26. The DSL will be Disclosure and Barring checked.
27. Those staff and volunteers whose roles and responsibilities include regular contact with children and adults at risk will receive training and guidance most appropriate to their role. This may include the requirement for Disclosure and Barring checks, depending on the role requirements.
28. All C4U staff, including volunteers, will be made aware of this Policy and related guidance.

Policy Information	Description of Policy Information
<b>Policy Title</b>	Safeguarding Statement of Policy
<b>Policy Category</b>	Safeguarding
<b>Policy Owner</b>	Chairperson
<b>Policy Manager</b>	Designated Safeguarding Lead
<b>Related C4U Procedures</b>	Health and Safety Risk Assessment
<b>Approved by</b>	Quorum of trustees
<b>Date Approved</b>	24 November 2022
<b>Date of Commencement</b>	24 November 2022
<b>Review Date</b>	4 May 2023
<b>Current Version</b>	V2.0
<b>History of revisions of the Policy</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Date of approval: 25 November 2022 V1.0 adopted.</li> <li>2. Date of review: 05 May 2023 v2.0 adopted.</li> <li>3. Date of review:</li> </ol>
<b>Website Address</b>	<a href="https://canterbury4ukraine.org/">https://canterbury4ukraine.org/</a>