Dinnington St John's Town Council

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

October 2026

1. Purpose

The Council is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults at risk who use Council facilities, attend Council-run activities, or are otherwise affected by Council services.

2. Scope

This policy applies to councillors, employees, volunteers, contractors, hirers, activity leaders and anyone acting on behalf of the Council.

3. Definitions

Children and young people means anyone under 18. An adult at risk is an adult who may have care and support needs and may be unable to protect themselves from abuse or neglect.

4. Principles

The Council will provide safe premises where reasonably practicable, promote a safeguarding culture, and ensure concerns are reported promptly to the appropriate safeguarding authority.

5. Safer recruitment and DBS

Where roles are eligible and duties amount to regulated activity, the Council will consider an appropriate DBS check, including barred list checks where legally permitted. Checks will be risk-assessed by role. A DBS disclosure alone will not be the only factor in appointment decisions.

6. Reporting concerns

Any concern or allegation about abuse, neglect or poor practice must be reported immediately to the Clerk or nominated safeguarding lead. If a child or adult is in immediate danger, call 999.

7. Allegations

Concerns about a councillor, employee, volunteer or hirer must be referred without delay in line with the Council's safeguarding procedures and, where appropriate, to the local authority safeguarding team and the police.

8. Hiring and activities

External hirers using Council facilities for work with children or adults at risk must have an appropriate safeguarding policy, adequate supervision, suitable insurance, and compliance with this policy and any venue conditions.

9. Records and confidentiality

Records of safeguarding concerns will be kept securely, shared only on a need-to-know basis, and retained in line with data protection law and the Council's retention arrangements.

10. Review

This policy should be reviewed annually or sooner if legislation or guidance changes

Adopted date: 12/10/2026 **Minute reference:** 98/27 (F) **Review cycle:** Annually