



Safeguarding Policy - Quick Guide (V1.0).

What this policy is about

This quick guide provides a brief overview of the Safeguarding Policy. It explains how Portsmouth Homes helps keep children, young people and adults at risk safe, and what to do if there is a safeguarding concern.

Who it applies to

- tenants, leaseholders and shared owners
- household members
- staff, contractors and anyone working on behalf of Portsmouth Homes

Safeguarding applies to **children, young people and adults at risk**.

What is Safeguarding? (See policy: Introduction & Purpose p3-4)

Safeguarding means protecting people from **abuse, neglect and harm**, and promoting their wellbeing.

Everyone has a role to play - safeguarding is **everyone's responsibility**.

Safeguarding concerns may include:

physical, emotional, sexual or financial abuse, neglect, domestic abuse, exploitation, modern slavery, forced marriage, radicalisation or situations where someone is unable to protect themselves.

Our safeguarding principles (See policy: Six safeguarding principles p4)

We follow six key principles:

- **Empowerment** – supporting people to make their own decisions
- **Prevention** – taking action early
- **Proportionality** – responding appropriately to risk
- **Protection** – supporting those most at risk
- **Partnership** – working with other agencies
- **Accountability** – being open and responsible

Working with partners (See policy: Partnership working p.4-5)

We work closely with local safeguarding partners, including **children's social care, adult social care and the police**, to keep people safe.

If you are worried about someone (See policy: Reporting Procedure p13-15)

Concerns should **never be ignored**.

If you believe someone is at **immediate risk of harm**, call **999**.

Safeguarding concerns should otherwise be reported to Portsmouth Homes as soon as possible so appropriate action can be taken with partner agencies.

Consent and information sharing (See policy: Disclosure of information & Refusal of consent. p13-15)

Where possible, people are involved in decisions about their safety.

Information may still be shared **without consent** if someone is at risk, a crime has been committed, or the law requires it.

Information is shared only where necessary to protect people from harm. Confidentiality cannot always be guaranteed, but concerns will be handled sensitively and appropriately.

Allegations against staff or contractors (See policy: Allegations & LADO. p15-16)

Any concerns or allegations involving staff or contractors are taken seriously and reported in line with safeguarding procedures.

Further information

This is a summary only. For full details on safeguarding responsibilities, reporting procedures and support, please refer to the Safeguarding Policy or contact Portsmouth Homes.

Information is available in alternative formats on request.

Link: [Safeguarding Policy](#)

