

Open Door Centre Policy 03	Safeguarding Policy
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1 Background

- 1.1 The John Trotter Trust is the Registered Charity for the Open Door Centre [Charity Registration No: 1141414]. The Centre is at the heart of the community outreach of Christ Church Barnet [CCB]. Where relevant, the Trust's policies reflect those of CCB.

2 Purpose of the Safeguarding Policy

- 2.1 The purpose of the Safeguarding Policy is to ensure that the actions and behaviour of Trustees, Volunteers and Employees when in the Open Door Centre reflect the values and expectations of the Trust summarised in 4 and 5 below.

3 Applicability of the Safeguarding Policy

- 3.1 This Policy applies to all Trustees, Volunteers and Employees when they are in the Open Door Centre in their capacity as a Trustee, Volunteer or Employee.

4 Values of the Trust

- 4.1 Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

5 Declaration

- 5.1 The Trustees accept and endorse the principles set out in the document 'Safeguarding in the Diocese of London' which can be found at:

<https://safeguarding.london.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Diocese-of-London-Safeguarding-policy.pdf>

We commit ourselves to protect and safeguard all individuals who support and engage with the Open Door Centre either as trustee, volunteers, employees or customers, particularly vulnerable adults given the Centre's operation and activities.

We undertake to exercise proper care in the selection, appointment, training and support of those working in both paid and voluntary positions with vulnerable adults, including the use of Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) disclosures as appropriate.

We will respond without delay to concerns or allegations that a vulnerable adult may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and social care services in any investigation.

We will challenge any abuse of power by anyone in a position of trust.

5.2 When is an Adult at risk?

The Care Act (2014) defines an adult at risk as '... any person over the age of 18 years who is or may be in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness, and who is or may be unable to take care of him or herself, or unable to protect him or herself against significant

harm ...'. It is also recognised that a person may be at risk if they have suffered personal adversity and may be in need of pastoral support.

5.3 Factors increasing risk

The factors which increase vulnerability include sensory, physical or learning disabilities, physical illness, chronic ill health, addiction to drugs or alcohol and old age. Adults at risk may be mistreated or abused by a wide range of people including relatives, professional staff, carers, volunteers, neighbours and friends.

5.4 Mistreatment or significant harm

Abuse or mistreatment is a single or repeated act which violates an individual's human and/or civil rights. Nine categories of abuse have been identified, namely: physical, emotional or psychological, sexual, financial, discriminatory, institutional, spiritual, domestic, and neglect.

6 Role of John Trotter Trust Safeguarding Officer

6.1 The Trust's Safeguarding Coordinator is responsible for ensuring that arrangements are in place for identifying any concerns about an adult at risk in the Centre, or the behaviour of an adult working with them. Their role is to ensure that these concerns are appropriately reported to the statutory agencies where required and to the Trustees.

6.2 A Trustee, Volunteer or Employee of the Trust must inform the Trust's Safeguarding Officer if they have a safeguarding concern or if such a concern is reported to them. It is imperative that a written statement is made by that person within 24 hours detailing the who, what, when, where, why and how of the concern. This statement should be sent to the Trust's Safeguarding Officer and copied to the Trust's Chairman.

7. Responsibilities of The John Trotter Trustees

The Trustees recognise that safeguarding is the responsibility of the whole of the John Trotter Trust community. They undertake to ensure that appropriate arrangements are in place to select, appoint, train and support those working in a paid or voluntary position with children, young people or adults at risk in the Centre, including the use of the Disclosure and Barring Service.

7.1 The Trustees will ensure that appropriate arrangements are in place to respond without delay to concerns or allegations that a child, young person or adult at risk may have been harmed. As appropriate any such concerns or allegations will be reported to thirtyone:eight (who support the trust with independent expert safeguarding advice and support services) and, if necessary, to the Charity Commission. The Trust will cooperate fully with the police and social care services in any investigation of these concerns or allegations.

8. **Responsibilities of Clients** considering the nature of activities that ODC clients offer from the Centre (Please refer to the Statement of Letting Policy).

Signed

Date

Andy Wright: Chairman of the John Trotter Trust

This Policy was agreed by the Trustees of the John Trotter Trust at their meeting on 19 th July 2023	
Date of next review of this policy	July 2024
Queries about this policy should be directed to:	Centre Safeguarding Coordinator: Carin Maidment Safeguarding Trustee: Nicole Brook