



Corporate Governance Accountability for Safeguarding

Safeguarding Framework Guidance

Status	Current
Scope	All Directorates / Organisational
Approved by	Chief Executive
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1. Aim

1.1. The Children’s Society is committed to, and has a duty to, safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults who use its services or with whom it comes into contact. It is essential therefore that there are clear lines of governance and accountability for safeguarding matters throughout The Children’s Society.

2. Statement of Accountabilities

2.1. The protection and safeguarding of children and adults at risk is paramount in all the work The Children’s Society undertakes. This Corporate Governance Accountability framework sets out the lines of accountability for safeguarding throughout The Children’s Society.

Safeguarding Lines of Accountability	Lead
The Children’s Society’s Trustees are accountable for ensuring that the organisation has appropriate structures, processes and resources in place to ensure safeguarding is central to all that the organisation does, and for monitoring compliance. The Board of Trustees will receive an annual Safeguarding Report. Additionally, any concerns identified by the Risk, Audit & Compliance Committee, or by the Director for Children & Young People, will be brought to the Board’s attention at their regular meetings.	Board of Trustees
The Risk, Audit and Compliance Committee (RACC) maintains oversight of safeguarding issues within the organisation on behalf of the Board of Trustees, and will receive quarterly update reports.	Risk, Audit & Compliance Committee
The Safeguarding Trustee is a member of RACC and is that committee’s named expert on safeguarding. S/he will receive copies of all documentation relating to the Corporate Safeguarding Group, including meeting papers and agendas, and will report his/her own assessment of the work of the Group to the RACC as appropriate. They will attend at least one meeting of the Corporate Safeguarding Group each year.	Safeguarding trustee
The Chief Executive Officer is the senior accountable officer for all aspects of safeguarding across the organisation, including ensuring that there is a clear structure of line management accountability for safeguarding in place.	Chief Executive Officer
The operational leadership of safeguarding and accountability for the whole organisation is held by the Director of Children & Young People . To assist with this the Director chairs the Corporate Safeguarding Group , which includes senior representatives from all directorates. The Director of Children & Young People also provides advice and guidance to SLT and the CEO.	Director of Children & Young People

Safeguarding Lines of Accountability	Lead
The members of the Children's Society's Senior Leadership Team are accountable for safeguarding within their respective directorates and across the organisation as a whole.	Senior Leadership Team
The Strategic Lead for Safeguarding reports to and supports the Director of Children & Young People and acts as his/her advisor on any safeguarding issues across the organisation. The Strategic Lead for Safeguarding also supports teams across the organisation	Strategic Lead for Safeguarding
The SLT members and Directorate Leadership Teams are accountable for safeguarding within their respective operational areas across the country.	Directorate Leadership Teams
All Senior Managers have operational responsibility for safeguarding within the services/teams they directly manage.	All Senior Managers
All staff members and volunteers have the responsibility to recognise, report and record safeguarding concerns about children, young people and adults at risk in line with the Safeguarding Framework Policy and associated guidance.	All staff / volunteers

Flowchart of accountabilities and reporting lines

