



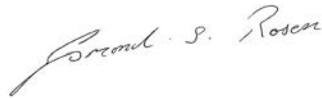
## **Barnet Multi Faith Forum (BMFF) Safeguarding Policy Statement**

- **Purpose and aim of the policy**
- This BMFF Safeguarding Policy Statement demonstrates our commitment to ensuring that all our events and activities are organised to reflect the safeguarding of children and adults at risk, and to ensuring their well-being.
- This policy statements aims to reassure our associated members, volunteers, partners, and all visitors to our events and activities that safeguarding procedures are in place to ensure their protection from abuse in a welcoming, warm environment.
- We will ensure that our policies and procedures reflect this commitment.
  
- **The purpose and function of the BMFF is ;-**
- To provide a multi-faith forum for the London Borough of Barnet based on a commitment of respect and tolerance through discussion, communication and collaboration.
  
- **Our aims are to:-**
- Promote knowledge and understanding for the integrity of each other's beliefs, cultures and traditions through inter-faith dialogue.
- Represent and demonstrate to the residents of Barnet the peaceful co-existence that exists between the borough's faith communities.
- Ensure that values of freedom of expression are maintained and safeguarded.
- Actively promote community cohesion and inclusion.
  
- **Equality statement;**
- BMFF will make sure that all children, young people and adults have protection against all forms of abuse regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.
- We are committed to anti-discriminatory practice and should explicitly recognise the additional needs and sensitivities of all people to include all ethnic groups and people with disabilities recognising and addressing the barriers they may face, especially around communication.

- **Links to other organisations policies and procedures**
- The BMFF respects the personal dignity and rights of children and adults at risk (as set out in the Human Rights Act 1989 and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child) and will ensure that our policies and procedures reflect this.
- For the purpose of this policy a child is defined as a person under the age of 18, (The Children Act, 1989).
- We recognise Barnet Children’s Services are the agency with responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a child, and that Barnet Adult Services do so for adults at risk.
- Local Authority Designated Officers (LADOs) have responsibility for dealing with all allegations and concerns about all people working with children, whether paid or voluntary workers.
- We will report any suspicious to them, treating any disclosure with the utmost sensitivity.
- Where an allegation suggests that a criminal offence may have been committed; the police will be contacted as a matter of urgency.
- We have an appointed Safeguarding Coordinating Officer acting also as the designated safeguarding Lead
  - This is Christina Spybey BMFF Trustee and Director of Trinity Church, Colindale, Barnet [christinaspybey@sonia.community](mailto:christinaspybey@sonia.community)
  - She regularly attends the Barnet Safeguarding Partnership Board meetings and subsequent training workshops enabling her to fulfil all guidance on the steps that should be taken when any disclosure may be made.
  
- **BMFF is committed to:**
- Reporting any suspected abuse of children or adults at risk that we discover or suspect.
- The establishment of a safe and caring environment, where there is an informed vigilance about the dangers of abuse.
- Following the relevant legislation, statutory, and specialist guidelines in relation to safeguarding children and adults at risk.
- Ensuring that we keep up to date with national and local developments relating to all safeguarding procedures, including the internet, social media, photographs and video production.

- Building constructive links with the relevant Barnet Voluntary and Statutory Authorities.
- Taking all reasonable steps to ensure that any employee or volunteer working on our behalf operates within the agreed procedures of our safeguarding policies.
- Supporting the Safeguarding Coordinator in their work and in any action they may need to take in order to protect children and adults at risk.
- Following safe recruitment principles in the appointment and selection of all those who work with children and adults at risk, be they volunteer or paid staff.
- The support, supervision, resourcing and training for all who undertake work at our request, and who come into contact with children and adults at risk.
- Ensuring that the children and adults we have contact with know that they are valued and feel empowered to tell us if they are suffering harm.

Signed



Name

Esmond Rosen Co Chair Barnet Multi Faith Forum

Date

5<sup>th</sup> September 2018