

## **APPENDIX E: SAFEGUARDING POLICY**

### **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 We are committed to ensuring a safe environment for anybody engaged in activities related to their membership of YesCymru. Some of our members are children / young people / vulnerable adults, and whilst the responsibility for any child or young person rests with their supervising adult, we want to provide an atmosphere of trust and respect for any children / young people / vulnerable adults whilst they are engaged in activities related to their membership of YesCymru.
- 1.2 We will refer any safeguarding or child protection issues to the appropriate bodies or agencies. In particular, if we encounter a case that involves criminal activity involving a child / young person / vulnerable adult, we will contact the police.
- 1.3 Those under the age of 16 should be supervised by an adult when they attend any activities (such as an event, meeting or protest) related to their membership of YesCymru.
- 1.4 This policy applies to all members of YesCymru.

### **2. OUR POLICY**

- 2.1 We recognise and support the work of the Children's Commissioner for Wales and believe that:
  - (i) the welfare and interests of children and young people are paramount;
  - (ii) all our members have the right to protection from abuse;
  - (iii) all allegations of abuse should be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately; and
  - (iv) all members should be clear as to what constitutes appropriate behaviour and have a responsibility to report concerns to [complaints@yes.cymru](mailto:complaints@yes.cymru).
- 2.2 We will ensure that:
  - (i) we promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children, young people and vulnerable adults regardless of their age, disability, gender re-assignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation;
  - (ii) we recognise that some individuals are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues; and
  - (iii) we understand our role in terms of safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults.

### **3. RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 3.1 The Diversity and Inclusion Officer will monitor the implementation of this policy and take appropriate action under it.
- 3.2 All members have a responsibility to maintain appropriate standards of behaviour. Any concerns or reasonable suspicions of abuse should be reported to [complaints@yes.cymru](mailto:complaints@yes.cymru). Any such concerns will be treated confidentially.

- 3.3 Upon receipt of any such concern, the role of the Diversity and Inclusion officer will be to:
- (i) Assess the information promptly and carefully, clarifying or obtaining more information about the matter as appropriate;
  - (ii) consult initially with any appropriate bodies, such as the local social services department, local health board or the NSPCC helpline; and
  - (iii) where appropriate, make a formal referral to any appropriate body, agency or the police.
- 3.4 Any concerns raised under this policy may also result in disciplinary action being taken under our Disciplinary Procedure.