

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN POLICY

Mission

Huntingdon Area Money Advice (HAMA) is committed to ensuring the wellbeing and safeguarding of children through the development and implementation of effective policies and best practice.

HAMA's work is primarily with adults but our trustees, staff and volunteers (HAMA personnel) recognise and accept the responsibility to develop and raise awareness of the issues involved in safeguarding children.

Background

The primary legislation for safeguarding children is the **Children's Act 1989**, **Children's Act 2004** and the **Children Social Work Act 2017**. A summary of all key legislation is available from [Writing safeguarding policies and procedures | NSPCC Learning](#)

Working together to Safeguard Children is the relevant statutory guidance and refer to safeguarding as:

- Protecting children from maltreatment.
- Protecting impairment of children's health or development.
- Ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care.
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

Safeguarding Objectives of HAMA

- To provide an environment in which adults at risk feel safe and valued.
- To ensure that HAMA personnel take responsibility to protect any children from harm at all times.
- To elect a Trustee Responsible for Safeguarding.
- To appoint a Designated Person for Safeguarding and a Deputy.
- To develop and adopt a procedure / code of conduct for working with children, of which all HAMA personnel are aware and to which they adhere.
- To protect HAMA personnel from the risk of aggressive and / or manipulative behavior.
- To exercise a Duty of Care and, when necessary, share information and/or concerns in a confidential manner with the appropriate outside agency e.g. Social Services or Police, whether relating to the safeguarding of adults or children.
- To ensure that all personnel have regular Safeguarding training.
- To ensure all personnel are introduced to the policy and procedure for Safeguarding.
- To review and update the policy and procedure annually.



HAMA recognises that:

- Children's Social Care (previously Social Services) has the lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a child.
- Disclosures relating to potential self-harm should result in sign-posting to agencies with expertise in these areas e.g. Samaritans, GP, mental health support.
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

The Trustees of HAMA will review this policy annually.

Last reviewed by the HAMA Trustees Apr 2026

Next review due Apr 2027