



Comhairle Contae
Ros Comáin
Roscommon
County Council

Child Safeguarding Statement

Roscommon County Council is the authority responsible for local government in Roscommon County. The council is responsible for providing and funding a broad range of services to residents, and visitors to County Roscommon including housing and community, roads and transportation, planning and development, arts and culture, environment, fire services, enterprise, libraries, parks and playgrounds.

We are committed to providing a safe environment and positive experience for all children and young people in the delivery of all our services and activities, a place where the welfare of the young person is of paramount importance.

We will aim to adhere to Roscommon County Councils Policy and Procedure for the Protection and Safeguarding of Children and the recommendations of the Children's First Act 2015 and the Children's First: National Guidance and Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice.

Principles to safeguard children from harm

Roscommon County Council is committed to:

- Ensuring that the protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance, regardless of all other considerations
- Fully complying with our statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015 and other relevant legislation relating to the protection and welfare of children
- Developing guidance and procedures for staff and volunteers who may have reasonable grounds for concern about the possible abuse or neglect of a child involved in the services of the council.
- Fully co-operating with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child safeguarding issues.

Risk Assessment

We have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of our services. Risks identified and the procedures for managing these risks are available upon request to Roscommon County Council. Risk Assessments do not include risks to general health and safety

Procedures to safeguard children from harm

In addition to our risk assessments, Roscommon County Council's Policy and Procedure for the Protection and Safeguarding of Children support our intention to safeguard children to ensure so far as possible that a child is safe from harm while they are availing of our services.

The following is contained within our Policy:

- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla;
- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers/volunteers of a child availing of our service;
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers to work with children;
- Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm;
- Appointment of a Designated Child Protection Liaison Officer.

Reporting a Concern

Please contact the following if you have a Child Protection concern or if you require any further information on the Councils Policies and Procedures for the Protection and Safeguarding of Children.

Mary Mullins – Designated Child Protection Officer – 087 2486739

Anita Moran - Deputy Child Protection Officer – 087 2613128

Antoinette Gately – Human Resources – 087 6623557

If you have a concern about a child outside of normal office hours, you should report it to Tusla (www.tusla.ie) or contact **091 546235** (Duty social work office). In the event of an emergency where you think a child is in immediate danger and you cannot make contact with Tusla, you should contact An Garda Siochana on **090 66 38300**

Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an on-going process. Our service is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and to the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our services.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed every 2 years or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed:


Eugene Cummins
Chief Executive

Date:



For any Child Protection queries please contact the relevant persons under the Children's First Act 2015 Mary Mullins or Anita Moran (contact details as above)