



Firbank Dale LTC

Safeguarding Whistle Blowing Policy

Safeguarding children and adults at risk requires everyone to be committed to the highest possible standards of openness, integrity and accountability.

We are committed to encouraging and maintaining a culture where people feel able to raise a genuine safeguarding concern and are confident that it will be taken seriously.

Whistle blowing in the context of safeguarding, is when someone raises a concern about the well-being of a child or an adult at risk.

A whistle blower may be:

- a player;
- a volunteer;
- a coach;
- other member of staff;
- an official;
- a parent;
- a member of the public.

How to raise a concern about a child or an adult at risk:

If a child or an adult at risk is in immediate danger or risk of harm, the police should be contacted by calling 999.

Where a child or an adult at risk is not in immediate danger, any concerns about their well-being should be made without delay to the Club Welfare Officer.

The Club Welfare Office will pass the details of their concern on to the LTA Safeguarding Team at the earliest opportunity and the relevant local authority and the if required, Police will be contacted.

If, however, the whistle blower does not feel comfortable raising a concern with the Club Welfare Officer, the whistle blower should contact the **LTA Safeguarding Team directly on 020 8487 7000, or the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000.**

Information to include when raising a concern :

The whistle blower should provide as much information as possible regarding the incident or circumstance which has given rise to the concern, including:

- their name and contact details (unless they wish to remain anonymous)
- names of individuals involved;
- whistleblowing-policy;
- date, time and location of incident/circumstance; and whether any witnesses were present.

What happens next?

All concerns raised by a whistle blower about the wellbeing of a child or an adult at risk will be taken seriously and every effort will be made to deal with each concern as quickly and proportionately as possible.

If the whistle blower does not believe that the concern has been dealt with appropriately and wishes to speak to someone outside the club or the LTA Safeguarding Team, the NSPCC Whistleblowing advice line should be contacted on 0800 028 0285 or by emailing help@nspcc.org.uk

Support

The club will not tolerate any harassment, victimisation or unfair treatment and will take appropriate action to protect, whistle blowers when they raise a concern in good faith.

This policy is reviewed every three years (or earlier if there is a change in national legislation).

Andy Studley – Welfare Officer

Date: 3/05/24