

Penrith and Eden Refugee Network Safeguarding and Radicalisation Policy Working Policy Adopted April 2018

What we are and do

Penrith and Eden Refugee Network is a network of local people based on the principles of good neighbourliness, promoting a civil society and a desire to express our common humanity. It is a small network of people from the local community. Support for refugees and asylum seekers is about offering practical help and friendship, helping people to participate and belong in their community, to be self-reliant and to look after themselves and others. The network's activities include education, awareness raising and campaigning on refugees and asylum issues. The network undertakes fund raising. The network does not carry out statutory activities.

Our Approach to Safeguarding and Radicalisation

Doing our best to ensure the welfare, health, safety and safeguarding of everyone is important to the network and this policy is integral to that commitment. Our approach is one of a grass roots humanitarian organisation. Penrith and Eden Refugee network acknowledges vulnerabilities particular to asylum seekers and refugees and works to ensure safe practice. In particular these include vulnerabilities due to limited understanding of written and spoken English, vulnerabilities due to insecurity of present and future legal rights to remain in the UK and vulnerabilities as a result of past or present abuse and bereavement. Asylum seekers and refugees can be at risk of exploitation from sexual traffickers and those seeking to radicalise.

The network's activities do not include supervising or looking after children and young people without their parents/carer.

Those members of the Network under the age of 18, remain the responsibility of their parents/carers and should be supervised by them when taking part in network activities

We acknowledge that everyone of us can be vulnerable at times in our lives due to many factors and experiences and are committed to creating a safe culture and practices for everyone involved in our activities and work.

This policy and open discussion of safeguarding and radicalisation are not designed to create an atmosphere of suspicion, blame or fear but rather to raise awareness and inform people what to do. Experience has shown that ignorance or reactions of disbelief or revulsion have led to issues being overlooked or ignored.

We have a set of ground rules which informs what we do and these are attached as Appendix One.

Reporting of concerns about Safeguarding and Radicalisation

We appoint the following person as safeguarding Co-ordinator, the designated person responsible for dealing with allegations and suspicions of abuse:

Sara Braithwaite, 01768 254302/07751559896, sarambraithwaite@gmail.com.

If this person is not available or it is not appropriate to contact them, then the designated person is the Chair of Penrith and Eden Refugee Network.

Sarah Wilson, sahravenbridge@gmail.com,

The designated person will be trained in safeguarding.

The designated person,

- Receives and records information about safeguarding and radicalisation.
- This person does not investigate allegations or decide whether or not abuse has taken place.
- Records information, clarifies and obtains further information where appropriate.

- Informs the Chair of Penrith and Eden Refugee Network.
- Takes advice from the local safeguarding team or CVS on how to act when a concern is reported to them.
- Acts promptly and does not allow concerns to go unreported or without follow up.
- Maintains confidentiality and stores any records securely.
- Makes a formal referral if necessary.

Contact Details of Statutory Organisations with responsibility and expertise for Safeguarding and Radicalisation

NSPCC (office hours) NW Regional Duty Line 0800 562324
 Children's Social Services, Safeguarding team, Cumbria 0333 240 1727
 24 hour National Child Protection Help line 0808 800 500
 PREVENT google NW counter terrorism for a contact

10th April 2018 Adopted as working policy by Penrith and Eden Refugee Network Management Committee

Appendix One

Network Ground rules

- The group is self regulating and members are from and known in the local community.
- References and / or DBS checks can be asked for and taken up if someone is not well known in the community and to the group or the activities they undertake require this.
- Meetings should be held in public places unless agreed otherwise with a member of the Steering Committee.
- Network activities do not include supervising or looking after children without their parents.
- Any introductions and support provided as part of the network will be based on these rules.
- Participating refugees and volunteers are advised in their own language that they should only participate as they wish and that queries and concerns can be raised and who to raise them to.

Confidentiality

- Network emails or any social media groups we set up are for co ordination and discussion of general issues but are not for any discussion of personal information.
- All personal information relating to refugees and asylum seekers is to be treated as confidential and should be kept securely in a locked place i.e. a lockable filing cabinet, or if on line should be password protected.
- Should any member of the network be asked for information about a refugee from an unexpected source e.g. the press, no information should be divulged and the questioner should be referred to an officer of the Penrith and Eden Refugee Network
- All statistical records given to third parties should be anonymised.

Appendix Two

Penrith and Eden Refugee Network: Volunteer Application Form

Name

Address

..... Postcode

Telephone E-mail

Why are you interested in volunteering for Penrith and Eden Refugee Network?

What do you consider to be your main areas of skills, expertise and experience that may be of relevance? (e.g. interests, hobbies, work)

Do you have any disabilities or other special needs that we should be made aware of?

Do you have any unspent convictions? (This will not necessarily exclude you from volunteering)

Please be aware that some activities may be subject to a DBS check

Please give us the name and address of two referees whom we can contact. This can be any adult who has known you for some time and who we can ask about your work, abilities and character.

Name

Address

.....

Postcode

Telephone

Relationship to you

Name

Address

.....

Postcode

Telephone

Relationship to you

Signed : Date:
.....

Please return this form to Penrith and Eden Refugee Network, c/o Friends Quaker
Meeting House, Meeting House Lane, Penrith, CA11 7TR
Email penrithedenrefugeenetwork@gmail.com