

## City of York Council Child Protection Policy

### Statement:

The City of York Council fully endorses the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child 1989 and asserts that children and young people should be protected from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse and that their potential as human beings is maximised.

This council is therefore committed to safeguarding the welfare of children and young people. The council recognises its key role in the direct provision and commissioning of services to children and young people but also its position of influence with other local partner organisations.

The council recognises that the welfare of our children and young people is paramount and that all children whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, racial origin or sexual orientation have the right to protection from abuse. The council will as a result ensure the safety and protection of all children engaging or benefiting, directly or indirectly, in services provided by the authority.

### This Policy promotes the following Principles of Good Practice:

This council will seek to ensure that all City of York Council business is discharged having regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and that any services provided on our behalf is of a high standards. This council will:

- Treat children and young people with care, respect and dignity
- Ensure communication with children and young people is open and clear
- Ensure consideration in respect of any of the council's actions/decisions of the effect those actions may have on children and young people
- Recognise that those working for the council will be perceived as trusted representatives by children and young people
- Seek to prevent incidents of harm of whatever form and from whatever source
- Assess the risks to children of the council's activities, policies and interventions
- Provide children and young people with appropriate safety and protection whilst in the care of or engaged in activities organised by the council
- Ensure we practice safe recruitment in checking the suitability of staff who work for us with children and young people
- Develop and implement procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases of abuse
- Ensure all key personnel are aware of how to report concerns about the welfare of children
- Respond swiftly and proportionately to allegations of abuse and develop systems to ensure that staff working with children are routinely monitored and their practice reviewed

This council recognises that progress in improving safeguarding arrangements within the authority are best achieved on a partnership basis and lends its full commitment as a result to the work of the local Safeguarding Children's Board.