



County Roscommon Disability Support Group CLG

Child Safeguarding Statement

Policy: Child Protection Policy

Issue Date: June 2018	Revision No. & Date: REV 005	22.06.2023	Review Date: April 2024
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County Roscommon Disability Support Group CLG (RSG) provides a Personal Assistant service to adults and children with physical and/or sensory disabilities in County Roscommon. **RSG** is committed to safeguarding children. Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the Children First: National Guidance, and Tusla’s Child Safeguarding Policies. In addition to our Risk Assessment document described below, there are further policies and procedures contained in our Child Protection and Welfare Policy that support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our services.

1. Risk Assessment

Any assessment to any potential harm to a child must be undertaken – Risk Assessment. The written Risk Assessment document implements the requirements of Section 11(3) of the Children First Act 2015. The Risk Assessment document of **RSG** clearly sets out the areas of potential risk of harm, the likelihood of the risk occurring, and the applicable policy to address each risk.

The Risk Assessment was first undertaken on 1st of May 2018 and reviewed on 22nd June 2023 by **Designated Liaison Person Jackie Morrisroe** and is on display in the Company office. We have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of our services. Below is a list of the areas of risk identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

Risk Identified		Procedure in Place to Manage Risk Identified
1.	Risk of harm to a child from a member of staff	RSG’s Child Protection Policy Document clearly outlines the procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers/volunteers of a child availing of our service.
2.	Recruitment	All staff, volunteers and Board members are Garda Vetted. All appointments or contracts of employment with RSG are offered subject to Garda Vetting. Employment will not commence until the vetting process has been completed. RSG is in full compliance with the requirements of National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Act 2012-2016.
3.	Child Protection Concern Training	RSG provides ongoing child protection training to all staff and volunteers to raise awareness within the organisation about potential risks to children’s safety and welfare. All staff, volunteers and board members are made aware of their duty to report concerns or disclosures of abuse that they receive in the course of their duties to RSG’s Designated Persons, as indicated below, are outlined in RSG Child Safety Policy. ‘An Introduction to Children First’ is mandatory eLearning training all RSG staff members.
4.	Reporting Child Protection Concerns from Staff	The roles and responsibilities of the Designated Liaison Persons, as indicated below, are outlined in RSG’s Child Protection Policy. Failure of staff to report concerns is a failure in duty to care and can lead to disciplinary action. If the Designated Liaison Person is unavailable one of the Mandated Persons or a Designated Safeguarding Officer can be contacted.
5.	Reporting Child Protection Concerns to TUSLA	The Designated Person acts as a liaison person with outside agencies and also as a resource person to staff members or volunteers who have any child protection concerns. RSG’s Child Protection Policy Document clearly outline these procedures.



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2. Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the Children First: National Guidance, and Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our service:

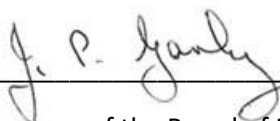
- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers/volunteers of a child availing of our service // by staff or volunteers against a child availing of our services.
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers to work with children.
- Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm.
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities Tusla
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons (if any) in the relevant service who are mandated persons.
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person.

All procedures listed are available upon request. The Mandated/Relevant Persons for **RSG** is: Designated Liaison Person and Safeguarding Officer Jackie Morrisroe.

3. Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our service is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our service. This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on 22nd June 2023 or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed:



Chairperson of the Board of Management

For queries, please contact: **Designated Liaison Person, Jackie Morrisroe and Safeguarding Officer** or one of RSG's Mandated Persons as identified in RSG's Child Protection Policy.

Relevant Person(s) under the Children First Act 2015.