



## **SAFEGUARDING POLICY**

It is the responsibility of all members of East Surrey Family History Society to provide a safe and secure environment for everyone.

### **We recognise that:**

- The welfare of all people is paramount.
- Everyone has different levels of vulnerability and each of us may be regarded as vulnerable (at risk) at some time in our lives.
- All adults and young people (regardless of age, disability, gender, marital status, pregnancy, maternity, race, religion or belief, or sexual identity) have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse which can occur in all communities.
- There may be occasions when DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) clearance is required in order for Society members to take part in community events, in which case members may seek advice from the Safeguarding Officer, Mrs Marda Dixon.

### **We will develop a culture within the Society that:**

- Enables everyone to provide an environment where there is a culture of vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- Enables and encourages concerns to be raised and responded to openly and consistently and protects any person who may be at risk from actual or potential harm.
- Ensures all people feel welcomed, respected and safe.
- Respects everyone and encourages them to be active contributors to the Society.
- Ensures that the Society's Safeguarding Policy be reviewed by the Executive Committee at least once a year, and is referred to in the Trustees' Annual Report.

### **When concerns are raised we will:**

- Respond without delay to every concern raised that any person may have been harmed or may be at risk of harm.
- Work with the police, local authority and other official bodies in any investigation.
- Challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- Inform members of the Executive Committee if there is any safeguarding issue concerning the Society without breaking any matters of confidentiality.

**Safeguarding Officer** – Marda Dixon [safeguarding@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk).