

CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

1. Name of Service being provided: Cavan County Local Development (CCLD)

2. Nature of service and principles to safeguard children from harm:

Cavan County Local Development is a local development company funded by the Irish Government through various Departments and charged with the delivery of a range of programmes whose aim is to support specific target groups with a view to making a positive difference in their lives.

3. Mission Statement:

Breffni Integrated Company Limited by Guarantee (CLG) T/A Cavan County Local Development aims through community, personal, rural and economic development actions to provide an effective and coordinated response to combat social exclusion and disadvantage in Co. Cavan.

The company seeks to contribute effectively to the provision of community, education, training, employment and enterprise opportunities as well as the development of support services within the county.

The goal is to develop sustainable communities throughout County Cavan, through enhancing the social, natural, human, physical and financial resources available to individuals and communities and thereby contributing to the LECP objective of making Cavan a place that we can be proud of, a place where people can have a good quality of life; a better place to live work and to enjoy.

Although Cavan County Local Development is not a youth organisation, we do engage children, young people and their families in a variety of different ways, For Example: Involvement in the interventions of

The Refugee Resettlement Programme

Family activities
Youth activities
Integration initiatives

Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme

Goal 2:

Engagement can be carried out on a one-to-one basis or using group-based work with individuals including young people and should be person-centred. Broadly speaking, it can be categorised as providing help in three ways:

Lifelong learning supports
Employment supports
Personal development supports

4. Cavan County Local Development Principles to safeguard children from harm:

CCLD seeks to adopt and implement the highest possible standards of policy and practice in the promotion of the protection and welfare of children and young people. We are committed to safeguarding and protecting children and young people from abuse. CCLD commits to ensure that where child neglect or abuse is believed or suspected to be occurring, that CCLD's staff and volunteers will effectively deal with the matter in a timely, appropriate and professional manner. CCLD will adhere to all child protection and welfare legislation and guidance. There is a child protection and Welfare reporting procedure operational within the service.

We will ensure that all staff employed in the organisation are properly vetted and checked in accordance with the law, that our recruitment practices adhere to best practice and that staff members receive training relating to child protection and welfare.

CCLD will adhere to the following guiding principles:

- **The safety and welfare of children is everyone's responsibility**
- **The best interests of the child are paramount**
- **All interventions are strengths based and outcomes focused**
- **Prevention and early intervention is desirable when working with young children and their families**
- **Children and young people have an equal right to attend a service that respects them as individuals and encourages them to reach their potential, regardless of their background**
- **We are committed to upholding the rights of every child and young person who attends our service, including the rights to be kept safe and protected from harm, listened to and heard**
- **Parents/carers have a right to respect and should be consulted and involved in matters that respect their family**
- **Recognising that child protection is a multiagency, multidisciplinary activity, CCLD will work with other agencies and organisations in the interests of children and young people**
- **Our guiding principles and procedures to safeguard children and young people reflect national policy and legislation and we will review our guiding principles and child safeguarding procedures every two years**
- **Our guiding principles apply to everyone in our organisation**
- **Workers/volunteers/members of the board must conduct themselves in a way that reflects the principles of our organisation**

5. Risk Assessment and Management

CCLD accepts that risk exists in all aspects and all levels within the organisation. Risk management is undertaken to identify, mitigate and positively manage and control the level and types of risk to which the organisation is exposed.

6. CCLD has the following risk management process in place:

- A risk policy which clearly outlines and guides the organisation's risk management process
- A risk register that records identified and assessed risks and the actions to be taken to manage those risks in the following areas:
 - Engagement with children and young people
 - Reporting Procedures
 - Recruitment and Selection
 - Information, Communication and Training
 - Allegations in relation to harm

7. Procedures

Our safeguarding policy has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, *Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children and Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy Procedure and Practice. (As set out in s.11(3) of the CFA 2015)*

The following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our services:

- Procedure to be followed by staff/volunteers/members of the board in responding to child protection and welfare concerns
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers
- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against CCLD's workers/volunteers of a child or young person while attending a service
- Complaints procedure
- Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding, training and information
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons in CCLD who are Mandated Persons (if any)

All procedures are available on request

8. Implementation

CCLD recognises that implementation is an ongoing process. Our service is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the underlying policies and procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our services

9. Review

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed in December 2022 or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed:  _____

Terry Hyland

Chief Executive Officer (Relevant Person)

Cavan County Local Development

Unit 6A Corlurgan Business Park

Ballinagh Road

Cavan

H12 DP86

049 4331029