Section 1 - The Policy	
Policy title	Working with Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults: Allegations Against
	Employees
Implementation date	September 2022

#### Please provide an overview of the policy including the key aims and expected outcomes:

Employees can have a positive role in child and adult protection, being able to observe outward signs of abuse, neglect, changes of behaviour or failure to develop. At the same time, they can also be put in vulnerable situations where accusations of abuse may be made against them by children, young people, vulnerable adults or parents/carers. These allegations may be either true, false, malicious, or misplaced, and may be either deliberate or innocent of such intent. It is important that we have sound procedures in place in the event that such an allegation of abuse is made.

All employees who have responsibility of working with, and caring for, children, young people and vulnerable adults require to have enhanced disclosure checks in place prior to commencing work.

This procedure should also be adopted where allegations are made against employees out with their work with the Comhairle.

## Detail the budget implication relating to the policy:

There are no budget implications

## What will change as a result of this policy?

A policy has been in place since 2006. This review and updating of the policy is necessary to include vulnerable adults and to ensure it complies with relevant legislation and good practice.

# Indicate which groups of people will be, or potentially could be, impacted upon by the implementation of this policy?

This policy applies to Comhairle employees

Responsible Persons			
Department / Section	HR and Performance		
Lead Officer	N Skinner		
IIA Team Members			
Responsible Head of	N Skinner		
Service	IN SKIIIIIEI		



#### Section 2 - Evidence

What data and information has been reviewed as part of the policy development process?

Relevant legislation

Advice from Chief Social Work Officer

Detail what consultation has taken place as part of the policy development process?

This updated policy was subject to consultation with CMT and the JCC prior to presentation to the Comhairle.

What does the information collected, and the outcome of any consultation indicate regarding potential impacts of the policy?

Are there any gaps in knowledge? If further evidence or consultation required as part of the policy development process please detail:

None identified

# **Section 3 - Initial Integrated Impact Assessment**

Impact Overview	Yes	No
Is the policy strategic?		х
Will individuals have access to, or be denied access to a service or function as a result of the policy or the changes being proposed to services or functions?		x
Will the implementation of the policy, or the changes to the policy, result in individuals being employed, a change in staffing levels, or a change in terms and conditions, employer or location, either directly or indirectly?		x
Is there a change in the size of a budget?		x
Will a service be withdrawn, changed or expanded?		х
Will the policy have consequences for or affect people?		
Does the policy have the potential to have an impact on equality even when this only affects a relatively small number of people?		х
Does the policy have the potential to have an impact on the economy and the delivery of economic outcomes?		х
Is the policy likely to have a significant environmental impact?		х

## **Comments**

This is an internal policy to ensure good practice when dealing with allegations against employees who work with children, young people and/or vulnerable adults.

## Section 3 - - Initial Integrated Impact Assessment



Continued					
Which groups of people will be, or potentially could be, impacted upon by the implementation of this policy?		No	Comments		
age	х				
disability	х		This policy ensures there are effective procedures in place		
sex		х	for the management of allegations against employees who		
gender reassignment		х	work with children, young people and vulnerable adults.		
marriage and civil partnership		х	This policy aims to ensure that children, young people and		
pregnancy and maternity		х	vulnerable adults are kept safe at all times, and where there		
race		х	are allegations, that these are referred to the appropriate		
religion or belief		х	agencies and are dealt with effectively.		
sexual orientation		х			
Do you have evidence or reason to	Yes	No	Comments		
believe that this policy will or may					
impact on socio-economic					
inequalities?					
Socio-economic Disadvantage		х			
Low Income/Income Poverty		х			
Low and/or no wealth		х			
Material Deprivation		х	No socio-economic impacts identified.		
Area Deprivation		х			
Socioeconomic Background		х			
Do you have evidence or reason to	Yes	No	Comments		
believe that this policy will or may					
affect individuals Human Rights?					
Human Rights		х			
Do you have evidence or reason to believe that this policy will have wider	Yes	No	Comments		
impacts as outlined below?					
Health and Wellbeing		х			
Economic and Social Sustainability		X			
Environmental Sustainability, Climate		X			
Change and Energy Management		^			
The Gaelic Language		х			
Island Proofing		x			
Is there the potential for cumulative		X			
impact?					
Section 4 - Decision	<u> </u>	<u>,                                      </u>			



Based on the initial Integrated Impact Assessment is a full IIA required?				
Yes				
Full IIA Lead Officer:				
Estimated completion date:				
No Company of the Com				
If an IIA is deemed not to be requi	red please detail the decision rational below:			
This is an internal policy to ensure good practice when dealing with allegations against employees who work with children, young people and/or vulnerable adults.				
The policy ensures there are effective procedures in place for the management of allegations against employees who work with children, young people and vulnerable adults. This policy aims to ensure that children, young people and vulnerable adults are kept safe at all times, and where there are allegations, that these are referred to the appropriate agencies and are dealt with effectively.				
Section 5 – Lead Officer and authorising Director				
Lead Officer (print name)	N Skinner			
Designation	Head of HR and Performance			
Date	22 August 2023			
Print name of Head of Service or Director responsible for the policy	N Skinner			
Date				

