

Child Protection Policy

Policy Statement

At City of Ryde, we support the protection of children and young persons who come into contact with Council employees, contractors and volunteers through the implementation of measures to ensure a safe, supporting, and caring Council environment.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure children and young persons who come into contact with City of Ryde employees, contractors or volunteers are not at risk of significant harm and are safe from all forms of abuse. In particular, our policy, related Procedure and Explanatory Notes are designed to ensure that:

- Children and young persons are protected from child abuse as defined under the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998
- A system exists for the reporting of all allegations under relevant legislation and to encourage and facilitate the reporting of children and young persons at risk of significant harm to the Manager People and Performance
- Prompt notification to the Office of the Children’s Guardian, and the efficient and equitable investigation of allegations, and
- To prevent applicants who have been disqualified by the Office of the Children’s Guardian from employment in child-related work through a mandatory Working with Children Check.
- Council understands its obligations set out by the Office of the Children’s Guardian’s Principles for Child-Safe Organisations 2017
- Council responds to the Royal Commission Final Report Recommendations 2017 relevant to Local Government including the Child Safe Standards.

This policy covers:

- Dealing with allegations of child abuse against an employee
- Responding to concerns arising in the workplace that a child is at risk of significant harm
- Identifying and managing child-related employment

This policy applies to all persons employed by City of Ryde in any capacity or those undertaking work on behalf of the City of Ryde including volunteers, paid or unpaid work experience placements and any person who acts in a public official capacity in the service of Council.

Supporting Documents

- Child Protection – Procedure
- Child Protection – Explanatory Notes

References

- Children & Young Persons (Care & Protection) Act 1998 (NSW)
- Children & Young Persons (Care & Protection) Regulation 2012 (NSW)
- Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012
- Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)
- City of Ryde Code of Conduct
- Royal Commission Final Report Recommendations 2017

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Owner: People and Culture	Accountability: People and Culture	Policy Number: CSH/009
Reference No.:	Date Approved: 25 November 2020	Endorsed By: Executive Team