



## Policy Statement

Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire Authority (the Authority), values its diverse community and the service which it provides. People are central to all of its activities, and the Authority believes that everyone has the right to live their life free from abuse and neglect – regardless of race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion and belief, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnerships, pregnancy or maternity. Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults is “everybody’s business” and the Authority is committed to fulfilling an active role in safeguarding work.

## Statement of principles

The Authority aims to:

- Through training and engagement, promote its commitment to preventing abuse and safeguarding children and vulnerable adults, reporting concerns of abuse and being proactive in its work with other agencies to stop abuse occurring. Reducing the risk from Radicalisation, through identifying and referring vulnerable children and adults at risk, meeting the Government’s CONTEST Strategy to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.
- Deliver relevant training to enable staff to fulfil their responsibilities. Staff who are in designated roles working with members of the public will be checked for suitability to carry out that work through appropriate pre-employment checks and ongoing supervision and training.
- Ensure concerns of abuse or neglect arising in the course of their duties are reported to the appropriate authority by staff, who are often in a position to identify vulnerable children and adults at risk.
- Manage its services in a way which promotes improved safety and prevents abuse. The welfare and safety of any child must be paramount at all times.
- Support multi-agency safeguarding children’s and adults procedures and safeguarding board structure, (through membership of core boards, information sharing, training and liaison). This reciprocal arrangement informs the Authority’s prevention initiatives to generate follow up visits in support of partner agencies.