

SUPPORTING FAITH ORGANISATIONS IN WOLVERHAMPTON



Working together to keep you safe from abuse and neglect, and promote your well-being



Wolverhampton Voluntary & Community Action



ABOUT THIS WORK...

In July 2017, Wolverhampton Safeguarding Together partnership (WST) commenced funding for a part-time Faith Engagement Worker based at Wolverhampton Voluntary Sector Council (now renamed as Wolverhampton Voluntary and Community Action). The aim was to promote safeguarding with faith groups across the city and support them to review their safeguarding arrangements to make sure these were in line with good practice and embedded in the work and governance of the organisation. This work has been done in close collaboration with Interfaith Wolverhampton (IFW).

ONLINE FAITH MAP

278 ORGS MAPPED

Knowing and understanding what the faith sector looks like in the city was the basis of this work. This involved locating faith groups across the city and adding them to the online map, with up to date contact details. See <http://bit.ly/wtonfaithmap>

The map has been shared widely with stakeholders around the city.



Members of Interfaith Wolverhampton launching the Faith Map during Safeguarding week 2019.

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

299 INDIVIDUALS & 50 GROUPS

Between 2017 - 2020 basic safeguarding training sessions were delivered to members of Faith organisations across the City of Wolverhampton. This included a partnership with Interfaith Wolverhampton thanks to funding secured from Near Neighbours.



INTERFAITH W'TON / NEAR NEIGHBOURS CELEBRATION EVENT

43 INDIVIDUALS & 29 GROUPS

An event to celebrate the safeguarding training undertaken & contributions of faith groups to supporting vulnerable people in the city & discover the range of safeguarding support available to faith groups in Wolverhampton.



SAFEGUARDING IN FAITH NETWORK

112 INDIVIDUALS & 67 GROUPS

This Network provides opportunities for representatives from faith groups to meet together, learn from each other & from other good practice, find out what more they can do to meet their safeguarding responsibilities & celebrate their successes.

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POLICY REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT

87 ORGS SUPPORTED

Good quality policies and procedures are key to effective safeguarding arrangements. We have run 8 training sessions, helped 62 organisations review or develop their policies. Practical outcomes include 25 organisations commencing DBS checks as part of new safer recruitment processes.



TWO WAY COMMUNICATION

238 INDIVIDUALS

We established a range of ways for faith groups to communicate with us and vice versa to suit different preferences.

This has facilitated the sharing of information & encouraged conversations & responses.

Our WhatsApp broadcast list helped us interact with over 230 people.

USING EMAIL NEWSLETTERS

OVER 300 SUBSCRIBERS

We use a regular email newsletter to share information, provide updates and keep in touch.

We have sent over 60 email updates since November 2018..



TOPICS COVERED ACROSS ALL OF OUR INTERACTIONS

THESE WERE DEVELOPED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FAITH ORGANISATIONS

- Safe Touch & NPSCC's Underpants Rule
- Private fostering
- Keeping children safe online
- Recent developments relating to safeguarding children & adults
- Meet the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) and their role
- Exploitation
- Prevent training
- Airport Liaison officer and Schedule 7 Terrorism Act 2000 Stops
- Wolverhampton Information Network
- Covid-19 Pandemic
 - Keeping faith groups informed of local & national Covid-19 guidance
 - Informing them of how they could contribute to city wide responses
- WST's Safeguarding Week
- DBS & Policy development
- Wolverhampton Faith Covenant
- Managing People who Pose a Risk to children & adults who attend places of worship/activities
- Safer recruitment, managing allegations & DBS checks
- Updates from:
 - West Midlands Police Terrorism Unit
 - Active Black Country faith & sport
 - SWP's Cohesion and Prevent Officer
- Room hire guidance
- Workshop: Extremism online and in our community by WM Terrorism Police
- Interfaith week
- Orange Wolverhampton

FOR MORE INFO ON SAFEGUARDING VISIT [WOLVERHAMPTONSAFEGUARDING.ORG.UK](https://www.wolverhamptionsafeguarding.org.uk)

FOR MORE INFO ON FAITH WORK VISIT [WVCA.ORG.UK/FAITH-GROUP-SUPPORT](https://www.wvca.org.uk/faith-group-support)

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THE FUTURE

2021 AND ONWARDS

Train the Trainer programme

Interfaith Wolverhampton & WVSC will be working in partnership to co-produce and deliver a Train the Trainer programme in which volunteers will be trained to deliver basic safeguarding training to faith organisations across the city over the next 3 years.

18 individuals from a range of faith groups representing all of the world faiths with places of worship in the city are now registered to become trainers on this programme.

Interfaith Wolverhampton will co-ordinate the response to requests for safeguarding training by matching pairs of trainers to the organisations wanting the training. Anyone wishing to volunteer to be one of the trainers should contact faithsupport@wvca.org.uk.

This Train the Trainer programme is being funded and supported by Wolverhampton Safeguarding Together partnership.

Supporting faith groups

WST partnership have been committed to Faith Engagement since 2017. They have provided funding for the Faith Engagement Worker post over the past 4 years, without which the progress outlined above could not have been made.

Whilst the funding for the post from WST has finally come to an end, WVSC is keen to maintain the relationships made over this period. To this end WVSC has contributed some of its reserves to maintain the post for a short period so that the work to support faith groups can be incorporated into its ongoing work to support the local voluntary and community sector.

Anyone interested in finding out more can email faithsupport@wvca.org.uk or phone 01902 328985.

THANK YOU

Special thanks go to everyone who has taken part in or supported this project to help make it a success:

- Wolverhampton Safeguarding Together partnership (WST)
- Interfaith Wolverhampton (IFW)
- The 260+ faith organisations in Wolverhampton
- Near Neighbours
- David Perrin – Safeguarding trainer
- Local Councillors & MPs
- City of Wolverhampton Council Public Health

KEEPING IN TOUCH AND CONTACT DETAILS

STAYING INFORMED

Faith group e-bulletins

Sign up to receive WVCA's regular newsletters for faith groups at:

- <http://eepurl.com/dOn9ib>

WVCA e-newsletters

Sign up to receive fortnightly e-newsletters with information relevant to all voluntary and community groups, and see how you can follow us on social media at:

- <https://www.wvca.org.uk/contact-us/#newsletter>

WOLVERHAMPTON FAITH MAP

Find out if your faith group is on the Wolverhampton Faith Map at:

- <http://bit.ly/wtonfaithmap>
- if you would like to add or amend details of your faith group on the map, please email faithsupport@wvca.org.uk

CONTACT US

You can contact WVSC by email or phone as follows:

- email: faithsupport@wvca.org.uk
- tel: 01902 328985