

## Sphere 17 Regional Youth Service Child Safeguarding Statement March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018

### 1. Name of service being provided:

Sphere 17 Regional Youth Service CLG

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

(brief outline of what our service is, what we do and our commitment to safeguard children):

Sphere 17 is a regional youth service based in Dublin 17 and Dublin 5 which supports young people in the area to achieve their potential and develop positively towards adulthood. Sphere 17 provides a high-quality youth service to young people between the ages of 10 – 24. We provide many different services to young people, based on their needs, issues and interests. The services include drop-ins, educational and issue-based group work programmes, one-to-one support, detached youth work (including outreach), outings and residential activities, summer programmes, the Woodale Youth Justice Project and The Listen Project.

Sphere 17 RYS are committed to provide a safe environment and experience, where the welfare of the young person is paramount.

Our Core Values are:

**Young Person Centred:** We are committed to being young person centered, where young people are the focus of the service.

**Voluntary Participation:** We believe in voluntary participation as a core to our Youth Service provision; young people should always be using our service by choice.

**Equality and Respect:** We promote the acceptance and understanding of others through all service activity and we hold that all people have unique value, rights, needs, beliefs and potential.

**Development and Growth:** We believe that Sphere 17 is a place of on-going learning and opportunity for growth.

**Safety and Support:** We promote a safe and supportive environment in all our service provision.

### 3. Risk assessment

We have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of our services. Below is a list of the areas of risk identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

**Risk identified Procedure in place to manage risk identified**

	Risk identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified
1	Harm from staff members	Recruitment procedures, staff training and supervision, code of behaviour for staff.
2	Harm from other young people	Induction and group contract, youth service culture and values, supervised space and activities, trained staff.
3	Harm from other adults	No unsupervised access of young people with other adults.
4	Harm from accessing online content	Firewall and content filtering, education programmes, supervised space and regular engagement with young people about safe online behaviour.

### 4. Procedures


Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the *Children First: National Guidance*, and Tusla's *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice*. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our service:

- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers/volunteers of a child availing of our service
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers to work with children
- Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons (if any) in the relevant service who are mandated persons
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person
- All procedures listed are available upon request.

### 5. Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our service is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our service. This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed in March 2020, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed:



Nessan Vaughan  
Chairperson,  
Sphere 17 Regional Youth Service.

For queries, please contact:

Mick Ferron, Sphere 17 Regional Youth Service Manager

Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015.

a place to be young