

Safeguarding Policy

1. The Trust recognises that any applicant for a grant may have care and support needs themselves, or their dependents as defined in current legislation.
2. The Trust will therefore operate in accordance with the current legislation relating to safeguarding children and adults, and their supporting statutory guidance or their equivalents in each country of the UK.
3. As all applications to the Trust for grants are received either by post or online, Trustees never have face-to-face contact with any applicant; however, on occasions there may be the need for telephone contact between a Trustee and an applicant to seek a point of clarification.
4. The Trustees may therefore become aware of possible or actual abuse of an applicant or an applicant's dependent/s; in such cases, the Trustees will agree how best to gather further information if needed and if appropriate to advise the statutory authorities of their concerns.
5. Where appropriate – that doing so will not potentially put them at an increased risk of harm or abuse – the Trustees will inform the adult that they have contacted the local authority.
6. SWBT has developed a robust policy and procedure for the appointment of new Trustees. This includes a Personal Declaration signed by the prospective Trustee and their provision of one written reference and a completed basic DBS check before their appointment.