Young Greens Record of Organisational Statements

As amended ad interim by DAC on 14/02/2025

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# Clarifying the roles of Liberation/Special Interest Group Co-Chairs and Executive Officers.

Date Adopted:08/02/2025; Winter General Meeting

**The Young Greens note that:**

* There have been discussions within the elected committees of the Young Greens about the role of the Co-Chairs and Executive Committee Officers of the Liberation/Special Interest Groups, with changes suggested to the ways in which these roles interact with each other and other positions on the Executive and Liberation/Special Interest Group Committees.
* The Liberation/Special Interest groups rarely have enough candidates in the annual ballots to have a full committee.
* There are a wide variety of views amongst members of the Executive and Liberation/Special Interest group committees, and a consensus has not been reached on the correct way forward.

**The Young Greens believes:**

* Clarification is needed on the roles of Liberation/Special Interest group Co-Chairs and Executive Officers.
* Clarity will assist the Liberation/Special Interest group committees to work more effectively in the future and is preferable to a change in the roles via a constitutional amendment.

**The Young Greens resolves:**

* The role of a Liberation/Special Interest group co-chair is to:
  + Chair and organise meetings of the committee of the relevant group
  + Communicate the work of the committee to the membership of the group
* The role of a Liberation/Special Interest group officer is to:
  + Represent the relevant Liberation/Special Interest Group on the Executive Committee and ensure that there is communication between the Executive Committee and the liberation/Special Interest group committee.
  + Feed into campaigns, policy discussions, event planning and other work undertaken by the Executive Committee.
  + Support the Digital Communications and Press Officers to ensure that liberation issues are effectively represented by the Young Greens.
* These role descriptions should be advertised to the Young Greens membership during the annual ballot
* In order for Liberation/Special Interest groups to function effectively, Executive officers and Co-Chairs should communicate openly with each other, with other members of their relevant committee and with the Young Greens Executive Committee.
* These role descriptions will replace previously written role descriptions for the Liberation/Special Interest Group Executive Officer or Co-Chair positions.
* The elected representatives of the Young Greens will continue to meet on this issue, and this reform does not preclude further constitutional change if any member chooses to propose it.

# 

# Reimbursement and Expenses Policy

Date Adopted:19/02/2025; Executive Committee Insertion

**Purpose**

Where Young Greens incur expenses by attending Young Greens events, representing the Young Greens, or carrying out their respective role, they can reasonably expect such expenses to be reimbursed. Financial expenditure should not be a barrier to full participation with Young Greens of England and Wales.

**Process**

Costs incurred by an individual will be reimbursed as expenses after they have been incurred, except in exceptional circumstances where it may be possible for expenditure to be paid to an individual in advance. Any expenses to be paid in advance should be sent by request to the Treasurer (or individual acting as such), who will liaise with Green Party Finance to assess the possibility of doing so.

Anyone wishing to claim reimbursement should fill out an expense form that details their expenditure, and send this to the Treasurer along with receipts within 28 days of the expense being incurred.

Where possible, the Treasurer should be informed that an individual expects to claim reimbursement prior to costs being incurred, and if not, within at least 28 days of expenses being incurred. It cannot be guaranteed that expenses not advised in advance will be reimbursed, either in full or in part, and any requests not advised in advance should be discussed by the Executive.

Where an individual requests reimbursement more than 28 days after expenses are incurred, they should provide a statement to the Treasurer on the benefit to the Young Greens of what they have incurred cost on. The Executive will discuss the claim, and may grant reimbursement up to a maximum of 50% of the cost incurred only. Members of the Executive who stand to be a beneficiary of reimbursement may not take part in discussion.

**Accepted Receipts**

An individual should be able to provide full receipts for all expenses that they claim for. This includes but is not limited to:

* For accommodation: VAT invoice or, if not VAT registered, there should be an invoice without VAT. It should show dates for the accommodation, for whom, and the amount.
* For car mileage: The postcodes travelled between plus the number of miles.
* For public transport: Receipt with the start and end destination, amount, date of travel, and ideally name of passenger. Exceptions are bus tickets and taxi receipts which usually show less information.

**Access Funds**

The Treasurer, when preparing the annual budget, should set aside an amount of money as access funds for travel and accommodation for Winter General Meeting, 30 Under 30, and Convention.

The availability of the access fund should be publicised in advance and after the event, and applications to the access fund should be open for 14 days after the event.

Where applications to the access fund are greater than budgeted in the annual budget, the Treasurer should assess the feasibility of reimbursing applicants in full, and if feasible, the Executive should vote to increase the amount budgeted to an access fund. Where it is not economically viable for all applications to be reimbursed in full, the Treasurer should assess applications and make a recommendation to the Executive of applications to be paid in full, in part, or not paid. Members of the Executive who stand to be a beneficiary of reimbursement may not take part in discussion.

**Federation of Young European Greens Events**

Individuals chosen by the Young Greens Executive to attend a FYEG event should expect to have their expenses reimbursed should they request so.

Where individuals plan to attend an event in their personal capacity, they can reach out to the Treasurer in advance to request reimbursement, detailing the benefit to the Young Greens of their attendance and the amount they expect to incur. This request should be discussed with the Executive, who will decide whether to reimburse in full, in part, or not at all. Members of the Executive who stand to be a beneficiary of reimbursement may not take part in discussion.

**Review of Policy**

This policy should be reviewed at least every year by the Executive Committee, and may also be amended by Convention and Winter General Meeting. It may be reviewed sooner if warranted by external events or changes. Although any member of the Executive Committee may take charge of recommended changes to the policy, it is expected that the Treasurer should take the lead.

# Reserves Policy

Date Adopted:11/12/2024; Executive Committee Insertion

**Purpose**

The purpose of reserves for the Young Greens is to help ensure the long term ability of the

organisation to meet its mission. Young Greens will maintain reserves for the following reasons:

● Continuity - Provide funding to protect the continuity of our core work.

● Protection - Protect core work, given an unanticipated loss of income.

● Unpredicted Spend - Fund new work, as required by an unpredictable political climate.

● Core work includes the work of Political Education & Training, Elections, Campaigns, and Groups & Membership, as well as work mandated by the constitution.

Funds from reserves are not intended to replace a permanent loss of funds or eliminate an

ongoing budget gap. It is the intention of the Young Greens for reserves to be used and

replenished within two years.

**Definitions and Goals**

The available reserves shall be the sum of unrestricted funds, less the fixed assets or funds

already set aside within unrestricted funds. This shall be decided by the Young Greens

Executive Committee when deciding the budget for each year. Ongoing operation and oversight of the reserves is delegated to the Treasurer or the Executive Committee member acting as such. The target amount of reserves will be established considering the purposes of reserves, and the likelihood that the money will be required.

Reserves serve a dynamic role and will be reviewed and adjusted in response to internal and external changes. The target amount of reserves is equal to £5,000. The calculation of average monthly expenses includes all recurring, predictable expenses such as salaries, subscriptions, work mandated by the constitution, and the funding of core work programmes. Depreciation, in-kind, and other non-cash expenses are not included in the calculation.

**Investing Reserves**

Reserves will be held in cash or cash equivalent funds in accordance with the risk preferences, liquidity need and investment objectives of the organisation.

**Excesses and Shortfalls of Reserves**

If there are excesses of reserves then the Executive Committee should adopt operational budgets with projected deficits to reduce the reserve fund to its target level over a number of years.

If there are shortfalls of reserves then the Executive Committee will adopt operational budgets with projected surpluses to increase the reserve fund to its target level over a number of years.

**Use of Reserves**

The Executive Committee will identify reasons for accessing the reserve funds and confirm that the use is consistent with the purpose of the reserves as described in this Policy. As a

part of this process, the Executive Committee will do the following:

● Analyse the reason for the needed funds;

● Assess the feasibility of targeted fundraising activities to raise the necessary funds; and

● Evaluate the time period that the funds will be required, and then replenished.

The Executive Committee may access the reserves for the purposes outlined in this policy, with the intention that sufficient funds are made available to repay such usage within twenty-four months.

The Executive Committee will collectively analyse and determine the use of the funds and plans for replenishment (as outlined above). They will then submit this request to the Treasurer in writing. The Treasurer will authorize transactions from reserves in the same way that they approve other expenditure. Email is an acceptable form of notification and acknowledgment.

**Monitoring Use of Reserves**

The Executive Committee is responsible for ensuring that reserves are maintained and used

only as described in this Policy. Upon approval for the use of reserves, the Treasurer will

maintain records of the use of funds and plan for replenishment. The Treasurer will

provide regular reports to the Executive Committee of progress to restore the fund to the

target minimum amount.

**Review of Policy**

This policy will be subject to the standard processes for entries in the RoOS. It should therefore be reviewed at least every year by the Executive Committee, and may also be amended by a General Meeting. It may be reviewed sooner if warranted by external events or changes. Although any member of the Executive Committee may take charge of recommended changes to the policy, it is expected that the Treasurer should take the lead.

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# Supporting And Developing Representation For Sex Workers

Date Adopted:18/07/2024; Convention

**The Young Greens note that:**

* That the Young Greens Sex Workers Special Interest Group has been inactive  
  for a number of years.
* That the Young Greens Sex Workers Special Interest Group has not been active due to concerns regarding members who are sex workers being identified and thus putting them at risk.

**The Young Greens believe that:**

* That sex work should be decriminalised.
* That we should actively work with and support organisations that are campaigning for the decriminalisation of sex work.
* That sex work is a real and valid form of work.
* That sex workers are often underrepresented or unrepresented, and are marginalised in society.
* That sex workers deserve representation at all levels of organising.

**The Young Greens resolves:**

* To investigate and seek to implement a solution, within the next Executive term, as to how sex workers can be represented within the Young Greens in a way that is safe and accessible outside the existence of a formal Special Interest Group.
* To support and work with campaigns that are calling for the decriminalisation of sex workers.
* To work with relevant organisations to do this including but not limited to SWARM, English Collective of Prostitutes, Decrim Now, and UVW.

# 

# Executive Committee Role Descriptions

Date Adopted: 26/05/2023; Executive Committee Insertion

Co-Chair

* Acting as spokesperson for the Young Greens and the Green Party Youth and Student Spokespeople, including at public events and in the media.
* Representing the Young Greens on the Green Party Executive (GPEx) at meetings and relevant sub-committees.
* Working with the Green Party staff team to ensure support is available to the Young Greens.
* Chairing regular meetings and away days with the Young Greens Executive Committee.
* Coordinating and overseeing the Young Greens Executive Committee team strategy and supporting individual officers to ensure they are able to achieve their goals.
* Working closely with Liberation Groups and Green Students Committee to ensure these groups are able to input into organisational and political strategies, and deliver impact on the ground.
* Chairing and preparing Executive Committee fortnightly meetings (online) and away days and residentials less regularly.

Treasurer

* Devising a fundraising strategy and activities to support the financial growth of the Young Greens.
* Helping to deliver fundraising appeals to finance our programmes and phone rounds to build up the monthly income of the Young Greens.
* Producing budgets and signing off on expenses for the Young Greens.
* Providing financial reports where necessary.
* Working closely with Green Party finance staff.

Elections Officer

* Setting and delivering a strategy for how we can campaign to get Young Greens elected.
* Mobilise young people from all across England and Wales to get involved in local and national election campaigns.
* Supporting Young Greens in standing for election and working with other Officers to develop training and programmes needed for this.

Digital Communications Officer

* Setting the strategy for our social media channels (twitter, instagram, facebook, tiktok etc).
* Creating dynamic content alongside the rest of the Executive Committee.
* Delivering messaging plans and managing our channels on a day to day basis.

Press Officer

* Setting and delivering a strategy for our press work.
* Cultivating a broad list of press contacts, and sourcing and editing articles from key Young Green activists.
* Making recommendations for pitching stories, interviews and press coverage tied to the team strategy.

Campaigns Officer

* Developing effective and exciting Young Greens campaigns at a national level that highlight key policies as determined by the Executive Committee.
* Supporting the creation and distribution of resources and training on delivering campaigns to local and regional groups and the wider membership.

Events Officer

* Coordinating logistics (e.g., finding venues, catering and accommodation, ensuring events meet access needs) for our two annual bi-national events, Young Greens Convention in Spring, and Winter General Meeting in Winter.
* Working with the Young Greens Administrator to support the delivery of other events, including 30 Under 30, that the Executive runs throughout the year.

International Officer

* Coordinating with the Global Young Greens and Federation of European Young Greens.
* Supporting cross-border collaboration, campaigns and learning with Young Greens in nations other than England and Wales.
* Representing the Young Greens as one of the delegates at the Young European Greens General Assembly.

Membership and Inclusion Officer

* Identifying training needs within the Young Greens membership and delivering a coordinated programme of skills based development.
* Coordinating communications and outreach with local Young Green activists and organisers to ensure that they are kept updated on national activity.
* Liaising and working closely with the Young Greens Liberation Groups and Officers in order to ensure our movement is as diverse and as accessible as possible.

Political Education Officer

* Identifying educational needs and direction within the Young Greens.
* Coordinating and setting strategy for political education events.
* Leading the delivery of political education events and resources within the Young Greens, in particular at 30 Under 30.

Liberation Officers (from each constituted Liberation Group)

* Representing the relevant Liberation Group on the Executive Committee and ensuring that there is communication between the Executive Committee and the liberation group committees.
* Feeding into campaigns, policy discussions, event planning and other work undertaken by the Executive Committee.
* Supporting the Digital Communications and Press Officers to ensure that liberation issues are effectively represented by the Young Greens.

Under 18s Officer

* Representing the Under 18s affiliated group on the Executive Committee and ensuring that there is communication between the committees.
* Feeding into campaigns, policy discussions, event planning and other work undertaken by the Executive Committee.
* Supporting the Digital Communications and Press Officers to ensure that issues impacting under 18s are effectively represented by the Young Greens.

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# Guidelines On Which Symbols To Use To Represent Autism

Date Adopted: 09/07/2022; Convention

**The Young Greens note that:**

* Current Green Party of England & Wales policy follows the social model of disability which we as Young Greens support. It is important that we as Young Greens be consistent with the policies of the main party, and the symbols we use should reflect this.
* Many people don’t understand the significant differences between the symbols used to represent autism.
* The autism puzzle piece symbol was originally created in 1963 by Gerald Gasson, a parent and board member of the National Autistic Society in London. The logo featured green and black colours with an outline of a crying child in the centre [[1]](#footnote-0). This was supposed to represent that autism was a puzzling condition that could be ‘solved’, which implies that autism can and should be cured. The symbol of the crying children also implies that autism causes children to be unhappy and suffering. The National Autistic Society no longer uses this symbol, although variations of it are still currently used by other organisations. Notably, the organisation known as Autism Speaks, a global organization founded in 2005 which has adopted the blue puzzle piece as its logo [[2]](#footnote-1). Autism Speaks was founded on the principle of curing autism. While the organisation dropped the use of the word ‘cure’ in 2016, they still fund research that seeks to identify a cause for autism.
* The symbol that is preferred by the majority of autistic people to represent autism is the rainbow infinity symbol [[3]](#footnote-2). This symbol is used by the autism rights movement, which advocates for acceptance of autism and accommodation for autistic people within society.

**The Young Greens believe that:**

* Autism does not need to be cured or solved: it is a naturally occurring neurological difference, not a disease.
* People are autistic, they do not ‘suffer’ with autism and symbols that suggest this are harmful to how autistic people are perceived by society.
* Finding a cause is still ultimately linked to finding a cure for autism, which is inherently wrong. Therefore, using the symbol of the puzzle piece implies that autism is a puzzling, but solvable (curable) condition.
* The beliefs of the autism rights movement are in line with Green Party Policy and therefore we should use the symbol that is associated with this movement when representing autism, rather than the puzzle piece.

# Solidarity with Striking Hospitality Workers

Date Adopted: 09/07/2022; Convention

**The Young Greens note that:**

* That there has been extensive strike action throughout the last few years from hospitality workers, notably from IWGB, Unite and UVW members, against poor pay, casualisation of the workforce and a lack of basic rights such as holiday pay and sick pay.
* That IWGB members have been on the longest gig-economy strike against JustEat in Sheffield, with the strike spreading to other locations across the UK.
* That calls for a £15 per hour living wage, an end to age-related pay gaps, and union recognition have been amongst their key demands. This is vital in light of the cost of living crisis and probable economic recession.
* That Unite The Union describes the hospitality sector as an "expanding UK sector where many of these workers are subjected to low pay, poor conditions and zero hour contracts."
* That as of 2017, 29% of people employed in the hospitality sector are under 21-years-old.

**The Young Greens believe that:**

* That young people have been disproportionately affected by the informalisation of work, but also a powerful force within these movements for change.
* That young people should have a right to a real living wage, equal pay and decent work. Hospitality sector workers have not traditionally organised industrial action on issues of pay and conditions, making recent industrial action hugely significant in the current landscape of UK labour struggles.
* That the Young Greens could play an important role in this growing movement and should work with the Green Party Trade Union Group to do so.

# Safeguarding Guidance

Date Adopted: 07/10/2021; Executive Committee Insertion

## Summary of Terms

For the purpose of this policy, children are defined as anyone under the age of 14. Department for Education guidance on safeguarding children can be found [here](https://www.gov.uk/topic/schools-colleges-childrens-services/safeguarding-children): <https://www.gov.uk/topic/schools-colleges-childrens-services/safeguarding-children>

Young people are defined as people between the ages of 14 and 17.

An adult at risk is any person who is aged 18 years or over and at risk of abuse or neglect because of their needs for care and or support. Further NHS guidance of safeguarding at risk adults can be found [here](https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/adult-pocket-guide.pdf): <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/adult-pocket-guide.pdf>

The Green Party is committed to following the Six Principles set out by The Care Act 2014 to underpin the safeguarding of adults at risk. More information can be found here: <https://www.anncrafttrust.org/resources/six-principles-adult-safeguarding/>

Abuse is action which inflicts harm or fails to prevent harm.

Physical abuse includes abuse where someone uses force to cause pain, injury of impairment.

Signs of physical abuse may include injuries which are not consistent for the explanation given for them, bruises, bites, burns and fractures which do not have an accidental explanation or injuries which have not received medical attention.

Psychological or emotional abuse includes abuse where someone intentionally scares, demeans or verbally abuses someone in order to harm them. Signs of emotional abuse may include: negative statements about self, extreme passivity or depression, aggression or extreme anxiety.

Sexual abuse includes abuse where an individual is coerced or pressurised into sexual activity against their will or by taking advantage of their vulnerability. Signs of sexual abuse may include: allegations of sexual abuse or an excessive preoccupation with sexual matters.

Financial or material abuse is where someone takes advantage of an individual’s trust to steal, defraud or misappropriate money or property by exploiting the person’s vulnerability.

Neglect and acts of omission includes ignoring medical or physical care needs. Signs of neglect may include: clothing that is dirty, untreated illnesses or being frequently hungry.

Discriminatory abuse includes, but is not limited to, racist, sexist, homophobic or ableist forms of harassment, slurs or similar treatment.

Abusive behaviour is often a combination of the types set out above. Any such behaviour towards a child or young person must be reported as a safeguarding issue.

## How to respond to signs or suspicions of abuse

In all cases of abuse it is vital to take whatever action is needed to safeguard the child or young person.

**If you believe there is an immediate risk to safety**

Whenever you believe that a specific child or young person is being abused or neglected, your first action should always be to report your concerns immediately to the police or to the Children’s Services section of the local authority. You can contact the police by phoning 999 (in emergency) or 101 (if time allows) and following the instructions of the emergency services personnel or by phoning your local authority and saying that you wish to report a child protection concern.

If you have concerns but are unsure about whether a specific child or young person is being abused or neglected, you can discuss your concerns with an adviser on the NSPCC’s helpline. You can contact a trained NSPCC helpline counsellor 24 hours a day by email or by using an online reporting form (help@nspcc.org.uk). You can also telephone the Helpline on 0808 800 5000 on Monday to Friday 8am – 10pm or 9am – 6pm at the weekends.

If your concerns relate to a specific adult at risk, you should contact the Adult Social Care section of the local authority or in an emergency always contact the police by dialling 999. The police can also be contacted about an adult at risk by dialling 101, if an emergency response is not thought to be necessary.

If your concern relates to a child, young person or adult at risk suffering abuse or neglect as a result of contact with the Green Party, it will ultimately be important for the Green Party’s Safeguarding Officer to be informed that a report has been made. Contact safeguarding@greenparty.org.uk or 020 36919 391 to report your concerns.

**Reporting safeguarding concerns**

On receipt of a reported safeguarding concern, please take the following steps:

If you are concerned that there is an immediate and present risk to someone’s health, safety or wellbeing, please first phone 999 as set out above.

Also contact the National Green Party Safeguarding Officer (safeguarding@greenparty.org.uk or through 020 36919 391) to check that they have also received the reported concern. It is very important that this report is made, to ensure that other members are kept safe. You should report all safeguarding concerns reported about someone aged under 18. You will need the permission of the person concerned when safeguarding concerns are about an adult at risk.

The National Safeguarding Officer will then liaise with you to decide on the appropriate response, which may also involve contacting the Police. The police can also offer advice regarding safety at home and in the community and may refer people who have experienced violence, abuse or crimes to the Victim Support helpline (0845 303 0900), or to further victim support services. The response may also involve contacting local area social services team (safeguarding team), this information can be found on the local council’s website.

Maintain a record of all correspondence and documents that relate to the reported risk

## Mitigation of abuse of children and adults at risk

To mitigate the risk of abuse, the Young Greens must follow this procedure for all events, residentials and any other activity incorporating children under the age of 18 and adults at risk. For every event, the Young Greens must have a registration process to find out if any under 18s or adults at risk are attending in advance and gather a completed medical form and consent form from a parent, guardian or care giver.

A member under the age of 18 should only interact with the Young Greens after a parental consent form from their parents/guardians has been received. A new form should be completed every 12 months, until the member has reached the age of 18. The form can be accessed by contacting the Young Greens Administrator.

Should Party interactions require a member under the age of 18 to spend a night away from home on Green Party business (e.g Party Conference), a special parental/guardian form should be received before this can happen, confirming that the parent/guardian are happy with the proposed accommodation arrangements and outlining the arrangements under which the member aged under 18 is being accommodated, including emergency contacts. The form can be accessed by contacting the Young Greens Administrator.

All children under the age of 18 must always be paired with a trusted and trained buddy who is a professional adult for travel, accommodation and to communicate with regularly. this service is also required and should be requested for adults at risk of abuse or neglect in order to provide accessibility. Under 18's must share accommodation with their trusted adult and no other adults within the group. All buddy’s must be DBS checked to gain clarification they are trusted and able to work with children and young people without risk.

The aim is to promote and reaffirm that the Young Greens are a safe organisation conscious of young people’s safety and security and that we take the safeguarding of young people and adults at risk seriously.

**General guidance**

## How to respond to allegations of abuse

If a child or young person shares information about abuse or neglect you must:

* Listen carefully. Do not ask direct questions.
* Give them time and attention
* Allow them to give a spontaneous account. Do not stop a child or young person who is freely recalling significant events.
* Make an accurate record of the information you have been given. Record the timing, setting and people present, the child or young person’s presentation as well as what was said. Keep this safe as this may be later needed as evidence.
* Use their words where possible.
* Explain that you cannot promise not to speak to others about the information they have shared.
* Reassure them that you are glad they have spoken with you; they have done nothing wrong and tell them what you are going to do next.
* Explain that you will need to get help to keep them safe.
* Do not ask them to repeat their accounts to anyone.

## Consultation

The aim of consultation is to discuss your concerns and decide what action is Necessary. You may become concerned about someone who has not spoken to you based on what someone else said.

If you are concerns about a child or a young person you must share your concerns. Initially you should talk to the Safeguarding Officer. If one of these people is implicated in the concerns you should discuss your concerns directly with social services.

You should consult externally with social services in these circumstances:

* When you remain unsure after internal consultation as to whether Safeguarding concerns exist
* When there is disagreement as to whether Safeguarding concerns exist
* When you are unable to consult promptly or at all with your designated internal contact
* When the concerns relate to the Safeguarding Officer

## Making a Referral

A referral involves giving Social Services or the Police information about concerns relating to an individual or family in order that enquiries can be undertaken by the appropriate agency. In certain cases the level of concern will lead straight to a referral without external consultation being necessary.

Parents of guardians should be informed if a referral is being made except in circumstances outlined above.

If your concern is about abuse or risk of abuse from someone not known to the child you should make a telephone referral directly to the police and consult with the parents. If your concern is about abuse or risk of abuse from a family member or someone known to the child or young person you should make a telephone referral to your local social services office.

## Information required

Be prepared to give as much of the following information as possible:

* Your name telephone number, position and request the same of the person to whom you are speaking
* Full name and address, telephone number of family, date of birth of child and siblings
* Gender, ethnicity, first language and special needs
* Names, dates of birth and relationship of household members and any significant others
* The Names of professionals known to be involved with the child or young person
* The nature of the concern and foundation for them
* An opinion on whether the child might need urgent action to make them safe
* Your view of what appears to be the needs of the child and family
* Whether the consent of a parent with parental responsibility has been given to the referral being made.

## Following the referral

* Ensure that you keep an accurate record of your concern(s) made at the time
* Put your concerns in writing to social services following the referral (within 48 hours)
* Accurately record the action agreed or that no further action is to be taken and the reasons for this decision.

## Confidentiality

Any records made in relation to abuse or allegations of abuse should be kept confidentially and in a secure place. Information in relation to Safeguarding concerns should be shared on a need to know basis. However the sharing of information is vital to Safeguarding and therefore the issue of confidentiality is secondary to the need to protection. If in doubt, consult with the authorities and the Green Party safeguarding team.

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# Safe Space Guidance

Date Adopted: 07/10/2021; Executive Committee Insertion

The purpose of this procedure is to support the following of the safe space policy. The safe space policy is informed by the Green Party of England & Wales’ safeguarding policy, which covers all Green Party activities, including Young Greens activities. The Green Party’s safeguarding policy can be accessed here: [www.greenparty.org.uk/safeguarding.html](http://www.greenparty.org.uk/safeguarding.html)

## Summary of Terms

Sexual Harassment is unwanted conduct of a sexual nature whether it is verbal, non verbal or physical.

Tone policing is defined as critiquing the tone an individual uses when making an argument as opposed to the content

Bullying is defined as behaviour which is repeated and intended to hurt another either physically or emotionally.

Young Greens Spaces are defined as Young Greens events, on Young Greens Facebook events, pages or groups and activity involving Young Greens emails.

A Safe Space Room is a quiet room where individuals can go to take a break from an event.

Content Warnings are warnings about upsetting content that media includes so individuals can make an informed choice to engage with it or not. For example, there should be content warnings for material on racism or sexual assault.

## Maintaining a safe space

The Young Greens ask that all members pay attention to their conduct and behaviour when engaging in Young Greens activity to ensure that it does not jeopardise the safe space. All members are responsible for their own language and behaviour. Respect should be given to each others' physical and emotional boundaries. Members should be expected to tolerate others' norms and habits as long as they do not transgress other parts of the safe space policy.

Activities which create an oppressive environment include, but are not limited to:

* Sexual harassment
* Tone policing
* Using offensive language to refer to oppressed groups
* Mis-gendering an individual
* Making assumptions about an individual based on perceived characteristics
* Sharing potentially triggering articles online without content warnings

## At Young Greens events

The Young Greens should ensure that events are as accessible as possible.

If possible this includes but is not restricted to: providing gender neutral toilets, using venues which are accessible to wheelchair users, ensuring members do not drink alcohol during official business and providing a safe space room.

## When a safe space has been jeopardised

The Young Greens ask that members challenge these forms of oppression when they occur. Members should follow the principle of 'respect the person, challenge the behaviour'. If challenged on their behaviour members should apologise and reflect on their behaviour.

If members feel a violation of this policy has occurred, they can please make a committee member aware in the first instance. This can be done either in person if at an event, or by emailing them if this is online. In normal circumstance the committee member will seek to moderate the discussion and resolve the complaint through normal complaints procedure. If the committee member believes there to be a potential risk, for example to a member, after consultation with at least 2 other committee members they can take immediate, appropriate action to reduce that risk.

This could include (without limitations):

* informal warnings and requests for an apology
* formal warnings about behaviour
* removal of an individual from all, or part, of an event.

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# Guidance on Antisemitism

Date Adopted: 14/08/20; Convention

**The Young Greens note that:**

* There is currently a rising neo-nazi movement across the globe (US, Ukraine, Poland), with a resurgence in holocaust deniers (Germany, Hungary). In the UK, there has been a year on year increase in anti-semitic hatred over the past 5 years.
* The Green Party has no reason to believe it is immune, and must be active.
* The Young Greens must be clear on what antisemitism is in their disciplinary structures, and what should be done about it.
* The [Guidance Document](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yfqhgRR2g9wDikr8oEoxTQgYOaoGxAQT/view?usp=sharing) associated with this motion adopts the IHRA definition, with context and examples. There are 3 other definitions to further contextualise the IHRA definition. It provides a reading list for the disciplinary committee.

| **Explanatory Note (Added by DAC, 11/01/2025)**  The original link to the guidance document is dead, however, we believe it is intended to link the same guidance document that forms part of the “Framework for Ethics and Conduct” found [here](https://members.greenparty.org.uk/sites/default/files/2022-08/Antisemitism-a-guidance%20070821.pdf). |
| --- |

* It is important to adopt the IHRA definition (representing a symbolic action for the Jewish community indicating whether an organisation cares about anti-semitism).
* It was clarified that this motion does not affect the Green Party’s BDS policy. It was also clarified that this does not suggest any policy regarding the resolution of the occupation or justice for Palestinians, and is intended as an educative rather than legalistic document.

**The Young Greens resolve:**

* To adopt the Guidance Document associated with this motion with regards to antisemitism.

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# Working Proactively With Trade Unions

Date Adopted: 14/08/20; Convention

**The Young Greens note that:**

* There are shared values between the Green Party, Young Greens, and the trade unionmovement.
* The battleground of achieving social change is within our communities. Building a strong, radical, democratic trade union movement is essential for a just and fair society.
* The Executive Committee should build on this, forming a strong working link with trade unions and the Green Party’s trade union group.
* It was queried whether the Young Greens could work with anti-radical trade unions that have differing values to the Young Greens. It was clarified that this resolution will not override core values and the Young Greens will continue to work hard to support progressive trade unions. The resolution will not encourage the Young Greens to drop their core values.

**The Young Greens resolve:**

* To support and work proactively with trade unions.

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# Ditch the Corporate Financing of Universities

Date Adopted: 14/08/20; Convention

**The Young Greens note that:**

* Over the last two decades, large corporations have financed research within universities: for example, BP, Shell and ExxonMobil; Coke financing research around sugar. This is set to increase, as universities look to the private sector to fill funding gaps.
* The large corporations fund knowledge and information that benefits them.
* Education is a public good.
* There is a need to launch a grassroots campaign with the Young Greens network to lobby for the removal of private companies. For example, People & Planet have recently passed a motion to launch a campaign on the fossil fuel industry.
* It was clarified that big corporations have more financial weight, and this motion is intended to target research funded by big corporations causing problems, for example, but not exclusively, fossil fuel corporations. It is not against all private investment in university research. The tactics and shape of campaign have been left open, with the suggestion that the Executive Committee will have some power over the movement but societies may lead on this.

**The Young Greens resolve:**

* To adopt the motion of developing a grassroots campaign against large corporation funding of university research.

Solidarity With School Strikes For Climate Justice

Date Adopted: 25/08/2019; Convention

Date re-adopted: 18/08/2024; Convention

**The Young Greens note that:**

* That the school strikes for climate is an international movement of school students who are deciding not to attend classes and instead take part in demonstrations to demand action to prevent climate disaster
* That starting in November 2018, and inspired by Greta Thunberg, school strikes have galvanized students all across the world, in over 100 countries including the UK, Australia, Belgium, Poland, Japan, Canada, the Netherlands, Finland, Denmark, Switzerland, the USA, Colombia, New Zealand, Germany and Uganda.
* That on Friday 15 February 2019, more than 60 actions in towns and cities within the United Kingdom took place, with an estimated 15,000 strikers taking part, and this has continued to grow.
* That on 21 February 2019, the President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, stated his intent to spend hundreds of billions of euros on climate-change mitigation, amounting to a fourth of the EU budget - which he announced in a speech next to Greta Thunberg, and also credited the school-strike movement with provoking the announcement.
* That school strikers have called for support in a Global General Strike for climate justice on 20 September 2019.
* That many Young Greens have supported or taken part in the strikes and helped to organise them or speak at them, while others have even started them in their own schools.

**The Young Greens believe that:**

* Urgent and global action is required if we are to stop climate break-down, and that world leaders are currently not doing enough to make this happen.
* Young people are currently taking unprecedented action to bring the issue of climate change onto the global agenda.
* The Young Greens have a vital role to play in supporting this movement.

**The Young Greens resolve:**

* To call on the Young Greens Executive Committee to stand in solidarity with and encourage members to get involved with the school strikes
* To call on the Young Greens Executive Committee to reach out to organisers of the school strikes and see how they can help support the movement

Getting Young Greens Elected

Date Adopted: 04/11/2018; Convention

Date re-adopted: 18/08/2024; Convention

Young Greens call on the Executive Committee to put in place a programme of support to Young Greens candidates, including training.

In addition, the Executive Committee are called to organise at least one action day to support Young Greens standing in local elections.

EC should prioritise seats that are most likely to win and target resources, action days and effort towards them.

1. [The Autism Puzzle Piece: A symbol that’s going to stay or go?](https://the-art-of-autism.com/the-autism-puzzle-piece-a-symbol-of-what/) [↑](#footnote-ref-0)
2. [Autism Speaks](https://www.autismspeaks.org/) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
3. [Wikipedia: Autism Rights Movement](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Autism_rights_movement) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)