



FIRMADO POR

La Secretaria-Interventora de la Mancomunitat de l'Horta Sud
Mària Amparo Gimeno Pons
15/10/2024



FIRMADO POR

El Presidente de Mancomunitat Intermunicipal l'Horta Sud
Jose Francisco Cabanes Alonso
15/10/2024



Mancomunitat
Intermunicipal
de l'Horta Sud

NIF: P4600003J

Servicio de Secretaria e Intervención

Expediente 1984222P

CERTIFICACION OF PLENARY AGREEMENT

**M^a AMPARO GIMENO PONS,
SECRETARY-INTERVENTOR OF THE MANCOMUNITAT OF L'HORTA SUD**

I CERTIFY: That the Plenary of this Mancomunitat, in its session held on October 2, 2024, adopted, among others, the following agreement:

4.2 INSTITUTIONAL DECLARATION ON THE POLICY FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

The President reports that all the Municipal Political Groups that form part of the Mancomunitat of l'Horta Sud have signed an institutional declaration, the content of which is read below:

INSTITUTIONAL DECLARATION ON THE POLICY FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN (CHILD PROTECTION POLICY)

1. INTRODUCTION

The Mancomunitat Intermunicipal of l'Horta Sud, from now on "MHS", engages to guarantee a safe and inclusive environment for all the people participants, included the boys and girls and the youth. This Child Protection Policy represents a firm commitment to safeguard the rights and the welfare of the boys and the girls, as it collects in **The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child**. Our organization guarantees solid procedures to prevent and respond to any harm that affect to the childhood. All the personnel associated and voluntary people have to fulfil these guidelines.

2. DEFINITIONS

Child: Any individual below the age of 18 years.

Child Protection: Child Protection: A comprehensive framework of policies, procedures, and actions aimed at preventing, identifying, and responding to harm, abuse, or exploitation of children within our organization.

Harm: Any detrimental impact on a child's physical, emotional, psychological, or social well-being. This can be caused intentionally or unintentionally and may include neglect, mistreatment, or any form of abuse.

Abuse: Any act or failure to act that results in actual or potential harm to a child. Abuse can take many forms, including:

- **Physical abuse:** Actual or potential physical harm perpetrated by another person, adult, or child. It may involve hitting, shaking, poisoning, drowning, and burning. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces, illness in a child.
- **Emotional abuse:** Persistent emotional maltreatment that impacts a child's emotional development. Emotionally abusive acts include restriction of movement, degrading, humiliating, bullying (including cyber bullying), and threatening, scaring, discriminating, ridiculing, or other non-physical forms of hostile or rejecting treatment.
- **Sexual abuse:** Forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities that they do not fully understand or consent to. This may include rape, oral sex, penetration, or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing, and touching. It may also involve forcing children to view or produce sexual images, watching sexual activities, and encouraging them to behave in sexually inappropriate ways.

WARNING: Certification issued before the approval of the session's minutes and subject to the terms that may result from the approval.



MANCOMUNITAT INTERMUNICIPAL L'HORTA SUD

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La Secretaria-Interventora de la Mancomunitat de l'Horta Sud
Gimeno Pons
15/10/2024
María Amparo



FIRMADO POR

El Presidente de Mancomunitat Intermunicipal l'Horta Sud
Cabanes Alonso
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- **Neglect and negligent treatment:** The persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, resulting in serious impairment of a child's healthy development. It includes failure to supervise, protect from harm, or provide adequate nutrition, shelter, and safe living/working conditions.
- **Exploitation:** The use of a child for unfair gain or benefit, which may include:
- **Child sexual exploitation:** A form of sexual abuse where children are engaged in sexual activity in exchange for money, gifts, food, or other needs.
- **Labor exploitation:** The use of children for work that endangers their health, education, or well-being.
- **Commercial exploitation:** Exploitation of children for financial or material gain at the expense of their health or development.

Child Safeguarding: strategies to ensure the safety of children and prevent harm.
Child Protection Focal Point: The(s) person(s) designated(s) responsible(s) to supervise the protection of the infancy in the MHS.

3. PRINCIPLES

The MHS is guided by the following principles in all interactions with children:

- The best interests of the child will be paramount in all decisions and actions.
- All children have the right to protection from harm, exploitation, discrimination, and abuse, as enshrined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Children's voices and opinions will be actively sought and considered in matters affecting them.
- All staff, associates, and volunteers must report any concerns immediately to the designated Child Protection Focal Point using the **established reporting templates (attached to this policy)**.
- MancoHS adheres to the "do no harm" principle, ensuring that our activities promote the safety and well-being of children at all times.

4. FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Child Protection Officer:** The appointed Child Protection Officer is responsible for overseeing child protection efforts, maintaining policies and procedures, ensuring compliance, and responding to concerns. Currently, **the person responsible for the Youth Department at that time** is the designated Child Protection Officer and can be contacted at +34 961572011 or mancomunidad@mancohortasud.es.
- **Project Staff:** All staff members must understand and adhere to this policy and report any concerns to the Child Protection Officer.
- **Participants:** Participants, including young people, must treat each other with respect and report any concerns to the Child Protection Officer.

5. CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

All project staff, volunteers, and participants must adhere to the following:

- Treat all children with respect, dignity, and kindness.
- Avoid any behavior that could be perceived as exploitative, harmful, or abusive.
- Maintain professional boundaries with children, avoiding any behavior that could be seen as inappropriate.
- Report any concerns or suspicions regarding child protection immediately to the designated focal point.
- Refrain from any form of harassment, discrimination, or physical/emotional harm toward children.

6. CONTRACTING, BACKGROUND CHECKS AND TRAINING

Recruitment: All staff, volunteers, and any other personnel working directly with children must undergo a thorough recruitment process. This includes comprehensive background checks, vetting, and verification of qualifications. These procedures apply to all personnel, regardless of their role, including volunteers and interns.

Vetting: MHS will request criminal record certificates from all countries in which the applicant has lived or worked for more than three months in the last five years.



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Training: Staff and volunteers will undergo mandatory training on child protection policies, reporting procedures, and best practices. Continuous training sessions will be provided annually to update staff on evolving safeguarding issues.

7. REPORTING AND RESPONDING

- Any concerns or suspicions related to child protection must be reported immediately to the Child Protection Officer.
- A reporting template is attached to this policy and must be completed for each case.
- The Child Protection Officer will:
 - Investigate the matter following established procedures.
 - Take appropriate action, which may include involving relevant authorities.
 - Ensure confidentiality while managing the situation and sharing information on a need-to-know basis.

8. CONFIDENTIALITY AND DATA PROTECTION

- Confidentiality:** All information related to child protection concerns will be treated with the utmost confidentiality, with details shared only with those who need to know.
- Data Protection:** Personal data will only be collected with proper consent from child's legal guardians. All data will be encrypted to ensure privacy and protection.
- Images and Testimonies:** Collection of images or testimonies (audio or film) requires the guardian's authorization via signed consent forms.

9. MONITORING AND REVIEW

This Child Protection Policy will be reviewed annually by the Responsible Person of Protection of the Infancy to ensure its effectiveness and alignment with best practices. Updates will be made as necessary to reflect changes in legislation, best practices, or operational needs.

10. COMPLIANCE AND APPLICATION

All staff, volunteers, and participants must adhere to this policy. Any violations will result in disciplinary action. Compliance will be monitored, and any breaches will be addressed promptly.

11. AVAILABILITY

The Child Protection Policy is available online at:

<https://www.mancohortasud.es/es/politica-de-proteccion-a-menores/>

The Plenary, unanimously by all attendees, approves:

UNICO.- To approve the Institutional Declaration transcribed above, which is hereby reproduced in full for all purposes. »

And for the record, I issue the present certification by order and with the approval of the President, in Torrent on the date of signature.

SEEN AND APPROVED
The President

Signed: José Fco. Cabanes Alonso

I certify
The Secretary-Intervenor

Signed: M^a Amparo Gimeno Pons



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