

# Doosti Friendship Group

Date: June 2026



## What happened

In January 2026, we were asked by one of the Coordinators from Community Doosti Friendship CIC about our adult safeguarding training offer. They are a community organisation based in Pendleton that support people originally from Iran, Afghanistan and Kurdistan.

Community Doosti works to promote integration, wellbeing and social prescribing. They deliver and offer English classes, wellbeing sessions such as dance and walking, and arts activities including sewing, painting, crochet and cooking. They also focus on increasing health awareness, encouraging participation in local events and festivals, and collaborating with other community organisations.

I explained that I can offer a bespoke training session for an organisation if they have more than eight staff/volunteers that need the training. Community Doosti decided that this was a good option for them, so we agreed a date and venue that suited the group.

## How we helped

A couple of weeks before the session, I visited Safieh at the training venue to look at the space and to check that all the volunteers that were expected to attend had registered. During this discussion it became apparent that Safieh would need to provide interpretation during the training for some of the attendees whose language is Farsi. Having recently delivered training with an interpreter for another organisation, I realised that I needed to reduce the amount of presentation slides as every slide would take twice as long to explain.



## Salford CVS support

### Safeguarding training

I also wanted to leave plenty of time for discussion and questions throughout the session as I was aware that many of the volunteers had little/no previous safeguarding experience. I still delivered a full-day session but chose to focus more on explaining who adult safeguarding applies to; the different types of abuse and making safeguarding personal.

18 volunteers attended the training session, working together to support each other to engage with the information. This included sharing information through drawings; interpreting for others and using technology to help translate.

*“It was a pleasure to spend the day with the volunteers from Community Doosti CIC. I was really impressed by how well they engaged with the information, and their level of understanding of complex issues. It was great to see some of the volunteers standing at the front of the room to present information to the rest of the group.”*

Liz, Safeguarding Development Worker

**Written by: Liz Atkinson**  
Safeguarding Development Worker

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## Outcomes

Following the session, Safieh from Community Doosti Friendship reflected that:

“As a community group involved in integration, it is important to learn about UK laws and policies, especially when working with vulnerable people.

This helps improve support and safeguard individuals. It also improves the quality of the group and helps people better understand the country they live, study and work in. The benefits are for individuals, families, and the wider community.”

## Feedback from participants

“Thank you for organising such an educational course for us and it caused us to learn many new things and to become more familiar with the laws of this country which are about protecting ourselves and others. All of us in some way had experiences about these topics and this class helped us to know which ways are right or wrong for protecting ourselves and others.”

“This training helps vulnerable people to be safer, more respected and better supported. It really raised my awareness; I hope I can have more courses like this because they can have a positive impact first on myself and then on the community I live in, and also on teaching them to my children.”

