

#### Joyti Kaur Art Complaints Policy (Community outreach)

Joyti Kaur Art is committed to providing a quality service in a way that builds the trust and respectof the whole community of Slough and the surrounding area. Joyti Kaur Art aims to continue to improve its service by listening and responding to the views of attendees and will ensure that:

- Treats a complaint as a clear expression of dissatisfaction with its service which calls for an immediate response
- Deals with complaints promptly, politely and, when appropriate, confidentially.
- Learns from complaints, uses them to improve its service, and reviews annually its complaints policy

# Definitions

Joyti Kaur Art defines a complaint as 'any expression of dissatisfaction that relates tous as a company and/or to an individual director or volunteer, and that requires a formal response'.

#### Responsibilities

Joyti Kaur Art intends that the formal complaints procedure ensures that it handles all complaints fairly, consistently and, wherever possible, resolved to the complainant's satisfaction.

The director or session lead will:

- acknowledge the formal complaint in writing.
- respond within a stated period.
- deal reasonably and sensitively with the complaint.
- take action where appropriate.

A complainant's responsibility is to:

- bring their complaint, in writing, to the Joyti Kaur Art's attention, normally within 1 week of the issue arising.
- raise concerns promptly and directly with a session lead
- explain the problem as clearly and as fully as possible, including any action taken to date
- allow a reasonable time to deal with the matter.

• recognise that some circumstances may be beyond JKA control.

Overall responsibility for this policy and its implementation lies with the directors of Joyti Kaur Art as well as lead staff. The director will review regularly, and update as required.

### Confidentiality:

Except in exceptional circumstances, the Community Group and the complainant should make every attempt to maintain confidentiality. However, the circumstances giving rise to the complaint may be such that it may not be possible to maintain confidentiality (with each complaint judged on its own merit). Should this be the case, Joyti Kaur Art will explain such a situation to the complainant.

# Variation of the Complaints Procedure

Joyti Kaur Art director(s) may vary the procedure for good reason. This may be necessary to avoid a conflict of interest.

# Informal Resolution

Joyti Kaur Art recognise that most attendees will raise any concerns informally. Joyti Kaur Art aim is to resolve all informal concerns quickly through mediation with the complainant.

In many cases, the person responsible for the issue is the best person to resolve the complaint, as they may be able to resolve it swiftly and should do so if possible and appropriate.

The complaint information for any complaints that Joyti Kaur Art successfully resolveson an informal basis will be noted in the complaints Logbook and no further action is necessary.

Where Joyti Kaur Art are unable to satisfactorily resolve a complaint informally, then they will direct the complainant to the formal complaint procedure.

# Formal Complaints Procedure

# Stage 1

If the customer is unable to resolve the issue informally, they should write to Joyti Kaur Art via email. Complainants can find contact details on the 'contact us' section of the Community Group website.

In their letter, the complainant should set out the details of their complaint, the consequences for them as a result, and the resolution they are seeking. If their complaint concerns a director or volunteer, they should state the name of the individual concerned.

Joyti Kaur Art will acknowledge the complaint within 7 working days of receipt. This acknowledgement will outline who is dealing with the complaint and when the complainant can expect a response. Ideally, the complaint should receive a response to their complaint within twenty working days of receipt. If a matter requires more detailed investigation, the complainant will receive an interim response describing what Joyti Kaur Art is doing to deal with the matter, when the complainant can expect a full reply and from whom.

On receiving the complaint, the complaint is logged in the complaints Logbook. The session lead will investigate the complaint and take appropriate action. If the complaintrelates to a specific director or volunteer, that director or volunteer should be informed and given a fair opportunity to respond.

#### Stage 2

If the complainant is not satisfied with the initial response to the complaint, they can write to ask Joyti Kaur Art to review their complaint and the response.

Joyti Kaur Art will acknowledge the request within 7 working days and formulate a response within 20 workings days.

Joyti Kaur Art aim to resolve all matters as quickly as possible. However, inevitably some issues will be more complex and therefore Joyti Kaur Art may require longer tofully investigate any concerns raised. Consequently, timescales given for handling and responding to complaints are indicative.

If a matter requires more detailed investigation, the complainant will receive an interim response describing what Joyti Kaur Art is doing to deal with the matter, when the complainant can expect a full reply and from whom.

On receiving the complaint, the Joyti Kaur Art lead records it in the complaints Logbook. They delegate anappropriate person to investigate the complaint and to take appropriate action. This will be a different person from the person who investigated the complaint at Stage 2. If the complaint relates to a specific director or volunteer, they should be informed and given a fair opportunity to respond.

#### Stage 3

If the complainant is not satisfied with the subsequent reply, they have the option of writing stating the reason why they remain dissatisfied with the outcome.

The complainant must do this within 10 days of receiving the written response.

Joyti Kaur Art will normally respond within 15 working days to inform the complainant of the action which will be taken to investigate the complaint, and when they can expect to hear the outcome of the investigation

The outcome of the investigation at Stage 3 will represent the Joyti Kaur Art's final response.