

# ELLERTON AND AUGHTON VILLAGE HALL

## Safeguarding and Public Protection Policy - Adults at Risk

### Take Home message:

- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility
- Mags Godderidge has been nominated as the Safeguarding Representative for Adults for Ellerton and Aughton Village Hall
- This policy is for the Village Hall
- Clubs must follow this policy but may also require their own policy and their own safeguarding representative – depending on the nature of the club's activities
- Policy to be reviewed annually unless legislative change
- Next review due September 2024

### 1. General Statement of Intent

1.1 Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

1.2 This policy is a statement of Ellerton and Aughton Village Hall's Management Committee's (VHMC) commitment to safeguarding adults at risk.

1.3 The policy is to be operated by all members of the VHMC and representative clubs leads to safeguard hall users.

1.4 Club leads should cascade this policy to their volunteers and/or paid staff and are also responsible for ensuring their volunteers and/or paid staff have appropriate DBS clearance and have attended appropriate safeguarding training commensurate to their role.

1.5 It may be necessary for individual clubs to generate their own additional policy and procedures and to have their own named Safeguarding Representative – depending on the nature of the club's activities.

1.6 It provides guidance on our individual and collective responsibilities in relation to the safeguarding adults at risk. Safeguarding responsibilities in relation to children and young people (CYP) is dealt with in our Safeguarding and Public Protection Policy – CYP.

1.7 The VHMC's Data Protection policy details how and when the VHMC will break confidentiality and raise a safeguarding concern to third parties.

1.8. An implementation checklist for the VHMC and club representatives is found at Appendix 1.

### 2. Context

2.1 The Care Act 2014 and the Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014 define Safeguarding as 'protecting an adult's right to live in safety free from abuse and neglect'. Adult safeguarding is about preventing and responding to concerns of abuse or harm or neglect of adults. VMHC members should work together in partnership with adults so that they are:

- Safe and able to protect themselves from abuse and neglect;
- Treated fairly with dignity and respect;

- Protected when they need to be;
- Able easily to get the support, protection and services they need.

2.2 This policy aims to reflect both the six Safeguarding Principles and the concept of Making Safeguarding Personal. The six principles of safeguarding detailed below are stipulated in the Department of Health and Social Care (Care and Support Statutory Guidance, June 2020).

<b>Accountability</b>	Accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding.
<b>Empowerment</b>	People are encouraged to make their own decision.
<b>Prevention</b>	It is better to take action before harm occurs.
<b>Protection</b>	Support and representation for those in greatest need.
<b>Proportionality</b>	The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.
<b>Partnership</b>	Services offer local solutions to working closely with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse.

2.3 Section 42 of the Care Act (2014) requires that each local authority must make enquiries, or cause others to do so, if it believes an adult is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect. An enquiry should establish whether any action needs to be taken to prevent or stop abuse or neglect, and if so, by whom.

2.4 The Care Act (2014) guidance supports the need for safeguarding to be person led and outcome focused. This means engaging the person in conversation about how best to respond to their safeguarding situation in a way that embraces choice and control as well as maintaining a focus on improving their quality of life, wellbeing and safety. The concept of Making Safeguarding Personal is about leadership and creating a culture that places the client at the centre of all interventions and decisions.

2.5 The VHMC has designated Mags Godderidge as their designated Safeguarding Representative (SR). All committee members have been made aware of this and provided with their contact details.

2.6 The VHMC recognise that it is the responsibility of each committee member and representative club lead to prevent neglect, physical, sexual and/or emotional abuse of vulnerable adults and to report any abuse disclosed or suspected.

### 3. Recognising the signs and symptoms of abuse

3.1 When an individual is experiencing abuse, they may display particular signs and symptoms that act as indicators that they may be experiencing abuse. Some of these signs and symptoms include:

Becoming withdrawn Withdrawing from friends and family Losing interest in hobbies, job etc. Low self-esteem/confidence Depression Anxiety Self-harm Suicidal thoughts Suicide attempts Other mental health issues Slower than normal development	Unusual or erratic behaviour Running away from home Rapid weight loss or gain Repeated illnesses Alcohol misuse Drug misuse Sudden changes in behaviour – becoming too withdrawn or erratic Evident bruising, scratches, cuts or other marks and injuries
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3.2 It is important to remember that this list is not exhaustive but is used to provide indicators to some of the signs that an individual may be experiencing abuse. It is also important to remember that individually these signs may not present a concern but persistence and a combination of a number of the above can offer further indication that abuse may be taking place.

3.3 The categories and descriptions below are intended to help committee members and club leads be alert to and identify signs of abuse whenever possible.

<b>Neglect or act of omission</b>	This is the persistent failure to meet an adult's basic needs both physical and or emotional/psychological. It may, for example, involve failure to provide clothes, shelter and food or failure to keep them clean or protect them from physical harm or danger. It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, the person's basic emotional needs and their developmental needs.
<b>Physical abuse</b>	This is causing physical harm to an adult such as by hitting, shaking, pushing, beating, pinching, burning, restraining unnecessarily, or other form of physical harm. Harm can also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates symptoms of ill health or causes actual ill health in a vulnerable adult.
<b>Sexual abuse</b>	This is forcing an adult to engage in sexual activities. These may include rape, sexual assault, prostitution, and may also include non-contact abuse, such as involving the person in creating or looking at pornographic material. Sexual abuse includes activities such as sending inappropriate messages and online or face-to-face grooming. Sexual abuse usually comes to light in a different way from physical abuse or neglect.
<b>Emotional or psychological abuse</b>	This involves a pattern of behaviour where a person consistently rejects, belittles, controls, frightens or deceives another, often within a 'caring' or 'loving' relationship. There can be extra difficulty in identifying an emotionally abusive relationship because emotional or psychological abusers may be unaware of what they are doing. They may believe what they are doing is for the benefit of their victim. Emotional abuse is present in all abuse but can also stand alone.
<b>Financial or material abuse</b>	This is when a person is prevented from accessing their own money, benefits or assets or is subject to undue pressure, duress, threat or undue influence in connection with loans, wills, property inheritance or financial transactions. It may involve exploitation of a person's money or assets or missing personal possessions, an unexplained lack of money or inability to maintain a lifestyle, unexplained withdrawals of money from accounts or involve the person allocated to manage financial affairs being evasive or uncooperative.
<b>Modern slavery</b>	This includes human trafficking, forced labour, domestic servitude, sexual exploitation, such as escort work, prostitution and pornography as well as debt bondage (being forced to work to pay off debts that realistically they will never be able to clear). The person may appear malnourished, unkempt or withdrawn. They may be isolated from the community or present as being under the control of others. There may be an avoidance of eye contact and the person may appear frightened or hesitant to talk to other people.
<b>Self-neglect</b>	This is characterised by poor personal hygiene, unkempt appearance, lack of essential food clothing or shelter, malnutrition, hoarding, non-

	compliance with health or care services, an inability or unwillingness to take medication or treat illness or injury.
<b>Discriminatory abuse</b>	This may manifest itself as any of the other categories of abuse previously stated. What is distinctive, however, is that discriminatory abuse is motivated by oppressive and discriminatory attitudes towards a person's disability, physical or learning disability, mental ill-health or sensory impairment, race, gender, age, religion, cultural background, sexual orientation, political convictions, appearance or other aspects.
<b>Organisational abuse</b>	Occurs when a setting (e.g. hospital, care home, mental health hospital etc) fails to provide a standard of care and treatment which causes harm to a person. May include inflexible or non-negotiable systems or routines, lack of adequate physical care, withholding care or medication etc.

#### 4. Protocol for raising concerns about an adult

4.1 In the first instance, committee members should raise any safeguarding concerns with the designated Safeguarding Representative. The absence of either party does not prevent individuals contacting external agencies direct to discuss or raise their concerns.

4.2 The designated Safeguarding Representative will discuss your concerns with you and decide whether:

- the concerns need to be escalated
- the concerns will be raised with or without the consent of the individual

4.3 The designated Safeguarding Representative will consider whether:

- the action being taken is proportionate to the risk
- raising the concern is in the public interest (e.g. is there a risk to others)
- raising the concern is in the adult's best interests (i.e. it will prevent harm or distress)

4.4 The contact details for raising safeguarding concerns externally with other agencies are found at Appendix 2.

#### 5. Allegations against committee members or clubs leads

5.1 Any allegations made against a member of the committee or representative club leads will be dealt with as a serious matter, following the VHMC's disciplinary policy and procedure.

#### 6. Public protection from terrorism

6.1 Prevent is part of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015. This is a measure that aims to reduce the threat of terrorism in the UK. Prevent is everybody's business.

6.2 The overall aim of Prevent is to safeguard children, young people and adults from the threat faced by those who pose extremist or radicalised views. The Prevent programme is about protecting vulnerable people from being exploited by extremists. It places a duty on public sector organisations to prevent people from being drawn towards such views and ensures that support is in place for those who are vulnerable.

##### 6.3 Definitions

- **Terrorism** - 'the use or threat of action where the use or threat must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public or section of the public and the use or threat is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideology cause' (Terrorism Act, 2000). Actions can include serious violence against a person, serious damage to property or serious disruption to an electronic system.

- **Extremism** - *‘vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs’* (Home Office, Revised Prevent duty guidance: for England and Wales, Updated 1 April 2021).
- **Radicalisation** – *‘someone is being encouraged to develop extreme views or beliefs in support of terrorist groups and activities’* (Home Office, Get help for radicalisation concerns, 8 June 2022)
- **Radicaliser** - *‘an individual who encourages others to develop or adopt beliefs and views supportive of terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism’* (North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership, Prevent: Extremism and Radicalisation).

6.4 The most common types of terrorism in the UK are extreme right-wing terrorism and Islamist terrorism ([www.gov.uk/guidance/get-help-if-youre-worried-about-someone-being-radicalised](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/get-help-if-youre-worried-about-someone-being-radicalised)).

- Extreme right-wing terrorism may be inspired by groups such as National Action and Atomwaffen Division.
- Islamist terrorism may be inspired by groups such as Daesh or Al Qa’ida.

6.5 If someone is expressing extreme views of hatred which could lead to them harming themselves or others, you can raise your concerns in confidence with the Action Counter Terrorism Early Support Line on 0800 011 3764.

## 7. De-briefing

7.1 VHMC members and club leads will be given opportunities for wider discussions on any safeguarding concerns with the Safeguarding Representative.

## 8. Training

8.1 CPD certified safeguarding training and online Designated Safeguarding Lead training will be funded by the VHMC for the designated Safeguarding Representative (if they have not already attended this training in another capacity).

## 9. Access and review

9.1 The VMHC will review this policy every 12 months unless there is any legislative change which requires action in between.

### Other linked policies:

Data protection policy

Disciplinary policy

Safeguarding and Public Protection Policy – CYP

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **Implementation checklist for VHMC and club representatives**

- Identify two Safeguarding Representatives for your club
- Safeguarding Representative for VHMC for Adults at Risk identified as Mags Godderidge
- Safeguarding Representative for VHMC for CYP identified as Mandi Underwood
- Ensure Safeguarding Representatives attend relevant safeguarding training and update that training regularly
- Ensure Safeguarding Representatives names and contact details are posted where they can be seen by children, young people, their parents or carers or adults at risk
- Ensure all volunteers have a copy of the procedure for raising concerns
- Ensure all know what to do if they have concerns about a child or young person or adult at risk
- Ensure all existing volunteers who have regular contact with children or young people or adults at risk have an up to date DBS check
- Ensure that all new volunteers who have regular contact with children or young people or adults at risk have an up to date DBS check before they start volunteering
- Ensure that the premises used for your organisation/activity conform to health and safety guidelines
- Ensure that any letting arrangements are bound by contracts that include an agreement to adhere to the host organisation's Safeguarding Policies and Procedures
- Have an accident/incident reporting procedure
- Have an accident/incident reporting book
- Have volunteers trained in First Aid
- Have a current First Aid kit which is reviewed and replenished regularly.



## APPENDIX 2

### Key contact numbers for escalating safeguarding concerns to VHMC

Safeguarding Officer – Adults at Risk	Mags Godderidge <a href="mailto:magsgodderidge@yahoo.co.uk">magsgodderidge@yahoo.co.uk</a> Tel: 01757 288 962 Tel: 07972 108 176
Safeguarding Officer – CYP	Mandi Underwood <a href="mailto:Mandicrisp14@btinternet.com">Mandicrisp14@btinternet.com</a> Tel: 07714 766053

### Key contact numbers for escalating safeguarding concerns regarding adults to outside agencies

Police URGENT (immediate risk to life)	Tel: 999
Police NON-URGENT	Tel: 101 or 01904 618691
City of York Adult Social Care	Tel: 01904 555 111 Tel after 5pm: 0300 131 2131
North Yorkshire Council Adult Social Care	Tel: 0300 131 2131 Tel after 5pm: 0300 131 2131
East Riding Safeguarding Adults Team <a href="mailto:Safeguardingadultsteam@eastriding.gov.uk">Safeguardingadultsteam@eastriding.gov.uk</a>	Tel 9am-5pm 01482 396 940 Tel after 5pm: 01377 241 273
York and North Yorkshire Mental Health Crisis Team	Tel (24/7): 0800 0516 171
York Early Intervention in Psychosis (York and Selby)	Tel: 01904 464 850
Client's GP	If known