



Filby Lands & Conservation Trust Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy

Definition of a vulnerable adult

A vulnerable adult is someone aged 18 or over:

Who is, or may be, in need of community services due to age, illness or a mental or physical disability

Who is, or may be, unable to take care of himself/herself, or unable to protect himself/herself against significant harm or exploitation

Who is a vulnerable adult?

Abuse can affect any vulnerable adult, but particularly someone who is, or may be, unable to protect themselves against significant harm or exploitation, for example:

Older people

People with mental health problems

Disabled people

People with learning difficulties

People with acquired brain damage

People who misuse substances

What is abuse?

Abuse is a violation of an individual's human and civil rights. It may consist of a single act or repeated acts. It can be physical, verbal or psychological, it may be an act or omission to act, or it may occur when a vulnerable person is persuaded to enter into a financial or sexual transaction to which he or she has not consented, or cannot consent. Abuse can occur in any relationship

What are types of abuse?

Physical: including hitting, shaking, biting, grabbing, withholding food or drink, force-feeding, wrongly administering medicine, unnecessary restraint, failing to provide physical care and aids to living.

Sexual: including sexual assault, rape, inappropriate touching/molesting, pressurising someone into sexual acts they don't understand or feel powerless to refuse

Emotional or psychological: including verbal abuse, shouting, swearing, threatening abandonment or harm, isolating, taking away privacy or other rights, bullying/intimidation, blaming, controlling or humiliation.

Financial or material: including withholding money or possessions, theft of money or property, fraud, intentionally mismanaging finances, borrowing money and not repaying

Neglect: including withholding food, drink, heating and clothing, failing to provide access to health, social and educational services, ignoring physical care needs, exposing a person to unacceptable risk, or failing to ensure adequate supervision.

Discriminatory abuse: including slurs, harassment and maltreatment due to a person's race, gender, disability, age, faith, culture or sexual orientation.

Institutional abuse: including the use of systems and routines which neglect a person receiving care. This can happen in any setting where formal care is provided.

Policies

1. Policy

No member of the Committee, the Trustees, helpers or other volunteers will have unsupervised access to vulnerable adults unless appropriately vetted.

Procedure

All members of the Committee, the Trustees, helpers or other volunteers will be made aware of this policy and the relevant vetting procedures.

2. Policy

All suspicions or allegations of abuse against a vulnerable adult will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately.

Procedure

A trustee will be appointed to be responsible for Vulnerable Adult Protection Matters. This person will have responsibility for reporting concerns that arise, as a matter of urgency, to the local authority Vulnerable Adult Protection lead agency.

3. Policy

All trustees and volunteers will be required to become aware of Vulnerable Adult Protection issues.

Procedure

Copies of the relevant Acts and Department of Health guidelines will, **if necessary**, be held by the trustees as reference material for volunteers. Relevant Vulnerable Adult Protection training for trustees will be encouraged.

4. Policy

The policies and procedures will be regularly reviewed.

Procedure

An annual review will take place following the AGM to allow for any required up-date of policies and or procedures. New trustees and volunteers will be provided with an understanding of their responsibilities in matters of child protection.

5. Policy

Members of the local community who use the facilities provided by the Committee should be aware of the Vulnerable Adult Protection policies as adopted by the Committee.

Procedure

All hirers who wish to use Filby’s Club Room or Playing Field for activities that include children and vulnerable adults other than for hire for private parties arranged for invited friends and family only, will be asked to produce a copy of their Child & Vulnerable Adult Protection Policies.

A copy of this document will be displayed for the attention of all.

Signed for and on behalf of Filby Lands & Conservation Trust ...

Chair

Secretary

Date