

Lancaster, Morecambe & District Indoor Bowling League

Safeguarding Adults at Risk Policy

1. Policy Statement

Lancaster, Morecambe & District Indoor Bowling League acknowledges its duty of care to safeguard its members who have a right to protection, and have their particular needs taken into account.

Lancaster, Morecambe & District Indoor Bowling League will therefore endeavour to ensure the safety and protection of all vulnerable adults involved with the League through this policy. It is the responsibility of all adults within the League to assist the Management Committee in this endeavour.

2. Policy Aims

The purpose of this policy is to outline the duty and responsibility of members of the Lancaster, Morecambe & District Indoor Bowling League in relation to Safeguarding Adults at risk. All adults have the right to be safe from harm and must be able to live free from fear of abuse, neglect and exploitation. This policy aims to provide vulnerable adults with appropriate safety and protection whilst at the League and also help them to enjoy their experience of the sport of bowls.

3. Principles

The welfare of vulnerable adults is paramount.

All vulnerable adults, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, ethnic origin and religious beliefs have the right to protection from abuse and are entitled to participate in bowls in a safe and enjoyable environment.

All suspicions and allegations of abuse and poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

All League members have a responsibility to report concerns to the League Safeguarding Officer.

All members will be supported to understand their role and responsibility with regard to the duty of care and protection of vulnerable adults by the League.

Lancaster, Morecambe & District Indoor Bowling League will not permit photographs, video images or other images to be taken or used without the consent of the individual or their carer.

4. Responsibilities and Communication

The Lancaster, Morecambe & District Indoor Bowling League Safeguarding Policy will be available to all members on request.

The Management Committee has responsibility for ensuring that the policy and procedures are implemented.

The League Safeguarding Officer has responsibility for responding to any allegations or concerns, and for passing information to the relevant authority.

5. Definition of an Adult at Risk?

Adult at Risk is a person aged 18 or over who is in need of care and support regardless of whether they are receiving them, and because of those needs are unable to protect themselves against abuse or neglect. In recent years, there has been a marked shift away from using the term 'vulnerable' to describe adults potentially at risk from harm or abuse.

Abuse is a violation of an individual's human and civil rights by another person or persons.

Adult is anyone aged 18 or over.

Adult safeguarding is protecting a person's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect.

Capacity refers to the ability to make a decision at a particular time, for example when under considerable stress. The starting assumption must always be that a person has the capacity to make a decision unless it can be established that they lack capacity (MCA 2005).

6. Types of Abuse taken from the Care Act 2014

Self-neglect – this covers a wide range of behaviour including neglecting to care for one's personal hygiene, health or surroundings and includes behaviour such as hoarding.

Modern Slavery – encompasses slavery, human trafficking, forced labour and domestic servitude. Traffickers and slave masters use whatever means they have at their disposal to coerce, deceive and force individuals into a life of abuse, servitude and inhumane treatment.

Domestic Abuse – including psychological, physical, sexual, financial and emotional abuse. It also includes so called 'honour' based violence.

Discriminatory – discrimination is abuse which centres on a difference or perceived difference particularly with respect to race, gender or disability or any of the protected characteristics of the Equality Act.

Organisational Abuse – including neglect and poor care practice within an institution or specific care setting such as a hospital or care home, for example, or in relation to care provided in one's own home.

Physical Abuse – includes hitting, slapping, pushing, kicking, misuse of medication, restraint or inappropriate sanctions.

Sexual Abuse – including rape, indecent exposure, sexual harassment, inappropriate looking or touching, sexual teasing or innuendo, sexual photography, subjection to pornography or witnessing sexual acts, indecent exposure and sexual assault or sexual acts to which the adult has not consented or was pressured into consenting.

Financial or Material Abuse – including theft, fraud, internet scamming, coercion in relation to an adult's financial affairs or arrangements, including in connection with wills, property, inheritance or financial transactions, or the misuse or misappropriation of property, possessions or benefits.

Neglect – including ignoring medical or physical care needs, failure to provide access to appropriate health social care or educational services, the withholding of the necessities of life, such as medication, adequate nutrition and heating.

Emotional or Psychological Abuse – this includes threats of harm or abandonment, deprivation of contact, humiliation, blaming, controlling, intimidation, coercion, harassment, verbal abuse, isolation or withdrawal from services or supportive networks.

Cyber Bullying - cyber bullying occurs when someone repeatedly makes fun of another person online or repeatedly picks on another person through emails or text messages, or uses online forums with the intention of harming, damaging, humiliating or isolating another person. It can be used to carry out many different types of bullying (such as racist bullying, homophobic bullying, or bullying related to special educational needs and disabilities) but instead of the perpetrator carrying out the bullying face-to-face, they use technology as a means to do it.

Forced Marriage - forced marriage is a term used to describe a marriage in which one or both of the parties are married without their consent or against their will. A forced marriage differs from an arranged marriage, in which both parties consent to the assistance of a third party in identifying a spouse. The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 make it a criminal offence to force someone to marry.

Mate Crime - a 'mate crime' as defined by the Safety Net Project is 'when vulnerable people are befriended by members of the community who go on to exploit and take advantage of them. It may not be an illegal act but still has a negative effect on the individual.'

Radicalisation - the aim of radicalisation is to attract people to their reasoning, inspire new recruits and embed their extreme views and persuade vulnerable individuals of the legitimacy of their cause. This may be direct through a relationship, or through social media.

7. The Role of Key Individual Agencies

Adult Social Services - The Department of Health's 'No secrets' guidance document requires that authorities develop a local framework within which all responsible agencies work together to ensure a coherent policy for the protection of vulnerable adults at risk of abuse.

All local authorities have a Safeguarding Adults Board, which oversees multi-agency work aimed at protecting and safeguarding vulnerable adults. It is normal practice for the Board to comprise people from partner organisations who have the ability to influence decision making and resource allocation within their organisation.

The Police - The Police play a vital role in Safeguarding Adults with cases involving alleged criminal acts. It becomes the responsibility of the police to investigate allegations of crime by preserving and gathering evidence. Where a crime is identified, the police will be the lead agency and they will direct investigations in line with legal and other procedural protocols.

8. Legal Framework

The Care Act 2014 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/23/introduction/enacted> sets out a clear legal framework for how local authorities and other parts of the system should protect adults at risk of abuse or neglect.

Each Local Authority must have a Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB), in much the same way of Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCB). They must lead a multi-agency system that seeks to prevent abuse and neglect and stop it quickly when it happens which includes the NHS, police and Social Care.

The Safeguarding Adults Boards (SAB) must meet regularly, develop shared safeguarding plans and publish an annual review of progress. They will carry out Safeguarding Adults Reviews in some circumstances relating to safeguarding failures.

The Act also introduces a responsibility for Local Authorities to make enquiries and take any necessary action if an adult with care and support needs could be at risk, even if that adult isn't receiving local authority care and support.

Other relevant legislation includes:-

The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012

Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims (Amendment) Act 2012

The Equality Act 2010

The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006

Mental Capacity Act 2005

Sexual Offences Act 2003

The Human Rights Act 1998

The Data Protection Act 2018

9. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed every three years or in response to significant new legislation by the Management Committee and amended as appropriate. Guidance from Bowls National Governing Bodies will be sought as part of the review process.

10. Safeguarding Contacts

Lancaster, Morecambe & District Indoor Bowling League Safeguarding Officer

Linda Murie 07521 231561

Lancaster City Council Safeguarding Services

01524 582669

Lancashire County Council Safeguarding Services

0300 123 6720

Lancashire Safeguarding Adults Board

0300 123 6720
or 0300 123 6722
(between 5.00pm - 8.00am)

The Police

101 or
999 if an emergency

Incident Reporting Form

If you suspect that an adult at risk may be being abused, whether physically or emotionally, it is not your responsibility to take control of the situation or to decide whether the abuse is actually taking place. However, you do have a responsibility to inform the appropriate people about your concerns so that they may make enquires and take any action necessary for the well-being of the vulnerable adult.

However small your concern, you should share it with the League Safeguarding Officer who will take responsibility for referring it to the relevant agency.

Please ensure that confidentiality is maintained as far as possible. Only discuss your concerns on a need-to-know basis, and do not disclose the identity of those involved unless absolutely necessary.

Adult at Risk Name	
Adult at Risk Team	
Adult at Risk Date of Birth/Age	
Adult at Risk Address	
Adult at Risk Telephone Number	
Name of Carer	
Address of carer	
Telephone Number of Carer	
Name of person reporting the concern	
Address of person reporting concern	
Telephone Number of Person Reporting Concern	
Date concern reported	
Details of the concern	
Date/Time of Incident	

Location of Incident			
Persons involved/witnesses including contact details			
How did the concern come to attention?			
Observations: e.g. changes in behaviour, inappropriate actions, injuries, etc.			
Record of conversation: Details of exactly what was said to you and by you:			
Action taken:			
Contacts Made			
Police	Yes / No	If yes please state	
Contact name and number			

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Social Services	Yes / No	If yes please state	
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Contact name and number

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Local Authority	Yes / No	If yes please state	
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Contact name and number

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Other	Yes / No	If yes please state	
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Contact name and number

Summary

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Ethnic Group

Please choose the category that best describes the adult at risk's ethnic group from the following list and tick the appropriate box:

White

- A1 British
- A2 Irish
- A3 Any other white background

Mixed

- B1 White & Black Caribbean
- B2 White & Black African
- B3 White & Asian
- B4 Any other mixed background

Asian

- C1 Indian
- C2 Pakistani
- C3 Bangladeshi
- C4 Any other Asian background

Black or Black British

- D1 Caribbean
- D2 African
- D3 Any other Black background

Chinese or Other Ethnic Background

- E1 Chinese
- E2 Any other (please write in):

Disability

The Disability

Discrimination Act 1995 defines a disabled person as anyone with a "physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect upon his/her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities."

Please choose the description that best describes the nature of the adult at risk's disability and tick the appropriate box.

A Visually impaired
D Learning disability

B Hearing impaired
E Multiple disability

C Physical disability
F Other (please write below)