



Safeguarding Policy

Severn Motor Yacht Club

Purpose and Scope

Severn Motor Yacht Club (SMYC) is committed to operating a proactive and reactive approach towards safeguarding the welfare of children, young people and adults who, through SMYC membership and our services, we have some form of contact with. This is also applicable to committee, staff and volunteers.

We will:

- Promote positive personal welfare and safety
- Provide support (including utilising signposting)
- Respond promptly and effectively to any concerns.

The protection of children, young people and adults is set out in legislation and guidance, such as: Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015; Children Act 1989 & 2004; The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995; Children (Scotland) Act 1995; Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014; Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014; Human Rights Act 1998; Care Act 2014; Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007; Protection of Older People in Wales 2014; Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults: A Shared Responsibility 2010 (Northern Ireland); The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015; The Prevent Duty (England, Wales and Scotland). (The difference of legislation across the four nations in the UK is recognised).

This policy has been developed to:

- Establish best practice within SMYC
- Ensure SMYC applies a robust safeguarding framework within legislative and guidance parameters
- Reflect SMYC Values
- Enable all committee and staff to act appropriately if any concerns are identified relating to the welfare of an individual
- Provide a clear process for reporting and recording concerns.



“Safeguarding is everyone’s business” (Care Act 2014) and all SMYC committee, members and volunteers have a responsibility regarding safeguarding towards children, young people and adults. This policy provides a framework for exercising our duty of care appropriately and effectively, should any concerns be identified, that may impair, or be likely to impair, someone’s development or health, quality of life, or if someone is at risk of significant harm (including all forms of abuse).

This policy, and any associated documents, applies to all committee, staff, members and volunteers of SMYC, regardless of role or position.

It is recognised all companies and partners providing a service for SMYC have a requirement to have their own safeguarding policies reflecting legislative requirements and best practice.

This policy will be reviewed biannually or following relevant developments within legislation, guidance and lessons from Serious Case Reviews (SCRs).

Roles and Responsibilities

Committee retains responsibility for the overall implementation and management of this policy, alongside providing relevant reporting to the committee.

All committee with regards to our duties under the Prevent Strategy (2011) and is the Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) due to different committee members being onsite at different dates

They are also the lead for: Mental Capacity and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards; Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).

Regular reviews of the use and application of this policy, across all divisions, will be undertaken by the committee. All relevant associated policies, procedures and information will be available on request from SMYC

Definitions and Language

For the purposes of this policy, the following terms are defined as such:

- **Child:** “every human being below the age of 18 years”(Article 1, United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child) Acknowledgement that Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 states adult “means a person aged 16 or over” (Section 53(1))



- **Young people:** The United Nations uses 'young people' to refer to those aged between 15 and 24 years.
- **Adult:** an adult is aged 18 and older. Depending on their circumstance, they may also be an 'adult at risk', for which this policy will use the following definition: "an adult who is an older person; or is affected by disability, illness, or physical or mental infirmity; or has an impairment of, or disturbance in, the functioning of the mind or brain; and as a result, may be unable to safeguard their own well-being, property, rights or other interests. In addition, an adult is at risk if: "another person's conduct is causing (or is likely to cause) the adult to be harmed, or the adult is engaging (or is likely to engage) in conduct which causes (or is likely to cause) self-harm" (Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 s.3(2))
- **Safeguarding:** "the action we take to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm" (Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013, p.7). For the purposes of this policy, 'safeguarding' means the action we take to promote the welfare of children, young people and adults and protect them from harm
- **Welfare:** "physical and mental health and happiness" (Cambridge Online Dictionary, 2016)
- **Concern:** anything that may cause worry about another person or contributes to a person feeling uncomfortable or unsure about the safety or welfare of someone else or themselves (including indications of potential radicalisation and expressions of extremist views)
- **Harm:** "ill-treatment or the impairment of health or development" (Children Act 1989 s.31(9 & 10)). For the purposes of this policy, this definition is applied to children, young people and adults. This policy also recognises that harm applicable to children and young people includes "impairment suffered from seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another" (Children Act 1989 as amended by Children and Adoption Act 2002) The definition of harm also includes abuse in all its forms and bullying. For the purposes of this policy, the following types of abuse and bullying, as provided by the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) for adults (2016), and as provided by the National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) for children and young people (2016) are recognised:

The definition of concerns includes:

Adults	Children and Young People
Neglect or acts of omission	Neglect
Sexual Abuse	Sexual abuse
Physical abuse	Physical abuse
Domestic abuse	Domestic abuse
Psychological / Emotional abuse	Emotional abuse



Financial or material abuse	Online abuse
Modern Slavery	Child sexual exploitation (CSE)
Discriminatory abuse	Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)
Organisational or institutional abuse	Bullying and Cyberbullying
Self - neglect	Child trafficking
Hate crime	Grooming
	Harmful sexual behaviour

The above table does not provide an exhaustive list of concerns that are relevant to this policy.

Other concerns to be noted can include:

- Homelessness
- Depression
- Suicidal thoughts and intent
- Self-harm or injury
- Eating disorders
- Use of substances
- Cyber-bullying
- Radicalisation.

It is recognised that abuse and bullying can occur online for adults as well as for children and young people.

Confidentiality

SMYC is not afforded powers of being able to keep private any information relating to a safeguarding concern. Therefore, a key component to any professional relationship between SMYC members, and members of the public accessing our services is the sharing of our confidentiality status: i.e. If a concern is identified or raised, that indicates a child, young person or adult is being harmed, or is at risk of being harmed, or requires additional support, that concern will be shared with all committee.

This may also result in a referral to an external agency, such as health services, the police or social services. No concerns relating to a potential safeguarding issue can be kept private.

This policy recognises information sharing is a significant element to effective safeguarding practice: “Early sharing of information is the key to providing an effective response where there are emerging concerns” (Care and Support Statutory Guidance 2014, p. 239, s.14.34). When information relating to a concern is shared, it must be: within the values and principles of care and trust; safety and dignity; on a ‘need to know’ basis and within information sharing guidelines. (For more details, see Safeguarding guidance document).



Actions

All concerns relating to the safeguarding of children, young people and adults must be recorded and appropriate actions taken in a timely manner. In the first instance, information relating to the concern will be shared with the committee (in required situations, it will be emergency services). All concerns must be reported either by email or phone call to any committee member

Data Protection

All information relating to concerns will be stored and monitored in line with SMYC Data Protection and Document Retention policies. The information must be viewed only by relevant persons and on a 'need to know' basis.

Training and Awareness

- SMYC committee will receive training on safeguarding awareness, through a combination of online and face-to-face training
- Updated alerts will be included in regular committee meetings held monthly
- People accessing our services will be made aware of our safeguarding policy verbally and through written format on request

Contact Details

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