Barmoor 1982 Trust

**SAFEGUARDING**



**Interim**

**Guidance on Safeguarding**

**for users of Barmoor**

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6. **Introduction**

**Safeguarding** is keeping a person physically and emotionally safe, protecting them from bad treatment, aiding their development, and ensuring they have a best outcome in life. It applies to all children specifically [to age 18], as well as adults who for whatever physical or mental reason are not able fully to protect themselves.

Child Protection is that part of safeguarding which focuses on protecting a child who is, or potentially is, suffering from significant harm.

Safeguarding is a moral responsibility of all of us. During a booking of Barmoor it will be with all those who are present.

If a Barmoor user is a charity, the Charity Commission specifically [expects](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/safeguarding-duties-for-charity-trustees) you to use, and review at least annually, appropriate policies and procedures. The Barmoor Trustees want other organisations and groups coming to Barmoor to act in the same spirit, in proportion to their circumstances.

Barmoor is used by a wide variety of groups with varying vulnerabilities. The Trustees do not wish to impose specific practices on groups, but offer here some ideas from various sources to help with thinking on this important area.

**The Barmoor Trustees expect a group leader to have a Safeguarding Assessment** for the needs of their group before making a booking.

*To get started in safeguarding, look at who you work with and the types of harm or abuse they might experience. A safer organisation prepares its staff and volunteers to be ready to deal with problems should they happen.*

*Everyone needs to play their part in keeping people safe. Make sure people take on the right roles and responsibilities.*

*Find out about the most important documents needed for good safeguarding. Understand when to take checks and other recruitment steps that help keep people safe.*

*Safeguarding works best when everyone is involved. Find out how to make that happen. A policy is not enough on its own. Make safeguarding part of your everyday activities and review what you are doing.[[1]](#footnote-1)*

1. **Some more detail if this is new to you [[2]](#footnote-2)**

You should discuss the types of abuse and harm that people within and connected to your organisation might experience. This will help you decide which policies and procedures you need to work on most urgently.

**Who is most at risk?**

Anyone can be at risk of abuse. People are at risk at different times and in different situations.

**Children and young people**

All organisations and individuals have a responsibility to safeguard children. A child is anyone under the age of 18.

**Example**
‘Fabulous!’ is a community arts group for 5-12 year olds run by parent volunteers. When they first started, as they were all parents, they didn’t think they needed to do safeguarding. But they spoke to their local voluntary sector support group and realised that parenting and running a group are very different. The management committee has now completed the NSPCC Safeguarding Standards and Checklist and they review all their processes regularly.

**Adults at risk**

Any adult may experience abuse or harm. However, certain people are considered to be at greater risk so are given more protection by law.

An adult at risk is anyone aged 18 or over who:

* has needs for care and or support
* as a result of care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from abuse
* is currently experiencing or is at risk of abuse.

Adults at risk may:

* have a mental or physical illness
* have a learning disability
* have addiction problems
* be frail.

Whether an adult is at risk or not is something which changes with their circumstances – it’s not fixed.

**Example**
Mara and David were the two most active members of a group in their village who shop for elderly people and visit them to give them company. At a local event Mara got talking to a local safeguarding advisor and realised the people they help are often frail and may be adults at risk. David went on a one-day safeguarding course through Good Neighbour Schemes and now they have helpful safeguarding plans to follow.

**Your staff or volunteers**

Protecting your staff and volunteers is not necessarily safeguarding – but you do have a duty to keep them safe. This means paying attention to the particular types of harm that can develop within an organisation.

**Example**
‘Maze Festival’ is an annual summer community festival. The core team of 10 work all year round on the festival and over 100 people volunteer at the event. A new volunteer joins and is warned that one of the core team can get a bit ‘handsy’ if they’ve had a drink. They are warned to avoid working with them at night. The volunteer is worried, so they check their handbook and the Code of Conduct makes it clear that sexual harassment is never acceptable. They report what they have been told to another core team member who reassures them and follows up on the issue.

**Empowerment and Self-determination**

Everyone has the right to make decisions for themselves.

Children gain maturity as they grow towards adulthood and progressively have a right to respect of their views according to their understanding of issues. This can lead to challenging tensions during teenage years.

Similar issues may apply for adults, for which understanding of [Mental Capacity](https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/a-to-z/m/mental-capacity) is key, so that you know when a person can take decisions within their own understanding.

You must understand these rights. Otherwise you could accidentally cause a different kind of harm by removing a person’s freedom of choice.

**Types of abuse and harm**

You need to be aware of several types of harm.

* Physical
* Sexual
* Emotional
* Psychological
* Neglect
* Radicalisation
* Discriminatory
* Financial

Within these groups The Charity Commission suggests some risks to bear in mind:

* sexual harassment, abuse and exploitation
* criminal exploitation
* cyber abuse
* modern day slavery
* negligent treatment
* self-neglect
* physical or emotional abuse
* bullying or harassment
* health and safety
* commercial exploitation
* extremism and radicalisation
* forced marriage
* human trafficking
* female genital mutilation
* discrimination on any of the grounds in the Equality Act 2010
* people may target your charity
* a charity’s culture may allow poor behaviour and poor accountability
* people may abuse a position of trust they hold within a charity
* data breaches, including those under General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)
1. **Physical Safety on the Barmoor site**

See the separate [Health and Safety document](https://d.docs.live.net/2024367fdc2773b3/Documents/Barmoor/Website/Health%20and%20Safety%20Assessment.docx).

1. **What to do if you suspect abuse and harm**

We hope there would be no occurrence of a harm or abuse during a visit to Barmoor. However, in the calm environment of Barmoor, someone could reveal an abuse happening elsewhere.

In either case, objective assessment by a trained professional gives a balanced view of the problem, leading to actions to deal with this problem, and to support and protect the individual from further harm, or indeed prevent harms to some other person.

Prompt reporting is the particular responsibility of a group’s Safeguarding Lead, but in the absence of such a role, of the group leader or organiser. Notwithstanding this, anyone may report. Do not be tempted to deny issues or sweep them under the carpet. A person’s well-being may be at stake.

If you or the person you are concerned about is in **danger and immediate action is required**, you should ring the emergency services on **999**.

If you or the person you are concerned about is not in immediate danger, anyone can make a referral to the **North Yorkshire Multi-Agency Screening Team** (MAST) by phoning **01609 780780 [7 day/24 hour service]** if they are worried about **any child or adult** and think they may be a victim of neglect or abuse, whether as a member of the public or as a professional.

They will make initial response for any person who is out of their own county, and if necessary, then transfer the referral to their home area.

1. **Some** **further information about abuse and harm**
* Good general guidance and help with organisational aspects from [National Council of Voluntary Organisations](https://knowhow.ncvo.org.uk/safeguarding/steps-to-a-safer-organisation/understanding-the-risks).
* Guidance on charities’ responsibilities from the [Charity Commission](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/safeguarding-duties-for-charity-trustees#policies-procedures-and-practices-you-need-to-have).
* **Specific help online** is offered by
	+ the [North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership](https://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/) and
	+ the [North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board](https://safeguardingadults.co.uk/).
* For example:

# [What is Child Abuse?](https://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/children-young-people/what-is-child-abuse/)

# [Easy Read Guides to Protecting adults at risk](https://safeguardingadults.co.uk/keeping-safe/easy-read-guides/)

* + [Mental Capacity and Making Decisions](https://safeguardingadults.co.uk/keeping-safe/mental-capacity-act/)
	+ [The Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS)](https://safeguardingadults.co.uk/keeping-safe/deprevation-of-liberty/)
* Learn more about child abuse: Use the [definition and signs of child abuse](https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/briefings/definitions-signs-child-abuse) from NSPCC Learning.
* Learn more about harm and abuse affecting adults: Use this list of [14 types of harm](https://www.anncrafttrust.org/resources/types-of-harm/) from The Ann Craft Trust.
* Explore decision making with adults at risk with this [mental capacity, self-determination and unwise decisions page](https://www.anncrafttrust.org/resources/capacity-making-decisions/) from The Ann Craft Trust.
* Think about why you should act to keep everyone safe from sexual harassment: Start with this [explanation of sexual harassment](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/law-and-courts/discrimination/what-are-the-different-types-of-discrimination/sexual-harassment/) from Citizens Advice.
1. From National Council of Voluntary Organisations [NCVO] [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. NCVO [↑](#footnote-ref-2)