



# Adult Safeguarding Policy

Version Control

Version	Date	Revision made

# **1 Introduction**

Active Suffolk is one of 43 Active Partnerships across England. Working with a wide range of local partners Active Suffolk provides the strategic lead for physical activity and sport across the county and supports Suffolk's collective ambition to be the Most Active County in England. Our Strategic Vision is

**Improved health and wellbeing across  
Suffolk by inspiring everyone to be  
more active**

This Policy, Guidance and Procedures document demonstrates Active Suffolk's commitment to protecting and safeguarding adults at risk against potential or actual harm.

It applies to all individuals directly employed by or volunteering for Active Suffolk. It is the responsibility of all Active Suffolk employees/volunteers to implement the procedures. Active Suffolk is hosted by East Suffolk Council and any disciplinary processes taken against Active Suffolk personnel in breach of this Safeguarding Policy Guidance and Procedures will be handled in accordance with the host's Disciplinary and Grievance Procedures.

It also demonstrates a commitment to working with statutory bodies, voluntary agencies and other organisations to promote the safety and welfare of adults at risk, and acting promptly whenever a concern is raised about an adult at risk or about the behaviour of an adult. Active Suffolk will work with the appropriate statutory bodies when an investigation into abuse is necessary.

Active Suffolk will endeavour to safeguard adults at risk by:

- valuing them, listening to and respecting them;
- adopting appropriate guidelines through procedures and a code of conduct for staff and volunteers;
- recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- sharing information about good practice with individuals and organisations within and beyond the sector;
- sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving carers appropriately;
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training;
- reviewing our approach annually.

Active Suffolk will endeavour to safeguard adults at risk who attend activities we fund, organise or facilitate by following these procedures if a concern is raised about an adult at risk's welfare.

## 2 Policy Statement

### ***Active Suffolk's Duty of Care***

Active Suffolk is committed to creating and maintaining a safe and positive environment and accepts its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all adults involved in our activities in accordance with the Care Act 2014.

Active Suffolk recognises that it has a duty of care towards adults at risk and can help to protect them from abuse and poor practice.

### ***Principles***

The six principles of Adult Safeguarding underpin this Policy, Guidance and Procedures:

- **Empowerment** - People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent.  
  
“I am asked what I want as the outcomes from the safeguarding process and these directly inform what happens.”
- **Prevention** – It is better to take action before harm occurs.  
  
“I receive clear and simple information about what abuse is, how to recognise the signs and what I can do to seek help.”
- **Proportionality** – The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.  
  
“I am sure that the professionals will work in my interest, as I see them and they will only get involved as much as needed.”
- **Protection** – Support and representation for those in greatest need.  
  
“I get help and support to report abuse and neglect. I get help so that I am able to take part in the safeguarding process to the extent to which I want.”
- **Partnership** – Local solutions through services working with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse  
  
“I know that staff treat any personal and sensitive information in confidence, only sharing what is helpful and necessary. I am confident that professionals will work together and with me to get the best result for me.”
- **Accountability** – Accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding. “I understand the role of everyone involved in my life and so do they.”

## **Summary of Active Suffolk's Responsibilities**

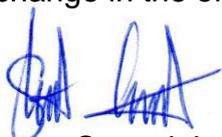
Active Suffolk will:

- Promote a consistent approach to safeguarding across the sector in Suffolk for the benefit of sport and physical activity organisations, staff / volunteers, parents / carers and adults at risk
- Provide advice and guidance on safeguarding to partner organisations
- Act as an advocate for good safeguarding practice, and promote the adoption of the guidance within this document, or similar, across wider networks
- Accept the moral and legal responsibility to implement procedures to provide a duty of care for adults at risk, safeguard their wellbeing and protect them from abuse
- Respect and promote the rights, wishes and feelings of adults at risk
- Recruit, train and supervise its employees and volunteers to adopt best practice to safeguard and protect adults at risk from abuse and themselves against allegations
- Require employees / volunteers to adopt, at induction, and abide by this Policy, Guidance and Procedures document
- Respond to allegations appropriately and implement the appropriate disciplinary and appeals procedures
- Ensure that its partnership, funding or commissioning criteria reference the requirement to address safeguarding within the relevant organisation(s)
- Review the Policy every two years, in response to any changes in the role of the Partnership, in relevant legislation or following a significant incident.

### **Adoption Statement**

Active Suffolk believes that the welfare and safety of adults at risk is of paramount importance and that all adults at risk have the right to protection from abuse and to take part in sport and physical activity without risk of harm.

This Policy document has been reviewed, updated and formally re- adopted by Active Suffolk in July 2021 and will next be reviewed in July 2023 or earlier if there is a major change in the organisation or in relevant legislation.



Stuart Cartwright  
Chair, Active Suffolk  
July 2021



Gareth Davies  
Director, Active Suffolk  
July 2021