

Safeguarding Policy Statement

October 2024

Safeguarding Lead: Johanna Hughes (johanna@projectseagrass.org – 01656457016)

Safeguarding Deputy: Emma Povey (emma.p@projectseagrass.org – 01656 253480)

Safeguarding Trustee: Laura Evans

The purpose and scope of this policy statement

Project Seagrass is a Marine Conservation Charity that occasionally works with children and families as part of its activities. These include: school visits, running workshops and events and hosting children and families when volunteering in the field.

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect children and vulnerable adults who receive Project Seagrass's services. This includes the children of adults who use our services
- to provide parents, staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

The scope of this policy statement is:

- Anyone working on behalf of Project Seagrass, including the directors, the board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers, sessional workers and students.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England, Wales and Scotland.

We believe that:

- we believe everyone has a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and vulnerable adults, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them
- we will give equal priority to keeping all children and vulnerable adults safe regardless of their age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation
- children and vulnerable adults should never experience abuse of any kind

We recognise that:

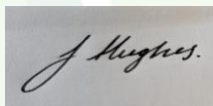
- the welfare of the child is paramount
- all children and vulnerable adults, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse

- some children and vulnerable adults are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- working in partnership with children, vulnerable adults, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

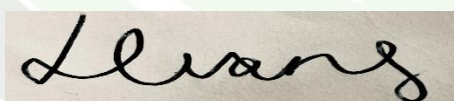
- valuing, listening to and respecting them when conducting Project Seagrass activities
- appointing a nominated child protection lead and a lead board member for safeguarding
- developing child protection and safeguarding policies and procedures which reflect best practice
- using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, vulnerable adults, parents, families and carers appropriately
- creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- ensure all staff are DBS checked to the appropriate level
- provide safeguarding training to all staff members with annual refreshers
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures
- implementing a code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately
- ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for children, vulnerable adults, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance
- recording and storing information professionally and securely.

Nominated child protection and safeguarding lead



Johanna Hughes
Volunteer & Outreach Coordinator

Nominated child protection and safeguarding lead (Board Member)



Laura Evans
Trustee - Project Seagrass

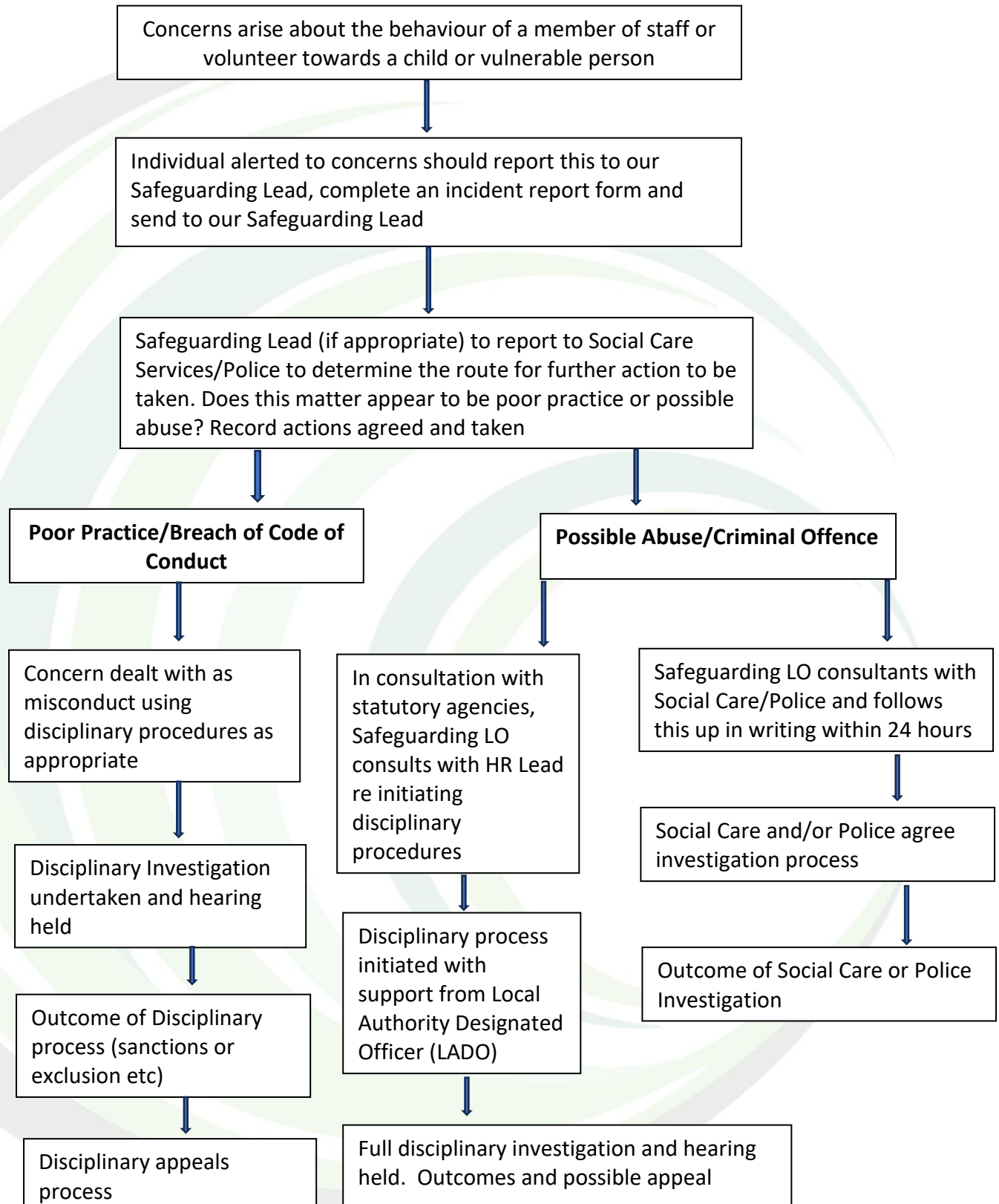
Safeguarding Procedures

Outlined below is our procedure for reporting Safeguarding concerns for Children or vulnerable adults.



Safeguarding Procedures

Outlined below is our procedure for reporting the behaviour of staff members or volunteers.



Safeguarding Incident Report Form

This form will be used by members of staff or volunteers to record disclosures or suspicions of abuse. The completed form should be sent to our Safeguarding Lead Officer

Your Name	Your Position
Place of Work	Contact Phone Number
Child/Vulnerable Persons Details	
Name	
Address & Phone Number	
Date of Birth	
Other Relevant details about the child/vulnerable person: <i>Eg Family circumstances, physical and mental health, any communication difficulties</i>	
Parent/Guardian/Carers details	
Details of the allegations/suspensions	
Are you recording? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Disclosure made directly to you by the child/vulnerable adult ▪ Disclosure or suspicions from a third party? ▪ Your suspicions or concerns 	
Date & time of disclosure	
Date & time of incident	
Details of the allegation/suspensions. State exactly what you were told/observed and what was said. Use the persons own words as much as possible.	
Action taken so far:	
Signed	Date

Regional Safeguarding Contacts

Bridgend

Bridgend Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

South Wales Police MASH Staff

Phone: 01656 815808

Safeguarding Adults Team

Email: adultsafeguardingMASH@bridgend.gov.uk

Phone: 01656 642477

Information, Advice and Assistance (IAA) Team (Children)

Email: mashcentra@bridgend.gov.uk

Phone: 01656 642320

North Wales

North Wales Safeguarding Board (Gwynedd) – Adults

Phone: 01766 772577 (01248 353551 Out of Hours)

North Wales Safeguarding Board (Gwynedd) – Children

Phone: 01758 704455 (01248 353551 Out of Hours)

Isle of Wight

Isle of Wight Safeguarding Childrens Partnership

Phone: 0300 300 0117 (24 hrs a day)

Isle of Wight Adult Safeguarding Team

Email:- safeguardingconcerns@iow.gov.uk

Phone:- 01983 814980

Essex

Essex Safeguarding Adults Board

Phone: 0345 603 7630

E.mail: businesssupport.adultsovas@essex.gov.uk

Essex Children & Families Hub

Phone: 0345 603 7627

(Out of Hours Phone: 0345 606 1212 or E.mail – emergency.dutyteamoutofhours@essex.gov.uk)

Scotland

City of Edinburgh Council Social Care – Adults

Phone: 0131 200 2324 (Out of Hours 0800 731 6969)

City of Edinburgh Council Children & Families Social Work

Phone: 0131 200 2327

