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Vulnerable Persons Policy

Safeguarding

Child Protection and Vulnerable Adults

**Updated January 2024**

**Slaley Show Vulnerable Persons Policy - updated January 2024**

**This document should be read with reference to the EVENT MANAGEMENT PLAN 2023 which was submitted to Northumberland County Council for the 2023 Show, and which is updated monthly in the run up to the 2024 Show.**

#### **Vulnerable adults**

The NHS defines vulnerable adults as any adult (person over the age of 18) unable to take care of themselves or protect themselves from exploitation. For a full definition in law, see Appendix 1.

**Context**

Slaley Show is held on the second Saturday of August for one day each year. The event takes place on the ‘Showfield’, Townhead, Slaley. It is on Show Day that children are invited to the Showfield. Throughout the preparation for the Show, volunteers and trustees and committee members could be or become vulnerable and all of us should be mindful of this.

All Slaley Show members and volunteers have a duty to safeguard vulnerable people associated with Slaley Show. They should respond to any concerns they may have regarding the physical, sexual, emotional, or psychological safety of a vulnerable person or concerns relating to discriminatory or financial violation or exploitation of a vulnerable person. This policy is in place to protect all vulnerable persons regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality, religion, or faith.

**Principles**

The welfare of the child or vulnerable adult is paramount and is the responsibility of everyone. All children and vulnerable adults, without exception, have the right to protection from abuse, whether physical, verbal, sexual, bullying, exclusion, or neglect. Bullying, shouting, physical violence, sexism, and racism towards children will not be permitted or tolerated.

**Policy Statement**

1. No member of the trustees, helpers or other volunteers will have unsupervised access to children or vulnerable adults unless they have been through the safe recruitment procedure (Appendix 2) and introductory Child Protection or Vulnerable Adults Protection training. Any person with this training should make themselves known to the Chair.
2. All suspicions or allegations of abuse against a child will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately. Please see 3:1 of the Event Management Plan (NCC).(Appendix 4)
3. All staff and volunteers need to be aware of this policy (Child Protection and Vulnerable Adults), child protection, and vulnerable adult issues, and should be offered introductory training. The policy is to be found on the website: slaleyshow.org.uk.
4. There will be a nominated and named Vulnerable Users representative to whom any suspicions or concerns should be reported (Appendix 3). This person is **Stella Douglas** until September 2024. Deputies, should Stella Douglas, not be available are to be arranged for the 2024 by 17th April (see safeguarding check list for 2023)
5. The management committee will endeavour to keep the ‘Showfield’ safe for use by children and vulnerable adults. The committee recognizes that a higher standard of safety is required where use is made by small children, those who cannot read safety notices and physically disabled adults. A message on the Show website reminds visitors of the hazards which are associated with being in proximity to live farm animals and is updated in April each year to reflect which animals will be on the Showfield.
6. Any organization or individuals associated with Trade and Craft stands, Main Ring Attractions and other activities arranged on a yearly basis where Ofsted registration is required (Appendix 5 to be updated if necessary) MUST show their registration and their own Child Protection Policy. Safe recruitment processes should be used to appoint staff who will be working with children or vulnerable adults in any kind of activity (Appendix 2).
7. The committee will ensure that any organization or individual associated with Trade and Craft stands, Main Ring Attractions and other activities arranged on a yearly basis are made aware of their obligations under the Licensing Act 2003 to ensure that alcohol is not sold to those under the age of 18.
8. These policies and procedures will be reviewed at least three times each year, in January when preparations are begun, in April when most Trade and Craft and Main Ring attractions have been organized and infrastructural issues agreed with contractors and in July when the Event Management Plan is sent to NCC. The document will be updated as appropriate in the interim periods.
9. Training will take place at the July 18th, 2024, Slaley Show meeting and/or on Zoom where volunteers do not live locally.

# Policy Procedures to be followed.

1. All trustees and volunteers will be given information about child protection and should attend introductory level Child Protection Training and Protection of Vulnerable Adults training where possible. CAN provides ACRE safeguarding information and a free online training video on <http://ca-north.org.uk/empowering-organisations/safeguarding>. This should be viewed by all the Trustees and volunteers 18th July 2024 or, where volunteers are not local, the Secretary of the Show must alert volunteers to watch this video before the Show.
2. An annual review will take place following the AGM to allow new Trustees and volunteers to be given an induction to this policy and understand their responsibilities.
3. A copy of the policy will be uploaded onto the Slaley Show website.
4. All organisations associated with Slaley Show will be asked to lodge their Child Protection Policy with the Chair person (Stella Douglas) when their participation is agreed.
5. Organisations which participate with Slaley Show with activities specifically involving vulnerable adults will be asked to show their Vulnerable Adults Protection Policy when participation is agreed. Other organisations participating on Show Day whose activities may involve vulnerable adults will be made aware of this policy.
6. The committee will require all volunteers and participant on Show Day to report any damage, breakages or safety issues needing attention to the Chair person, who will immediately deal with the problem by: -
   1. Informing the Showfield through the PA System.
   2. Deploying suitable people to put up immediate temporary exclusion to the area affected.
   3. Provide a safe ‘fix’ in the light of circumstances, with provision to prevent access by children and vulnerable adults pending repair where appropriate.
7. Contractors engaged to carry out work on the Show Field must not be allowed unsupervised access to children or vulnerable adults and must not bring children onto the Showfield.
8. Children and vulnerable adults must be supervised when using toilets. Signage indicates this.

***Guide to further reading***

**The Dark Web; Suicide in children & young people; Online Radicalisation; Adolescent to Parents Violence & Abuse; Northumbria Police Force Intelligence mailbox; Raising Awareness of County Lines.**

Chair Stella Douglas Dated ( I checked this through 2 Feb 2024, after the resignation of the T&C secretary this morning but it needs to go to the committee again April, Gemma can you put this on the Agenda for April)

**APPENDICES**

**Appendix 1**

DEFINITION OF VULNEABLE ADULT in legislation

(1) In these Regulations “vulnerable adult” means a person aged 18 or over who is receiving services of a type listed in paragraph (2) below and in consequence of a condition of a type listed in paragraph (3) below has a disability of a type listed in paragraph (4) below.

(2) The services are—

(a)accommodation and nursing or personal care in a care home.

(b)personal care or nursing or support to live independently in his own home.

(c)any services provided by an independent hospital, independent clinic, independent medical agency, or National Health Service body.

(d)social care services; or

(e)any services provided in an establishment catering for a person with learning difficulties.

(3) The conditions are—

(a)a learning or physical disability.

(b)a physical or mental illness, chronic or otherwise, including an addiction to alcohol or drugs; or

(c)a reduction in physical or mental capacity.

(4) The disabilities are—

(a)a dependency upon others in the performance of, or a requirement for assistance in the performance of, basic physical functions.

(b)severe impairment in the ability to communicate with others; or

(c)impairment in a person’s ability to protect himself from assault, abuse or neglect.

(5) In this regulation “care home”, “independent clinic”, “independent hospital”, “independent medical agency” and “National Health Service body” have the same meanings as in the Care Standards Act 2000

**Appendix 2**

**Safe Recruitment – Slaley Show does NOT employ anyone directly but must ensure that companies engaged to work for the Show have the following: -**

A document which states that all staff employed by that firm -

* Completed an application form which shows their employment history.
* Provide at least two references.
* If working directly with children or young people or vulnerable adults one of the references should come from someone who has supervised then working with children, young people, or vulnerable adults before.
* If working directly with children or young vulnerable adults they should be checked under the Disclosure & Banning Service and a copy of the DBS form.

No volunteers on Show Day will have unsupervised access to vulnerable users.

**Appendix 3**

**Reporting Incidents**

The nominated Child Protection and Vulnerable Adults representative **Stella Douglas**  will have the responsibility for reporting concerns that arise, as a matter of urgency, to the local authority Child Protection and Vulnerable Adults lead agency. The representative may choose to have a confidential discussion with others in order to clear up any misunderstandings or to corroborate and support any suspicions before reporting a concern to the lead agency. The nominated person should:

Since 2019 telephone a general helpline of 01670 536 400

Vulnerable Adults Email: onecall@northumbria.nhs.uk

When making a report **use the language** of the victim or the person making the concern. Do not change this to your language otherwise it may not stand up in the courts – a case can be dismissed when it is proven that the child or vulnerable adult would not have said particular words or a certain phrase.

**Appendix 4**

A screenshot of a computer

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**Appendix 5**

# Ofsted Requirements

Not applicable to the Show at this point 2024