



Brecon and Radnor Beekeepers' Association

Safeguarding, Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy:

Terms

- a. BRBKA: Brecon and Radnor Beekeepers' Association.
- b. Child/Children, Young Person/Young People: Refers to all children/young people under the age of 18 years for the purposes of this policy.
- c. Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): an appointed trustee or association member responsible for all safeguarding matters within the BRBKA
- d. Parents/Guardians: Those who have parental rights and responsibilities in relation to children and young people. For the purposes of this policy, it also covers carers, legal guardians and others who have the primary responsibility for the care of children and young people
- e. Responsible Adult: Refers to persons who are current members of the BRBKA, trustees or officers of the BRBKA.
- f. Vulnerable Adult: Is any person aged 18 or over who is, or may be in need of community care services by reason of their disability, age or illness. A vulnerable adult may be elderly, physically and/or mentally disabled or have learning difficulties

Introduction

This policy is a way of demonstrating that the BRBKA understands its responsibilities towards keeping individuals safe from harm and that we have measures and systems in place to maximise the effectiveness of our practice. The BRBKA wants to encourage involvement with, and understanding and enjoyment of, the craft of beekeeping and aims to be inclusive by encouraging participation in its activities by all. Promoting the provision of a safe and secure environment in which children, young people, and vulnerable adults can participate is key

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. We have a duty of care for all but, in particular, children, young people and vulnerable adults who participate in, or

attend our events we should, safeguard their wellbeing, protect them from physical, sexual or emotional harm and from neglect and bullying. The BRBKA members, will make every effort to ensure that the commitments and processes outlined in this policy are embedded into practice

Members and officers of the BRBKA who raise concerns will be protected by the Association from reprisals or victimisation.

This policy applies to: -

All BRBKA members.

Activities arranged and managed directly by the BRBKA—such as, but not limited to, training courses, practical apiary meetings, workshops and outreach events.

The aim of this policy: -

The BRBKA aims to support a positive learning environment with:

- a. Accountability—being clear that everybody involved in BRBKA activities is responsible for ensuring that safeguarding policies are systematically applied
- b. Protection—providing support and representation, to prevent harm (sexual, physical, mental or emotional).
- c. Prevention—managing behaviours effectively, without the use of threats, physical punishment or humiliation.
- d. Proportionality—having a good ratio of helpers and whenever possible working in teams
- e. Empowerment—ensuring that the Association's policies and guidance are readily available (available on our website) and will review regularly

Who are Children and vulnerable adults?

For the purposes of this document:

A child is anyone aged less than 18 years old, as defined by relevant child protection legislation in England, Scotland and Wales.

A vulnerable adult is someone of 18 years or older who is unable to care independently for themselves.

This might include people who

- a. Have a physical disability, illness or injury, or have become severely frail through old age
- b. Are experiencing mental health issues including dementia, or have learning disabilities
- c. Are in need of community care
- d. Are unable to protect himself or herself from harm, through domestic violence or substance addiction.

Welcoming children and vulnerable adults

While we are experts at providing and supporting beekeeping and associated activities, we are not able to provide specialist care and support for vulnerable adults who have special needs or who are unable to care independently for themselves, or to take special responsibility for looking after children and young people under the age of 18.

- a. We should only accept children on activities when they are accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or other person with equivalent responsibility for them such as a teacher or youth worker
- b. We should only accept vulnerable adults, who cannot care for themselves independently, when they are accompanied by a carer or support worker to assist with their everyday needs.
- c. In the case of activities aimed at BRBKA members, if a child or person with special needs is a member, their parent, guardian,* carer or support worker to be awarded partner membership free of charge.

Participation in all activities is subject to their suitability for individual participants. The activity organizer has an enhanced duty of care towards participants, and sometimes need to make judgements that take into account the safety and enjoyment of everyone involved in an activity. They have a right to refuse a participant if, in their opinion, this would result in danger to the individual or danger or major disruption to the rest of the group. We will strive to make such judgements on a fair and practical basis and without making stereotypical or unwarranted assumptions.

What we will do:

- a. Value, listen to and respect Children and vulnerable adults.

- b. Ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for children, young people, vulnerable adults, trustees, and members, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance.
- c. Appoint a Designated safe guarding lead (DSL)
- d. Trustees and BRBKA members are not permitted to take photographs of children visiting the BRBKA events, without consent of their parents/guardians.
- e. All safeguarding concerns must be brought to the attention of the Designated Safeguarding Lead who will ensure confidential detailed, and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are recorded and securely stored. Confidentiality will be upheld in line with the Data Protection Act (2018) and the UK General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Human Rights Act 2000. Any safeguarding concerns, and relevant information will be shared with agencies who need to know.

Implementing the Policy

The Designated Safeguarding lead will maintain an overview of safeguarding concerns, take a lead on liaising with other agencies and shall keep informed about local developments in safeguarding.

The Safeguarding Policy will be reviewed periodically.

Identifying a Safeguarding Concern

There are several ways in which we may become aware that an individual is being abused:

- a. By observing possible signs and symptoms of abuse.
- b. An individual discloses abuse or describes what appears to be an abusive act.
- c. Someone else expresses concern about the welfare of another.

Acting on a safeguarding concern.

It is not the responsibility of the BRBKA's Trustees or volunteers to decide whether a child, young person or vulnerable adult is being abused or might have been abused. However, safeguarding is everybody's responsibility, therefore, there is a responsibility to act on concerns to protect children, young people, and vulnerable adults in order that appropriate agencies can then make enquires to take any necessary action for safeguarding.

What to do if an individual experiencing abuse tells you about it:

If you have reason to believe that a child, young person, or adult is at immediate risk from harm contact the Police on 999.

If they are not at immediate risk of harm, reassure them that you are taking them seriously, and they have done the right thing informing you.

Listen carefully to what they are saying and get a clear and factual account of the concern.

Immediately inform a Trustee or the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

The BRBKA Safe Guarding Lead: -Mrs. Hazel Henry 07739 641330

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