

Vulnerable Adult Safeguarding Policy

Polmont Sports Centre Community Group SC054374

Polmont Sports Centre Community Group believes in protecting each adult's right to live safely, free from harm, abuse and neglect, safeguarding means the steps taken to protect these rights. Polmont Sports Centre Community Group believes that all adults could potentially, at some point in their life, be harmed, abused or neglected however understands that some adults are at particular risk of this throughout their lives. They may be called an Adult at Risk, as defined by The Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007.

The Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 exists to protect adults from harm, including physical, financial, sexual, and psychological abuse, neglect, and discrimination. An Adult at Risk is defined by the Act as an adult aged 16 or over who is:

- unable to protect themselves from someone harming them, or from exploitation and neglect or safeguard their own well-being, property, rights, or other interests,
- is at risk of harm, and
- are affected by disability, mental disorder, illness or physical or mental infirmity, so they are more vulnerable to being harmed than adults who are not so affected.

The purpose of this policy is:

- to safeguard and protect adults at risk of harm who engage with Polmont Sports Centre 's activities and volunteering programme.
- promote good practice for safeguarding adults at risk within Polmont Sports Centre Community Group to ensure all volunteers and representatives of Polmont Sports Centre Community Group understand their responsibilities in relation to adult safeguarding and provide guidance to enable them to make informed and confident decisions about when and how to act on adult safeguarding concerns.

Within Polmont Sports Centre Community Group the following person takes overall responsibility for adult safeguarding. Any concerns or questions about this area of work should be directed to them in the first instance. However, where any volunteer or representative of Polmont Sports Centre Community Group becomes aware that an adult **requires immediate protection from harm**, contact the police and Social Work Adult Services in the first instance, immediately followed by Janet Crosthwaite

Name: Janet Crosthwaite

Position: Treasurer

Contact info: 07803789988

Signed:

Date:

Falkirk Council Adult Support and Protection:

Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm, call: 01324 506070

All other times, call: 01786 470500 or email: asp@falkirk.gov.uk

If it's an emergency, always dial 999

If it is not an emergency, you can contact Police Scotland on 101

Roles and Responsibilities

Whilst Polmont Sports Centre Community Group does not hold any statutory safeguarding powers or responsibilities nor does its activities primarily involve or seek to engage adults at risk, every volunteer and representative of Polmont Sports Centre Community Group has a responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of adults at risk and this Policy outlines how they should do so.

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Many volunteers and representatives of Polmont Sports Centre Community Group build trusting relationships with people who engage with the organisation's activities and so may be well placed to identify abuse, neglect or harm as the adult may say or do things that indicate something is wrong, either directly or indirectly. Every volunteer and representative of Polmont Sports Centre Community Group should understand what to do in such a situation:

- To report an adult safeguarding concern and to receive support and guidance to respond to this concern appropriately, contact Janet Crosthwaite in the first instance.
- Where an adult **requires immediate protection from harm**, contact the police and Social Work Adult Services in the first instance before contacting Janet Crosthwaite to alert them to the situation.
- Do not assume that someone else will take action. Your intervention could be critical in keeping someone safe.

Polmont Sports Centre Community Group keeps a written record of safeguarding concerns, and actions taken, using the **Adult Safeguarding Record** form which includes guidance about all information that should be collected and what should be done with the completed, signed and dated form. Janet Crosthwaite is responsible for the completion, collection and safe storage of **Adult Safeguarding Record** forms. Storage of completed forms is secure, confidential and compliant with all legal data protection requirements. Please see Polmont Sports Centre Community Group's **Data Protection and Privacy Policy** for more information.

Types of Harm

The below list is not exhaustive and is intended to raise awareness of the types of harm that would prompt safeguarding concerns:

- Financial harm (theft, being pressured or bullied into giving money)
- Physical harm (punching, kicking, slapping)
- Psychological harm (threats, humiliation, controlling behaviours)
- Sexual harm (forcing or coercing engagement in any type of sexual activity)
- Neglect (not being cared for properly, can also be 'self-neglect' when not caring for themselves)

Please visit the Act Against Harm website for more in-depth descriptions of the types of harm and the signs that could indicate this harm is taking place: www.actagainstharm.org

This Adult Safeguarding Policy has been adopted for the use of Polmont Sports Centre Community Group by:

Name: Janet Crosthwaite
Position: Treasurer
Date: 1/10/25
Signature:

Name: Leanne Morton
Position: Trustee
Date: 1/10/25
Signature:

This Policy will be reviewed on:

Date: 1/10/27