



WRT SAFEGUARDING VULNERABLE ADULTS

WRT 07/19

WEARDALE RAILWAY TRUST

Weardale Railway Trust



Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults

Introduction

As part of the diverse nature of volunteering and through the Weardale Railway Trust's charitable aims it is probable that active volunteers and Trust board members will, at times, have contact with vulnerable adults. The WRT are committed to the belief that the protection of vulnerable adults from harm and abuse is everyone's responsibility and the aim of these procedures is to ensure all volunteers respond appropriately to any reported abuse.

An adult (aged 18yrs or over) can be considered vulnerable if they are dependant upon others in performing physical functions, his/her ability to communicate with others is impaired, or they have a reduced ability to protect themselves from assault, abuse or neglect. This can be as a result of a learning or physical disability; a physical or mental illness – chronic or otherwise (including alcohol or drugs); or a reduction in physical or mental capacity.

The Police Act 1997 (Protection of Vulnerable Adults) Regulations 2002

1. The aims of the WRT as reflected in this Policy are to:

- To ensure those vulnerable adults, whether volunteers or visitors, are not inadvertently taking advantage of; exploited; bullied or harassed during their time involved in any activities associated with the Weardale Railway Trust.
- To support the Weardale Railway Trust board and volunteers to create a culture which fosters a safe environment and seeks to provide a working and learning environment free from discrimination, harassment or victimisation.
- Promote good practice and work in a way that can prevent any form of harm and/or abuse occurring
- No volunteer receives less favourable treatment by reason of age, disability, gender re-assignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, or pregnancy and maternity
- No volunteer is disadvantaged by conditions or requirements, which cannot be justified by the requirements of the job.

The scope of this policy applies to director's, volunteers and members of the Weardale Railway Trust, undertaking and participating in duties linked to our charitable aims.

Operational activities are governed separately by Weardale Railway CIC and current Rule Book.

Abuse is defined as any of the following;

- Physical abuse – Any action which force is used to cause pain or injury
- Sexual abuse – Any sexual contact where the vulnerable adult has not consented, been unable to consent to , or was pressuried into.
- Neglect and acts of omission – A failure to meet basic, medical or physical care needs, such as failing to provide adequate food, warmth, shelter, help with personal hygiene or emotional support.
- Psychological/ Emotional abuse – involves making threats of harm or abandonment, deprivation of contact, humiliation, blaming, controlling, intimidation, coercion, harassment, verbal abuse and isolation.
- Financial or material abuse – exploitation for financial gain, such as theft or fraud.
- Discriminatory abuse – any abuse based on an individuals race, gender or disability, physical or mental health status.
- Institutional abuse – restrictive or blanket practices.

Responsibilities of Weardale Railway Trust volunteers is as follows;

- Support the policy through their own behaviour,
- Challenge inappropriate behaviour by fellow volunteers,
- Follow the complaints procedure,

References

Weardale Railway CIC Rule Book v2.1 2016

Weardale Railway Safeguarding of Vulnerable Adults Procedure (original undated)

Weardale Railway Trust Code of Conduct

Newcastle Safeguarding Adults Board, Guidance on writing safeguarding adults policy and procedures for community and voluntary organisations

www.newcastle.gov.uk/SAPolicyandprocedurestemplate

The Police Act 1997 (Protection of Vulnerable Adults) Regulations 2002 www.legislation.gov.uk

Jones D, Voluntary Sector Representative, Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children's Board

www.grcc.org.uk/resources/templates-1

WRT Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults v2

Date approved	4th March 2019	
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Signed by and on behalf of Weardale Railway Trust	Name Mr Kevin Richardson Designation Chairman	Signature <i>K Richardson</i>
Signed by and on behalf of Weardale Railway Trust	Name Mr. Paul Wilson Designation Secretary	Signature <i>P Wilson</i>