

GLANGRWYNEY VILLAGE HALL SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Updated & Reviewed June 2024 / Updated & Amended February 2025

(This safeguarding policy has been written in line with Welsh Government & ACRE publications Safeguarding Information Sheet 5 April 2021)

SUMMARY

Acceptance of the Glangrwyney Village Hall Safeguarding Policy is part of the agreed contract taken out on hiring the hall.

- This statement of policy and procedures applies to users of, and activities in, Glangrwyney Village Hall, which is the responsibility of the GVH Trustees also known as Glangrwyney Village Hall Management Committee GVHMC.
- This policy is in place to protect all children and vulnerable adults regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality, religion or faith.
- All children and vulnerable adults have the right to protection from abuse whether physical, verbal, sexual, bullying, exclusion or neglect. The welfare of the child or vulnerable adult is paramount and is the responsibility of everyone. All people associated with the Village Hall and its use have a responsibility for the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.
- No member of the Trustees, village hall staff, outside contractors, hirers or volunteers will have unsupervised access to children or vulnerable adults unless in possession of appropriate clearance such as DBS.
- The Trustees will ensure that all hirers/users of the Hall are aware that any safeguarding of children or vulnerable adults is the responsibility of the hirers.
- The Trustees will ensure that hirers 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.
- Acceptance of the Village Hall's safeguarding policy is part of the agreed contract taken out on hiring the Hall.
- In the event of any allegations or suspicions of abuse, referral should be made immediately to the:

GVH Safeguarding Officer / Safeguarding Trustee
Sian Fielding 01873 811354 / 07701327306

This person has responsibility for reporting concerns that arise, as a matter of urgency, to the relevant safeguarding agency.

- The Chair of Trustees (Phil Bowker) also to be informed. Confidentiality to be maintained at all times.
- A copy of this policy is available on the Village Hall website alongside hiring terms and conditions.

1. Purpose

This policy defines how Glangrwyney Village Hall (GVH) operates to safeguard children, young people and adults at risk of abuse or neglect. We have a duty of care and are committed to the protection and safety of everyone who enters our premises including children, young people and adults at risk involved as visitors and/or as participants in all activities and events. We also have a duty to safeguard and support our trustees, volunteers, and staff.

2. Definitions

This policy is in place to protect all children and vulnerable adults regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality, religion or faith.

Children and young people are defined as those persons aged under 18 years old. This policy will apply to all staff, contractors and volunteers and will be used to support their work.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children's health and development
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

Adult at risk of abuse or neglect for the purposes of this policy, adult at risk refers to someone over 18 years old who, according to Section 42 of the Care Act 2014:

- Has care and support needs
- Is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect
- As a result of their care and support needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.

If someone has care and support needs but is not currently receiving care or support from a health or care service, they may still be an adult at risk

3. Persons Affected by Policy

- All trustees, volunteers, and staff
- All those attending any activity or service that is being delivered from the village hall property
- All visitors and contractors

4. Policy Principles

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and there can be no excuses for not taking all

reasonable action to protect children and adults at risk from abuse or neglect. All citizens of the United Kingdom have their rights enshrined within the Human Rights Act 1998. People who are eligible to receive health and community care services may be additionally vulnerable to the violation of these rights by reason of disability, impairment, age, or illness.

Glangrwyney Village Hall Management Committee

- Has a zero-tolerance approach to abuse
- Recognises that under the Care Act 2014, it has a duty for the care and protection of adults who are at risk of abuse.
- Is committed to promoting wellbeing, harm prevention and to responding effectively if concerns are raised
- Is aware of the work of their local safeguarding Board/Partnership and other support organisations on the development and implementation of procedures for the protection of children and adults at risk. The policy is about stopping abuse where it is happening and preventing abuse where there is a risk that it may occur

Glangrwyney Village Hall Management Committee is committed to the following principles:

- The welfare of the child, young person or adult at risk is paramount.
- All children, young people and adults at risk have the right to protection from abuse.
- **Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility:** for services to be effective each professional and organisation should play their full part
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse must be properly reported to the relevant internal and external authorities and dealt with swiftly and appropriately

5. Procedures

- a. All members of the committee will have access to this policy and will familiarise themselves with safeguarding responsibilities. They will undertake training where appropriate on safeguarding issues including whistleblowing where it is available and offered by their local safeguarding board/partnership or other local support organisation and ensure that they understand the principles set out in this policy
- b. All members of the committee will work together to promote a culture that enables issues about safeguarding and promoting welfare to be addressed
- c. All members of the committee, helpers or other volunteers will not have unsupervised access to children or adults at risk unless appropriately vetted
- d. Any photographs or recordings of children/vulnerable adults should only be taken with the person's consent and parents'/carers' permission
- e. The hall committee will follow safe recruitment practices
- f. A member of the committee is appointed to be responsible for child and adult at risk safeguarding matters. This person has responsibility for reporting concerns that arise, as a matter of urgency, to the relevant safeguarding agency

g. All suspicions or allegations of abuse against a child or adult at risk will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately. The appointed person will know who to contact and where to go for support and advice in relation to an allegation, a concern about the quality of care or practice or a complaint. An allegation may relate to a person who works with children or adults at risk who has:

- Behaved in a way that has harmed a child or adult at risk or may have harmed a child or adult at risk
- Possibly committed a criminal offence against, or related to, a child or adult at risk
- Behaved towards a child (or children) or adult at risk in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm to children or adults at risk

h. All hirers of the hall are aware in taking out a hire agreement of this policy. No member of the Trustees, outside contractors, hirers or volunteers will have unsupervised access to children or vulnerable adults unless in possession of appropriate clearance such as DBS.

i. The Management Committee will ensure that hirers are made aware when undertaking a booking of their obligations under the Licensing Act 2003 to ensure that alcohol is not sold to those under the age of 18 and that no children may be admitted to films when they are below the age classification for the film or show. No gambling or entertainment of an adult or sexual nature shall be permitted on the premises

j. The Hall Committee will ensure that all hirers/users of the Hall are aware when undertaking a booking that any safeguarding of children or vulnerable adults is the responsibility of the hirers

k. Acceptance of the Village Hall Safeguarding Policy is part of the agreed contract taken out with users, when hiring the hall.

The following member of the Glangrwyney Village Hall Management Committee is appointed responsible for child and adult at risk safeguarding matters. **Sian Fielding 01873 811354 / 07701327306** This person has responsibility for reporting concerns that arise, as a matter of urgency, to the relevant safeguarding agency.

A copy of this policy is available on the Village Hall website and will be displayed for the attention of all on the Hall noticeboard. This policy will be reviewed annually.

Contact Details

GVH Safeguarding Officer / Safeguarding Trustee

Sian Fielding 01873 811354 / 07701327306

Powys County Council Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults

Children's Services Front Door Team (previously Powys People Direct)

01597 827666 (office hours) 0345 054 4847 (out of hours) csfrontdoor@powys.gov.uk

Adult Services – ASSIST

Telephone: 0345 602 7050 (office hours)

Telephone: 0345 054 4847 (out of hours)

Email: assist@powys.gov.uk

Online MARF: How to report abuse (A Safeguarding Concern) - Powys County Council

Designated Safeguarding Lead for Education – Michael Gedrim Tel: 01597 826431

michael.gedrim@powys.people.gov.uk