

Dalry Burns Club

Safeguarding Policy

The Trustees of Dalry Burns Club “the Club” are committed to ensuring the safety and welfare of everyone involved in activities relating to the fulfilment of our objectives.

The objectives of the Club are as follows:

- To advance the literary, linguistic, musical and artistic heritage of Scotland by perpetuating the memory of Robert Burns and the appreciation of his work through friendly relationships and fellowship in the traditions of this club and by promoting our aims within the wider community.

This Safeguarding Policy sets out our approach to assessing and mitigating the risks involved, and the procedures to be followed if risk is identified or concerns are raised. It sets out the safeguarding responsibilities of all persons connected with the Club when assessing applications and visiting and meeting with schools and other grantees.

It applies to anyone acting on behalf of the Club in any capacity, including (but not limited to) trustees and members.

Purpose and aim

The Club believes that:

- All children and adults have the right to be safe from harm and must be able to live free from fear of abuse, neglect and exploitation.
- All disclosures of abuse or neglect should be taken seriously.
- All Club Members and trustees should be familiar with this safeguarding policy.
- The policy should be accessible to those who interact with the Club.

Legal and policy basis

Legislation and guidance for safeguarding differs across the UK but the principles of good safeguarding practice are the same.

- Policies, legislation and guidance which apply in Scotland include (but are not limited to):
- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Children and Young People Act (Scotland) 2014
- Protecting Children and Young People: The Charter
- Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC)
- Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007
- Strategy and guidance from Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR)

Responsibilities

A representative of The Club should never be left alone with, and must never request to be left alone with, a child or vulnerable adult when meeting an applicant or grantee.

All Members and trustees have a responsibility to familiarise themselves with the safeguarding policy. They must take all disclosures of abuse or neglect seriously, and follow the established reporting procedure as soon as is safe.

All trustees must take responsibility for dealing with allegations or concerns relating to any Members and safeguarding of Trustees and Members.

Trustees and Members will be made aware of this safeguarding policy.

If trustees and Members make visits to applicant organisations, they should provide details of their visits to the Club, or if this is not possible the date, time and location of the meeting with a trusted individual, in case of accident or mishap.

The trustees consider that membership of the PVG scheme for Members and trustees is not required given that the representatives of the Club are not undertaking 'regulated work' (as defined in the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007). The trustees have considered their duties with regards to safeguarding and believe that the procedures in this policy are sufficient to safeguard both the applicants to the Club and the Club representatives themselves.

Reporting procedures

The Club recognises that all of its representatives have a role to play in safeguarding vulnerable people and children. All complaints, allegations or suspicions will be taken seriously, and a record kept of safeguarding incidents.

Any complaint, allegation or suspicion will be dealt with promptly by the trustees.

The Club will also consider the need to report any incidents to the relevant authorities and will act accordingly.

Monitoring and review of policy

This policy was approved in March 2023.

Any changes to this policy should also be reflected in the Terms and Conditions.

Contact and complaints

If you have any queries about this Safeguarding Policy or if you wish to exercise any of your rights under applicable law, you may contact the club at dalryburnsclub@gmail.com.