Bridlington Community Shed

A place to Make, Share, Belong

Safeguarding Policy: Adults at Risk

Bridlington Community Shed's recognises that by providing a Community Shed for the local community, it has a duty of care to protect its members from harm.

Bridlington Community Shed's Board of Trustees sets out the following values in safeguarding its members:

- All Shedders have the right to participate in the activities of the Shed, free from of abuse or neglect or fear of abuse or neglect
- All Shedders have the right to have their views, wishes, feelings and beliefs respected and taken into account
- All Shedders have the right to be provided with a safe environment with adequate health and safety procedures in place
- All Shedders have the right not to be discriminated against for their age, gender, sexuality, race or other personal characteristic
- All Shedders have the right to have any allegation they make about abuse or neglect taken seriously and acted on immediately

Bridlington Community Shed's Safeguarding Contacts

If you need to report a safeguarding issue as detailed in this policy or need further information.

Contact: John Bennett
Mobile 07766 031771
Email: safebcs@gmail.com

What is Safeguarding?

Safeguarding means protecting a person's right to a safe environment, free from abuse or neglect. It is about people and organisations working together to prevent and stop both the risks and experiences of abuse and neglect, whilst ensuring that an adult's wellbeing is promoted.

Who is an Adult at Risk?

The **Care Act 2014** recognises an adult at risk (historically referred to as a vulnerable adult) as an adult whom:

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

A Member of Bridlington Community Shed will only be considered an adult at risk if he or she fits with these criteria.

What is Abuse?

A person can be abused verbally, physically, psychologically or financially. It can happen as a result of an action, or as a result of a failure to act. It can happen when an adult at risk is wrongly influenced to carry out a financial or sexual exchange that they do not consent to, or aren't able to consent to.

Abuse can lead to a violation of a person's human and civil rights and can occur in any relationship or environment. It may result in a person being hurt or exploited. Sometimes the abuse is illegal and the adult at risk is protected by the law, as is everybody else.

Abuse is a wrongful use of power and can come in any of the following forms:

Psychological e.g. emotional abuse or depriving a person of contact with another.
Sexual e.g. inappropriate looking or touching, taking sexual photos or rape.
Physical e.g. hitting, restraining or pushing.
Financial e.g. theft or putting pressure on somebody about their financial arrangements.
Modern Slavery e.g. forced labour.
Discriminatory e.g. harassment or insults because of a person's race, gender or identity.
Neglect e.g. ignoring emotional or physical needs.
Self-neglect e.g. a person not caring for their own personal hygiene or health.

Some instances of abuse may not fit neatly into these categories. If you have reason to believe somebody is being abused or neglected you must act in line with this policy.

An abuser can be anybody - a person abusing an adult at risk might be at risk themselves. This is still abuse and should be dealt with in line with this policy.

Safeguarding Adults at Risk at Bridlington Community Shed

The Trustees recognise that from time to time, adults at risk may become members of the Shed. The following section details the roles and responsibilities of the Shed in safeguarding adults at risk.

Prevent:

- Bridlington Community Shed's risk assessment will be regularly reviewed and will include an assessment of safeguarding for adults at risk, including mitigation strategies

- All Shed Trustees will be safely-recruited with references. Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks will be carried out.

- All new Shed members will be given an induction that covers health and safety and safeguarding procedures including reading and understanding this policy

- Health and safety procedures will be regularly reviewed by the Trustees to ensure minimal risk to all members, including adults at risk.

- Any adult at risk wanting to join the Shed will be met with by the Safeguarding Contact to understand their needs for any additional provision. The Trustees will decide whether the prospective member needs professional support to safeguard them and other members of the Shed from harm or allegation of harm. If this is the decision, they will not be able to attend without professional support.

- The Trustees will ensure that no adult at risk is left alone with any Shed member at any time, unless they have up-to-date DBS check and safeguarding training

- If at any time the Trustees introduce sessions for adults at risk where no professional support worker supervising, it will seek advice from the Local Authority Adult Social Care department and arrange safeguarding training and DBS checks for Shed member leading the sessions.

- The Trustees will always ensure recorded information is stored safely and securely and is accessible only to those who need the information in the protection of adults at risk.

Report:

If you witness an incident of abuse or have a concern about an adult at risk, particularly if they disclose abuse to you, you should:

- Take **ALL** suspicions or allegations of abuse seriously, and listen carefully to anything you are told.
- Never try to resolve a serious allegation of abuse or neglect yourself. It could make things worse.
- Do not promise "not to say anything" to the Safeguarding Contact. Explain that you will have to pass this on to get help to end the abuse.
- If you think they have already been harmed or are in imminent danger ring 999 and tell the Police.
- Report quickly to the Safeguarding Contact (John Bennett, 077766 031771, safebcs@gmail.com) giving all the detail you know. Try to recall the exact words that you heard.
- The Safeguarding Contact will complete an Incident Reporting Form with you and ask you to sign it.

Once the Safeguarding Incident Reporting Form has been completed and signed the Safeguarding Contact will:

- Seek help from the East Riding of Yorkshire Council Adult Social Care- (01482 393939) or call the police if they think a crime is being committed.

This may result in action being taken by East Riding of Yorkshire Council Adult Social Care or it may be recorded for further monitoring.
If someone has brought a concern to the Safeguarding Contact's attention that does not appear to be a safeguarding matter, they will discuss it with the Trustees to ensure that all efforts are made to understand that concern and resolve the issues causing it.

Record:

The Safeguarding Contact who receives a report, or witnesses any incident of abuse will:

- Listen carefully, giving full attention and never directly questioning the adult at risk unless the report comes from them in person.
- Allow the reporter to provide a spontaneous account, never interrupting to ask something when the person is recalling events.
- Make an accurate record of the information, taking care not to miss any details, however insignificant they may feel at the time.
- Use the reporters own words where possible.
- Explain that they cannot promise to not share this information with other appropriately selected people – never offering false confidentiality.
- Reassure the reporter that they did the right thing by raising the issue.
- Explain what they will do next and that they will need to get help to keep the adult at risk safe.
- Never ask the reporter to repeat their account to anybody.

Choosing an appropriate level of safeguarding

Bridlington Community Shed's Trustees recognises that its Shed members are not care practitioners and that an adult at risk wanting to be a member of the Shed may need professional support to do so. Therefore it will ensure that appropriate steps are taken to ensure that prospective members are met with and an assessment is made as to whether the Shed is a safe place for them, or whether they may need professional support, at an appropriate person to person ratio to be able to safely attend the Shed.

Where every effort will be made for the Shed to be accessible to everyone, it is recognised that safety is the most important factor, and the nature of the Shed activities may mean that not everybody will be able to attend.

East Riding of Yorkshire Council Adult Social Care
Monday to Friday, 7.30am-5pm 01482 393939
For emergencies outside of hours 01377 241273

Agreed: 28/07/2026 Review: 28/07/2028

This document will be reviewed bi-annually to ensure if reflects best practice and the needs of the Shed.