

Lundy Field Society Safeguarding Policy

1. Introduction

- The Lundy Field Society (LFS) is an independent, voluntary group which has been studying all aspects of Lundy's archaeology, history and natural history since 1946. The LFS is a registered charity run by a management committee drawn from the membership.
- The LFS does not currently run its own activities specifically aimed at children and/or adults at risk but recognises that there may be circumstances where unplanned contact with individuals from these groups may take place.

2. Safeguarding Principles

The LFS recognises the need to ensure all members are protected from harm or abuse, creating a safe and welcoming environment where everyone is respected and valued.

The LFS believes that:

- Nobody who is involved in our work should experience abuse, harm, neglect or exploitation.
- We all have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all of our members and beneficiaries, to keep them safe and to work in a way that protects them.
- We all have a collective responsibility for creating a culture in which people not only feel safe, but also able to speak up, if they have any concerns.

3. Definitions:

A **child** is any person under the age of 18.

Safeguarding children is defined as:

- protecting children from maltreatment
- preventing impairment of children's health or development
- ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

Safeguarding adults at risk means protecting their right to live in safety and free from abuse and neglect.

Adults at risk are anyone aged 18 or over who:

- has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs) and
- is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect and
- as a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of, abuse or neglect

Abuse is an act that harms, hurts or exploits another individual. It can be intentional or unintentional. It can take many forms including physical, psychological, sexual, financial or neglect. It may occur online as well as in person.

3. DBS and other checks

- DBS checks are required for individuals undertaking any Regulated Activity with children and/or adults at risk, based on the definitions provided by the Disclosure and Barring service. It is unlikely that the activities of the LFS will require DBS checks to be carried out but should the nature of a particular activity require a DBS check for an LFS member then the LFS Chair will inform the LFS Safeguarding Lead, and an appropriate DBS check will be undertaken.
- In line with current best practice identity checks will be made for any volunteer who will be undertaking regular activities with children and/or adults at risk, whether these are of a regulated nature or otherwise. References will also be requested to assess the suitability of the volunteer to work with these groups.

5 Links with other providers

- The LFS may provide volunteers to partner organisations to contribute to their activities for children and/or adults at risk, e.g. St Helen's PCC, The Lundy Company, The Landmark Trust. In these circumstances our members will follow the Safeguarding policies & procedures of these partners.
- The LFS will take due diligence when awarding grants, checking suitable safeguarding policies are in place.

6. Reporting of concerns & disclosures

- We all have a responsibility to make sure that safeguarding concerns about children and adults at risk are passed to an appropriate agency through a local Multiagency safeguarding hub (MASH) referral or safeguarding board without delay. Immediate concerns about a person's safety should be reported to the police.
- Concerns should be documented as soon as possible after they are raised, describing clearly what has occurred. Verbal information should be recorded as far as possible using the informant's own language.
- The LFS Safeguarding Lead should be informed of any concerns. Their contact details are available through the LFS website. Where the LFS member is acting as a volunteer for a partner organisation the relevant person from that organisation should be informed.
- If anyone from the LFS is in any doubt about what to do, they should consult the appointed Safeguarding Lead for the LFS Committee.
- If concerns relate to the LFS Safeguarding Lead then they must be raised with the LFS Chair.
- Serious concerns should also be shared with Charity commission.
- A review of what has occurred should be undertaken by the LFS committee, once advised by statutory safeguarding bodies that it is possible to do so, to understand how to prevent a similar event occurring in the future.
- Safeguarding paperwork will be stored securely and confidentially.

7. Review Procedure

This policy should be reviewed every year, when there is a change in relevant legislation or after a significant event, whichever is the soonest.

V2 - Policy adopted by the LFS committee 8th September 2024 on behalf of the LFS membership.

- Reviewed by Alice Simon, no changes required. Agreed by LFS committee on 5th October 2025.

Review date: October 2026.