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Author	Alison Evans
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**Why we have a safeguarding policy?**

Safeguarding from harm is a core duty of iChope Events CIC. The nature of iChope Events CIC projects and events mean that staff, volunteers, contractors and other stakeholders will have contact with children and vulnerable adults. This policy provides guidance for anyone involved in delivering iChope Events CIC ISvid project ensure the principles of safeguarding are embedded in all aspects of ISvid delivery.

Safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone and iChope Events CIC promotes a person-centred approach that there is a clear understanding of the needs and views of children and vulnerable adults should be encouraged.

**The Policy Statement**

iChope Events CIC is committed to the aims of child safeguarding which by definition of this policy are to:

- protect children from maltreatment
- prevent the impairment of children’s health or development
- take action to enable children to have the best outcomes
- raise public awareness so that communities as a whole, alongside professionals, play their part in preventing, identifying and responding to abuse and neglect
- address what has caused the abuse or neglect
- provide information and support in accessible ways to help staff, volunteers, contractors and stakeholders understand the different types of abuse, how to stay safe and what to do to raise a concern about the safety or well-being of a child

iChope Events CIC is committed to the aims of adult safeguarding which are to:

- prevent harm and reduce the risk of abuse or neglect to vulnerable adults
- stop abuse or neglect wherever possible
- safeguard adults in a way that supports them in making choices and having control how they want to participate in iChope Events CIC projects, events and activities
- promote an approach that concentrates on improving life for the adults concerned
- raise public awareness so that communities as a whole, alongside professionals, play their part in preventing, identifying and responding to abuse and neglect
- address what has caused the abuse or neglect
- provide information and support in accessible ways to help staff, volunteers, contractors and stakeholders understand the different types of abuse, how to stay safe and what to do to raise a concern about the safety or well-being of an adult

To ensure that iChope Events CIC achieves delivery of such support, we will:

- ensure the Board, staff, volunteers, contractors and stakeholders have access to, and are familiar with iChope Events CIC safeguarding policy, safeguarding procedures and their responsibilities
- ensure concerns or allegations of abuse are always taken seriously
- ensure the Board, staff, volunteers, contractors and stakeholders receive training in relation to safeguarding children at a level relevant to their role
- ensure the Board, staff, volunteers, contractors and stakeholders have access to information about how to report concerns or allegations of abuse
- ensure the Mental Capacity legislation is used to inform any decision making on behalf of adults at risk who are unable to make particular decisions for themselves
- ensure the Board, staff, volunteers, contractors and stakeholders have access to information about how to report concerns or allegations of abuse
- help assist in enabling access to mainstream community resources such as accessible leisure facilities, safe town centres and community groups that can reduce the social and physical isolation which in itself may increase the risk of abuse or neglect

## What is adult safeguarding?

The Care and Support statutory guidance Section 14.7 p231 defines adult safeguarding as:

“..protecting an adult’s right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. It is about people and organisations working together to prevent and stop both the risks and experience of abuse or neglect, while at the same time making sure that the adult’s wellbeing is promoted including, where appropriate, having regard to their views, wishes, feelings and beliefs in deciding on any action. This must recognise that adults sometimes have complex interpersonal relationships and may be ambivalent, unclear or unrealistic about their personal circumstances.”

## Principles of Adult Safeguarding

The [Social Care Institute for Excellence](#) recognises six principles of adult safeguarding:

### 1. Empowerment

People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent.

### 2. Protection

Support and representation for those in greatest need.

### 3. Prevention

It is better to take action before harm occurs.

### 4. Proportionality

The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.

### 5. Partnership

Local solutions through services working with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse.

### 6. Accountability

Accountability and transparency in safeguarding.

## What adults are at risk?

The safeguarding duties apply to an adult (defined as being 18 years of age or older) who:

- has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs) and;
- is experiencing, or 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.

Some are at higher risk of abuse and/or neglect including adults with physical, sensory and mental impairments and learning disabilities, whether present from birth or due to advancing age, illness or injury. Also included are people with a mental illness, dementia or other memory impairments, and people who misuse substances or alcohol (where this has led to impaired physical, cognitive or mental health).

## What is abuse?

Abuse can be defined to use something for the wrong purpose in a way that is harmful or morally wrong, or treat or speak to someone cruelly or violently. However, abuse can be much more as demonstrated in the definitions below.

## What is child abuse?

There are currently ten recognised types of abuse:

### 1. Abuse

A form of maltreatment of a child. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm or by failing to act to prevent harm. Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional or community setting by those known to them or, more rarely, by others (e.g. via the internet). They may be abused by an adult or adults or another child or children.

### 2. Physical abuse

Physical abuse may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating, or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces, illness in a child.

### 3. Emotional abuse

Emotional abuse is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent effects on the child's emotional development. This includes controlling behaviour which is a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour. Coercive behaviour is an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim.

### 4. Sexual abuse

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (e.g. rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing. However, where a child is under the age of 13 it is classified as rape under sexual offences act 2003.

### 5. Neglect

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development.

### 6. Controlling behaviour

This is a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.

### 7. Coercive behaviour

An act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim.

### 8. Radicalisation

Vulnerable individuals are groomed directly or through social media to be persuaded of the legitimacy of a radical's cause to inspire new recruits and have extreme views embedded.

Radicalisation is a form of harm. The process may involve:

- being groomed online or in person
- exploitation, including sexual exploitation
- psychological manipulation
- exposure to violent material and other inappropriate information
- the risk of physical harm or death through extremist acts

It should be recognised that children may be vulnerable to abuse or exploitation from outside of the family units. These threats external to the family could occur at school or other education establishments, from peer groups, or from the wider actual or virtual community.

Children could also be vulnerable to threats including:

- Exploitation by criminal gangs and organised crime groups
- Trafficking
- Online abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Extremism which could lead to radicalisation

## What is adult abuse?

### 1. Physical abuse

Includes hitting, slapping, pushing, kicking, misuse of medication, unlawful or inappropriate restraint, or inappropriate physical sanctions.

### 2. Domestic abuse / violence

Includes psychological, physical, sexual, financial, emotional abuse and so called 'honour' based violence. Further information: [Domestic Abuse Act 2021](#), [Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence \(Wales\) Act 2015](#)

### 3. Sexual abuse

Includes rape, indecent exposure, sexual harassment, inappropriate looking or touching, sexual teasing or innuendo, sexual photography, subjection to pornography or witnessing sexual acts, indecent exposure and sexual assault or sexual acts to which the adult has not consented or was pressured into consenting. Further information: [Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence \(Wales\) Act 2015](#)

### 4. Psychological abuse

Includes emotional abuse, threats of harm or abandonment, deprivation of contact, humiliation, blaming, controlling, intimidation, coercion, harassment, verbal abuse, cyber bullying, isolation or unreasonable and unjustified withdrawal of services or supportive networks.

### 5. Financial or material abuse

Includes theft, fraud, internet scamming, coercion in relation to an adult's financial affairs or arrangements, including in connection with wills, property, inheritance or financial transactions, or the misuse or misappropriation of property, possessions or benefits.

### 6. Modern slavery

Includes slavery, human trafficking, forced labour and domestic servitude. Traffickers and slave masters use whatever means they have at their disposal to coerce, deceive and force individuals into a life of abuse, servitude and inhumane treatment. Further information: [Modern Slavery Act 2015](#)

### 7. Discriminatory abuse

Includes forms of harassment, slurs or similar treatment; because of race, gender and gender identity, age, disability, sexual orientation or religion.

### 8. Organisational abuse

Includes neglect and poor care practice within an institution or specific care setting such as a hospital or care home, for example, or in relation to care provided in one's own home. This may range from one off incidents to on-going ill-treatment. It can be through neglect or poor

professional practice as a result of the structure, policies, processes and practices within an organisation.

#### **9. Neglect and acts of omission**

Includes ignoring medical, emotional or physical care needs, failure to provide access to appropriate health, care and support or educational services, the withholding of the necessities of life, such as medication, adequate nutrition and heating.

#### **10. Self-neglect**

Covers a wide range of behaviour neglecting to care for one's personal hygiene, health or surroundings and includes behaviour such as hoarding.

Adults may also be exposed to radicalisation.

### **Duty to refer and co-operate**

Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 places a duty on key persons and bodies to make arrangements in any local area to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and to improve the outcomes for children.

All professionals in agencies with contact with children and members of their families must make a referral to a Local Authority children's social care if there are signs that a child or an unborn baby:

- Has suffered significant harm through abuse or neglect
- Is likely to suffer significant harm in the future

In Wales there is no statutory definition of significant harm. "Therefore, practitioners must:

'Where the question of whether harm is significant turns on the child's health or development, the child's health or development is to be compared with that which could reasonably be expected of a similar child' (Section 31(9), Children Act 1989.)

Harm is defined as:

- ill treatment this includes sexual abuse, neglect, emotional abuse and psychological abuse
- the impairment of physical or mental health (including that suffered from seeing or hearing another person suffer ill treatment)
- the impairment of physical intellectual, emotional, social or behavioural development (including that suffered from seeing or hearing another person suffer ill treatment)"

[Section 3.1 Wales Safeguarding Procedures](#)

### **Local Authorities**

(England and) Wales

Under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989, the Local Authority has a general duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children within their area who are in need.

The Local Authority has a duty to investigate when there is reasonable cause to suspect that a child is suffering, or is likely to suffer, significant harm. This is Section 47 of the Children Act 1989.

The Children Act also states that the Local Authority must notify the police whenever a case involves a criminal offence.

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iChpoe Events CIC

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## Roles and Responsibilities of iChope Events CIC

### The Board

The Board take all reasonable steps possible to protect any stakeholder connected with iChope Events CIC projects, activities and events from harm. The Board ensure that all decisions made are underpinned by safeguarding. It is the Board that approve the organisation's Safeguarding policies and procedures. Alison Evans is the Board Safeguarding Lead (BSL):

- acts as a resource for staff and volunteers on safeguarding matters
- ensures safeguarding policies and procedures are followed

All safeguarding concerns will be reviewed by the Board as they occur.

### Recruitment

iChope Events CIC recruit staff and volunteers using a robust process, see the Current Recruitment Policy.

Recruitment uses the following methods where applicable. Applicants will:

1. complete an application form or successfully complete screening questions
2. attend an interview to assess their suitability
3. be asked to provide two references (where applicable)
4. be a member of a professional body (where applicable)
5. be required to undertake DBS checks appropriate to the role

### Contracting individuals and organisations

#### Individuals

##### Freelance ice coaches

iChope Events CIC have engaged freelance ice coaches who are registered with the sport's governing body, British Ice Skating (BIS). This membership ensures coaches hold:

- current safeguarding training to the required standard for individual and group instruction
- current DBS checks at the level required for their role
- current public liability insurance

Freelance coaches will have a copy of this safeguarding policy and access to safeguarding training as advised by iChope Events CIC.

#### Independent researcher

ISvid has engaged an independent qualitative researcher who will have direct contact with skaters. This is to evaluate service delivery and to assess whether ISvid achieved its aims.

The researcher will be DBS checked and has prior safeguarding training. The researcher will also have a copy of this safeguarding policy and access to safeguarding training as advised by iChope Events CIC.

## Supporting Organisations

iChope Events CIC are working with other organisations in the ISvid Project Advisory Group (PAG). These organisations have Safeguarding at their core. The organisations include:

- RNIB Cymru (Safeguarding policy and resources can be found at: <https://www.rnib.org.uk/safeguarding-policy/#:~:text=We%20take%20safeguarding%20seriously.,a%20safeguarding%20concern%20or%20complaint>)
- Sense (Safeguarding policy and resources can be found at: <https://www.sense.org.uk/information-and-advice/safeguarding-and-keeping-safe/>)
- Disability Sport Wales (Safeguarding policy and resources can be found at: <https://www.disabilitysportwales.com/en-gb/welfare-and-safeguarding>)
- Vindico Arena

iChope Events CIC have engaged the Vindico Arena who operate the only permanent ice rink in South Wales.

iChope Events CIC believe that the Vindico Arena share their regard for inclusion and safety including the safeguarding and protection from harm of children and vulnerable adults.

The Vindico Arena will receive a copy of this Safeguarding Policy.

## Training

iChope Events CIC staff and volunteers are required to receive an introduction providing an overview of the organisation including its purpose, services and structure. Included within the training is a section on the responsibility of all to uphold safeguarding, how to spot safeguarding issues and how to report a safeguarding issue within the organisation. The training has been compiled by the iChope Events CIC Board Safeguarding Lead and approved by the Board of iChope Events CIC.

All volunteers and iChope Events CIC staff (including the Board) will have prior learning recognised meeting the conditions set out below. Alternatively, staff and volunteers will be directed to suitable training courses which are recognised and will be required to undertake such training before their involvement in any activities involving children or vulnerable adults can occur.

Anyone involved within iChope Events CIC activities, projects or event should refresh their safeguarding training bi-annually. Evidence of training is required to be held by iChope Events CIC.

Prior learning will be considered satisfactory if the individual has received the training:

1. from a Governing body or other organisation where training is necessary as part of their role, including provided as part of a university role as staff or student or the via the National Health Service (NHS), and
2. is recent, not beyond two years, and
3. contains relevant modules, or
4. is a nationally recognised and CPD accredited safeguarding course at the appropriate level

## Roles and Responsibilities of the Vindico Arena

The Vindico Arena are renting space to iChope Events CIC for delivery of the ISvid project. iChope Events CIC engage organisations who have robust safeguarding policies and procedures and who are fully aware of the expectations of iChope Events CIC safeguarding policies and procedures.

The Safeguarding Lead at the Vindico Arena for the ISvid project is:

John Donovan

Tel: 07929984246

Email: [jd@vindicoarena.com](mailto:jd@vindicoarena.com)

ISvid is aimed at who society deems as vulnerable children and vulnerable adults who suffer visual impairment, blindness or deaf blindness.

ISvid is also providing a social and leisure opportunity for a nominated friend, relative or care giver.

In the event of any safeguarding concern raised during or arising after an ISvid session involving coaches or volunteers, iChope Events CIC will be the lead organisation in assessing and resolving the concern. If the safeguarding concern arises during or after the ISvid session and involves paid staff of the Vindico Arena or their subcontractors then it will be the responsibility of the Vindico Arena to lead the safeguarding assessment with support from iChope Events CIC.

The Vindico Arena utilise 24/7 CCTV coverage of internal and external areas of the arena. iChope Events CIC has informed ISvid skaters of this information via the project webpage which can be found at: <https://www.ichopeevents.co.uk/is-vid-accessible>

And via the ISvid information for skaters webpage which can be found at:

<https://www.ichopeevents.co.uk/practical-is-vid-accessible>

The webpages are accessible to those with visual impairments and to those who are blind.

The Vindico Arena are the data controllers and data processors of the CCTV systems and resulting data. Any CCTV data captured, processed, stored or destroyed by the Vindico Arena cannot be accessed by iChope Events CIC as an organisation. This does not affect any right to this information as part of a Subject Access Request (SAR) by any individual as per UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act (2018).

If any safeguarding concern is raised and may be captured on the CCTV system used at the Vindico Arena, the system must comply with Article 10 of GDPR UK.

The Data Protection Lead for the Vindico Arena for the ISvid project is:

John Donovan

Tel: 07929984246

Email: [jd@vindicoarena.com](mailto:jd@vindicoarena.com)

## Roles and Responsibilities of Freelance Coaches

The freelance coaches engaged by iChope Events CIC will have current safeguarding training as a result of their membership to the governing body for figure skating, British Ice Skating (BIS). This is a necessity as coaches will work directly with children and adults experiencing impairments and who may have complex disabilities and complex needs.

iChope Events CIC will provide this safeguarding policy to all ice coaches and will ensure the coaches are trained to:

1. identify potential signs of concern
2. how to listen and respond to a concern
3. how to raise a concern

Coaches will be responsible for raising concerns if witnessed or if any are brought to their attention.

**If there is immediate danger of harm or risk to life then contact 999 and ask for the police.**

If the concern involves a member of paid Vindico Arena staff then the concern should be raised to the:

Safeguarding Officer at the Vindico Arena for the ISvid project is:

**John Donovan**

**Tel: 07929984246**

**Email: [jd@vindicoarena.com](mailto:jd@vindicoarena.com)**

All other safeguarding concerns should be raised to iChope Events CIC via the designated Safeguarding Lead for ISvid:

**Alison Evans**

**Tel: 07546 152819**

**Email: [alison@ichopeevents.co.uk](mailto:alison@ichopeevents.co.uk)**

Please see Appendix I Safeguarding Reporting Flowchart for further information.

Coaches will not be permitted to administer medicines but are permitted to administer first aid as necessary and within their remit of training obtained as part of their BIS membership. If the treatment requires a medical professional then immediately call 999 and ask for an ambulance.

## Roles and Responsibilities of Volunteers

Every ISvid volunteer will have a DBS check relevant to their role.

iChope Events CIC will provide this safeguarding policy to all volunteers and will ensure the volunteers are trained to:

1. identify potential signs of concern
2. how to listen and respond to a concern
3. how to raise a concern

Volunteers will be responsible for raising concerns if witnessed or if any are brought to their attention. Volunteers should raise the concern with the Lead Coach in the first instance or with the ISvid Safeguarding Lead.

**If there is immediate danger of harm or risk to life then contact 999 and ask for the police.**

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If the concern involves a member of paid Vindico Arena staff then the concern should be raised via the ISvid Lead Coach to the:

Safeguarding Officer at the Vindico Arena for the ISvid project is:

**John Donovan**

**Tel: 07929984246**

**Email: [jd@vindicoarena.com](mailto:jd@vindicoarena.com)**

All other safeguarding concerns should be raised to iChope Events CIC via the designated Safeguarding Lead for ISvid:

**Alison Evans**

**Tel: 07546 152819**

**Email: [alison@ichopeevents.co.uk](mailto:alison@ichopeevents.co.uk)**

Please see Appendix I Safeguarding Reporting Flowchart for further information.

## How to spot signs of child abuse

### General signs of abuse

Signs indicating that a child is being abused could be the same regardless of the type of abuse.

The signs include a child:

- being afraid of particular places or making excuses to avoid particular people
- knowing about or being involved in 'adult issues' which are inappropriate for their age or stage of development, for example alcohol, drugs and/or sexual behaviour
- having angry outbursts or behaving aggressively towards others
- becoming withdrawn or appearing anxious, clingy or depressed
- self-harming or having thoughts about suicide
- showing changes in eating habits or developing eating disorders
- regularly experiencing nightmares or sleep problems
- regularly wetting the bed or soiling their clothes
- running away or regularly going missing from home or care
- not receiving adequate medical attention after injuries.

These signs do not necessarily mean that a child is being abused. There may be other reasons for changes in a child's behaviour such as a bereavement or relationship problems between parents or carers.

### Child physical abuse

Children have trips, falls and accidents which could result in bumps, bruises or cuts. These generic childhood injuries usually affect bony areas of the body such as elbows, knees and shins and are not usually a cause for concern.

Injuries that are more likely to indicate physical abuse include:

#### **Bruising**

- bruises on babies who are not yet crawling or walking

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- bruises on the cheeks, ears, palms, arms and feet
- bruises on the back, buttocks, tummy, hips and backs of legs
- multiple bruises in clusters, usually on the upper arms or outer thighs
- bruising which looks like it has been caused by fingers, a hand or an object, like a belt or shoe
- large oval-shaped bite marks.

#### **Burns or scalds**

- any burns which have a clear shape of an object, for example cigarette burns
- burns to the backs of hands, feet, legs, genitals or buttocks.

Other signs of physical abuse include multiple injuries (such as bruising, fractures) inflicted at different times.

If a child is frequently injured, and if the bruises or injuries are unexplained or the explanation doesn't match the injury, this should be investigated. It is also concerning if there is a delay in seeking medical help for a child who has been injured.

#### **Child neglect**

Neglect is the most common type of child abuse. It often happens at the same time as other types of abuse.

Neglect can be difficult to identify. Isolated signs may not mean that a child is suffering neglect, but multiple and persistent signs over time could indicate a serious problem.

Some of the signs of neglect include:

- children who appear hungry - they may not have lunch money or even try to steal food
- children who appear dirty or smelly
- children whose clothes are inadequate for the weather conditions
- children who are left alone or unsupervised for long periods or at a young age
- children who have untreated injuries, health or dental problems
- children with poor language, communication or social skills for their stage of development
- children who live in an unsuitable home environment.

#### **Child sexual abuse**

There may be physical signs that a child has suffered sexual abuse.

These include:

- anal or vaginal soreness or itching
- bruising or bleeding near the genital area

- discomfort when walking or sitting down
- an unusual discharge
- sexually transmitted infections (STI)
- pregnancy.

Changes in the child's mood or behaviour may also cause concern. The child may want to avoid spending time with specific people. In particular, the child may show sexual behaviour that is inappropriate for their age.

For example:

- they could use sexual language or know things about sex that you wouldn't expect them to
- they might become sexually active or pregnant at a young age.

### Child sexual exploitation

Sexual exploitation can be very difficult to identify. Young people who are being sexually exploited may:

- go missing from home, care or education
- be involved in abusive relationships
- hang out with groups of older people
- be involved in gangs or anti-social groups
- have older boyfriends or girlfriends
- spend time at places of concern, such as hotels or known brothels
- be involved in petty crime such as shoplifting
- have access to drugs and alcohol
- have new things such as clothes and mobile phones, which they aren't able to easily explain
- have unexplained physical injuries

### Child emotional abuse

There are not usually any obvious physical signs of emotional abuse but you may spot changes in a child's actions or emotions.

Some children are naturally quiet and self-contained whilst others are more open and affectionate. Mood swings and challenging behaviour are also a normal part of growing up for teenagers and children going through puberty. You should be alert to behaviours which appear to be out of character for the individual child or are particularly unusual for their stage of development.

Babies and pre-school children who are being emotionally abused may:

- be overly-affectionate towards strangers or people they haven't known for very long

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- not appear to have a close relationship with their parent, for example when being taken to or collected from nursery
- lack confidence or become wary or anxious
- be unable to play
- be aggressive or nasty towards other children and animals.

Older children may:

- use language, act in a way or know about things that you wouldn't expect for their age
- struggle to control strong emotions or have extreme outbursts
- seem isolated from their parents
- lack social skills or have few, if any, friends
- fear making mistakes
- fear their parent being approached regarding their behaviour
- self-harm.

### Child domestic abuse

It can be difficult to tell if domestic abuse is happening, because abusers can act very differently when other people are around.

Children who witness domestic abuse may:

- become aggressive
- display anti-social behaviour
- suffer from depression or anxiety
- not do as well at school - due to difficulties at home or disruption of moving to and from refuges.

### Child bullying

It can be hard to know whether or not a child is being bullied. They might not tell anyone because they're scared the bullying will get worse. They might also think that the bullying is their fault.

Signs of bullying could include:

- belongings getting 'lost' or damaged
- physical injuries such as unexplained bruises
- being afraid to go to school, being mysteriously 'ill' each morning, or skipping school
- not doing as well at school



- asking for, or stealing, money (to give to a bully)
- being nervous, losing confidence or becoming distressed and withdrawn
- problems with eating or sleeping
- bullying others.

### **Child trafficking**

Children who have been trafficked may:

- have to do excessive housework chores
- rarely leave the house and have limited freedom of movement
- not have any documents (or have falsified documents)
- give a prepared story which is very similar to stories given by other children
- be unable or reluctant to give details of accommodation or personal details
- not be registered with a school or a GP practice
- have a history with missing links and unexplained moves
- be cared for by adults who are not their parents or carers
- not have a good quality relationship with their adult carers
- be one among a number of unrelated children found at one address
- receive unexplained or unidentified phone calls whilst in a care placement or temporary accommodation.

### **Child female genital mutilation**

A child at risk of FGM may not know what's going to happen. But they might talk about or you may become aware of:

- a long holiday abroad or going 'home' to visit family
- relative or cutter visiting from abroad
- a special occasion or ceremony to 'become a woman' or get ready for marriage
- a female relative being cut – a sister, cousin or an older female relative such as a mother or aunt
- missing school repeatedly or running away from home.

A child who has had FGM may:

- have difficulty walking, standing or sitting
- spend longer in the bathroom or toilet
- appear withdrawn, anxious or depressed

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- have unusual behaviour after an absence from school or college
- be particularly reluctant to undergo normal medical examinations
- ask for help, but may not be explicit about the problem due to embarrassment or fear.

**Regulated health and social care professionals and teachers in England and Wales must report 'known' cases of FGM in under-18s to the police (Home Office, 2016).**

## How to spot signs of adult abuse

Signs indicating that an adult is being abused could be the same regardless of the type of abuse and the signs taken may not be an indicator of abuse.

### Signs of adult physical abuse

- no explanation for injuries or inconsistency with the account of what happened
- injuries are inconsistent with the person's lifestyle
- bruising, cuts, welts, burns and/or marks on the body or loss of hair in clumps
- frequent injuries
- unexplained falls
- subdued or changed behaviour in the presence of a particular person
- signs of malnutrition
- failure to seek medical treatment or frequent changes of GP

### Signs of adult domestic violence or abuse

- low self-esteem
- feeling that the abuse is their fault when it is not
- physical evidence of violence such as bruising, cuts, broken bones
- verbal abuse and humiliation in front of others
- fear of outside intervention
- damage to home or property
- isolation – not seeing friends and family
- limited access to money

### Signs of adult sexual abuse

- bruising, particularly to the thighs, buttocks and upper arms and marks on the neck
- torn, stained or bloody underclothing
- bleeding, pain or itching in the genital area
- unusual difficulty in walking or sitting
- foreign bodies in genital or rectal openings
- infections, unexplained genital discharge, or sexually transmitted diseases
- pregnancy in a woman who is unable to consent to sexual intercourse
- the uncharacteristic use of explicit sexual language or significant changes in sexual behaviour or attitude
- incontinence not related to any medical diagnosis

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- self-harming
- poor concentration, withdrawal, sleep disturbance
- excessive fear/apprehension of, or withdrawal from, relationships
- fear of receiving help with personal care
- reluctance to be alone with a particular person

#### Signs of adult psychological or emotional abuse

- an air of silence when a particular person is present
- withdrawal or change in the psychological state of the person
- insomnia
- low self-esteem
- uncooperative and aggressive behaviour
- a change of appetite, weight loss/gain
- signs of distress: tearfulness, anger
- apparent false claims, by someone involved with the person, to attract unnecessary treatment

#### Signs of adult financial or material abuse

- missing personal possessions
- unexplained lack of money or inability to maintain lifestyle
- unexplained withdrawal of funds from accounts
- power of attorney or lasting power of attorney (LPA) being obtained after the person has ceased to have mental capacity
- failure to register an LPA after the person has ceased to have mental capacity to manage their finances, so that it appears that they are continuing to do so
- the person allocated to manage financial affairs is evasive or uncooperative
- the family or others show unusual interest in the assets of the person
- signs of financial hardship in cases where the person's financial affairs are being managed by a court appointed deputy, attorney or LPA
- recent changes in deeds or title to property
- rent arrears and eviction notices
- a lack of clear financial accounts held by a care home or service
- failure to provide receipts for shopping or other financial transactions carried out on behalf of the person
- disparity between the person's living conditions and their financial resources, e.g. insufficient food in the house
- unnecessary property repairs

#### Signs of adult modern slavery

- signs of physical or emotional abuse
- appearing to be malnourished, unkempt or withdrawn
- isolation from the community, seeming under the control or influence of others
- living in dirty, cramped or overcrowded accommodation and or living and working at the same address

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- lack of personal effects or identification documents
- always wearing the same clothes
- avoidance of eye contact, appearing frightened or hesitant to talk to strangers
- fear of law enforcers

### Signs of adult discriminatory abuse

- the person appears withdrawn and isolated
- expressions of anger, frustration, fear or anxiety
- the support on offer does not take account of the person's individual needs in terms of a protected characteristic

### Signs of adult organisational or institutional abuse

- lack of flexibility and choice for people using the service
- inadequate staffing levels
- people being hungry or dehydrated
- poor standards of care
- lack of personal clothing and possessions and communal use of personal items
- lack of adequate procedures
- poor record-keeping and missing documents
- absence of visitors
- few social, recreational and educational activities
- public discussion of personal matters
- unnecessary exposure during bathing or using the toilet
- absence of individual care plans
- lack of management overview and support

### Signs of adult neglect and acts of omission

- poor environment – dirty or unhygienic
- poor physical condition and/or personal hygiene
- pressure sores or ulcers
- malnutrition or unexplained weight loss
- untreated injuries and medical problems
- inconsistent or reluctant contact with medical and social care organisations
- accumulation of untaken medication
- uncharacteristic failure to engage in social interaction
- inappropriate or inadequate clothing

### Signs of adult self-neglect

- very poor personal hygiene
- unkempt appearance
- lack of essential food, clothing or shelter
- malnutrition and/or dehydration

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- living in squalid or unsanitary conditions
- neglecting household maintenance
- hoarding
- collecting a large number of animals in inappropriate conditions
- non-compliance with health or care services
- inability or unwillingness to take medication or treat illness or injury

### Raising a concern

Stakeholders of iChope Events CIC should raise any concerns they may have regarding a possible safeguarding issue as a result of any iChope Events CIC activities to the iChope Events CIC Board Safety Lead (BSL), Alison Evans, via the Safeguarding reporting form.

The designated iChope Events CIC Safeguarding Lead for the ISvid project is Alison Evans.

If you are concerned for a child or adult in your presence, you should contact Alison Evans via mobile: 07546 152819 or via email: [alison@ichopeevents.co.uk](mailto:alison@ichopeevents.co.uk) and ensure to mark the email CONFIDENTIAL: SAFEGUARDING

If the concern involves Alison Evans, then inform Ben Nyland, Director of iChope Events CIC. Email: [ben.nyland@ichopeevents.co.uk](mailto:ben.nyland@ichopeevents.co.uk) and ensure to mark the email CONFIDENTIAL: SAFEGUARDING

See APPENDIX I for the Safeguarding Reporting Flowchart.

Please contact iChope Events CIC or the Vindico Arena to determine and request access to any related policies associated with this policy.

## Useful Contacts

### Local Authority Safeguarding Teams

#### Blaenau Gwent Adults

Tel: 01495 315700

Email: [DutyTeamAdults@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk](mailto:DutyTeamAdults@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk)

Further information can be found at the Blaenau Gwent Council website at: <https://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/en/resident/health-wellbeing-social-care/safeguarding/safeguarding-adults-at-risk-of-abuse/>

#### Blaenau Gwent Children

Tel: 01495 315700

Email: [DutyTeam@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk](mailto:DutyTeam@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk)

After 5pm and on weekends and bank holidays please contact the South East Wales Emergency Duty Team on 0800 328 4432.

Further information can be found at the Blaenau Gwent Council website at: <https://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/en/resident/health-wellbeing-social-care/safeguarding/safeguarding-children/>

#### Bridgend Adults

Tel: 01656 642477 or after hours 01443 743665

Email: [AdultsafeguardingMASH@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:AdultsafeguardingMASH@bridgend.gov.uk)

Further information can be found at the Bridgend Council website at: <https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/residents/social-care-and-wellbeing/adult-social-care/safeguarding-adults-at-risk/>

#### Bridgend Children

Tel: 01656 642320 or after hours 01443 743665

Email: [earlyhelp@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:earlyhelp@bridgend.gov.uk)

Further information can be found at the Bridgend Council website at: <https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/residents/social-care-and-wellbeing/children-s-social-care/child-protection/>

#### Caerphilly Adults

Tel: 0808 100 2500

Email: [IAAAdults@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:IAAAdults@caerphilly.gov.uk)

To report via the Caerphilly Council website at: <https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/contact-us/general-enquiries/adult-services.aspx>

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iChpoe Events CIC

Registered in Wales. Company number 12001790

## Caerphilly Children

Tel: 0808 100 1727

To report via the Caerphilly Council website at: <https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/contact-us/general-enquiries/children-s-services.aspx>

## Cardiff Adults

Tel: 029 2233 0888

Email: [cardiffandvalersb@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:cardiffandvalersb@cardiff.gov.uk)

## Cardiff Children

Tel: 029 2053 6490

Out of hours or in an emergency tel: 029 2078 8570

Further information can be found on the Cardiff Council website at:

<https://www.cardiff.gov.uk/ENG/resident/Social-Services-and-Wellbeing/safeguarding/Pages/default.aspx>

## Merthyr Tydfil Adults

Tel: 01685 725000 or the out of hours or emergency team 01443 743665

Further information can be found at Merthyr Tydfil Council website at:

<https://www.merthyr.gov.uk/resident/social-services-and-well-being/adult-social-care/adults-at-risk-of-abuse-or-neglect/>

## Merthyr Tydfil Children

Tel: 01685 725000 or the out of hours or emergency team 014434 734665

Further information can be found at Merthyr Tydfil Council website at:

<https://www.merthyr.gov.uk/resident/social-services-and-well-being/childrens-services/how-to-report-a-childyoung-person-you-believe-is-at-risk-ofexperiencing-abuse-and-neglect/>

## Neath Port Talbot Adults and Children

Tel: (01639) 686802 our out of hours or emergency (01639) 895455

Email: [spoc@npt.gov.uk](mailto:spoc@npt.gov.uk)

Further information can be found at the Neath Port Talbot Council website at: <https://beta.npt.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/safeguarding-adults-and-children/>

## Newport Adults

Tel: 01633 656656 or out of hours freephone 0800 328 4432

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iChpoe Events CIC

Registered in Wales. Company number 12001790

Email: [firstcontact.adults@newport.gov.uk](mailto:firstcontact.adults@newport.gov.uk) or [pova.team@newport.gov.uk](mailto:pova.team@newport.gov.uk)

### Newport Children

Tel: (01633) 656656 or the emergency contact team on 0800 328 4432.

Further Information can be found at the Newport Council website at: <https://www.newport.gov.uk/en/Care-Support/Safeguarding-and-abuse/Safeguarding-and-abuse.aspx>

### Rhondda Cynon Taf Adults

Tel: 01443 425003 or in case of out of hours or emergency [tel:01443 743665](tel:01443743665) / 01443 657225

Further information can be found at the Rhondda Cynon Taf Council website at: <https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/Resident/AdultsandOlderPeople/Stayingsafe/StayingSafe.aspx>

### Rhondda Cynon Taf Children

Tel: 01443 425006 or in case of out of hours or emergency tel: 01443 743665

Email: [IAATeam@rctcbc.gov.uk](mailto:IAATeam@rctcbc.gov.uk)

Further information can be found at the Rhondda Cynon Taf Council website at: <https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/Resident/ChildrenandFamilies/Reportingaconcernaboutachild/ReportaChildProtectionIssue.aspx>

### Swansea Adults

Tel: 01792 636854

Email: [AdultSafeguardingTeam@swansea.gov.uk](mailto:AdultSafeguardingTeam@swansea.gov.uk)

Further information can be found at the Swansea Council website at: <https://www.swansea.gov.uk/safeguardingadults>

### Swansea Children

Tel: 01792 635700

Email: [singlepointofcontact@swansea.gov.uk](mailto:singlepointofcontact@swansea.gov.uk)

Further information can be found at the Swansea Council website at: <https://www.swansea.gov.uk/safeguardingchildren>

### Torfaen Adults

Tel: 01495 762200

Email: [socialcarecalltorfaen@torfaen.gov.uk](mailto:socialcarecalltorfaen@torfaen.gov.uk)

### Torfaen Children

Tel: 01495 762200 or out of office hours or emergencies 0800 328 4432

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Email: [social.services@torfaen.gov.uk](mailto:social.services@torfaen.gov.uk)

Further information can be found at the Torfaen Council website at:

<https://www.torfaen.gov.uk/en/HealthSocialCare/Keeping-Children-and-Adults-Safe/Keeping-Children-and-Adults-Safe.aspx>

## Regional Safeguarding Boards

Wales Safeguarding Procedures: <https://www.safeguarding.wales/en/>

Gwent Safeguarding Board: <https://www.gwentsafeguarding.org.uk/>

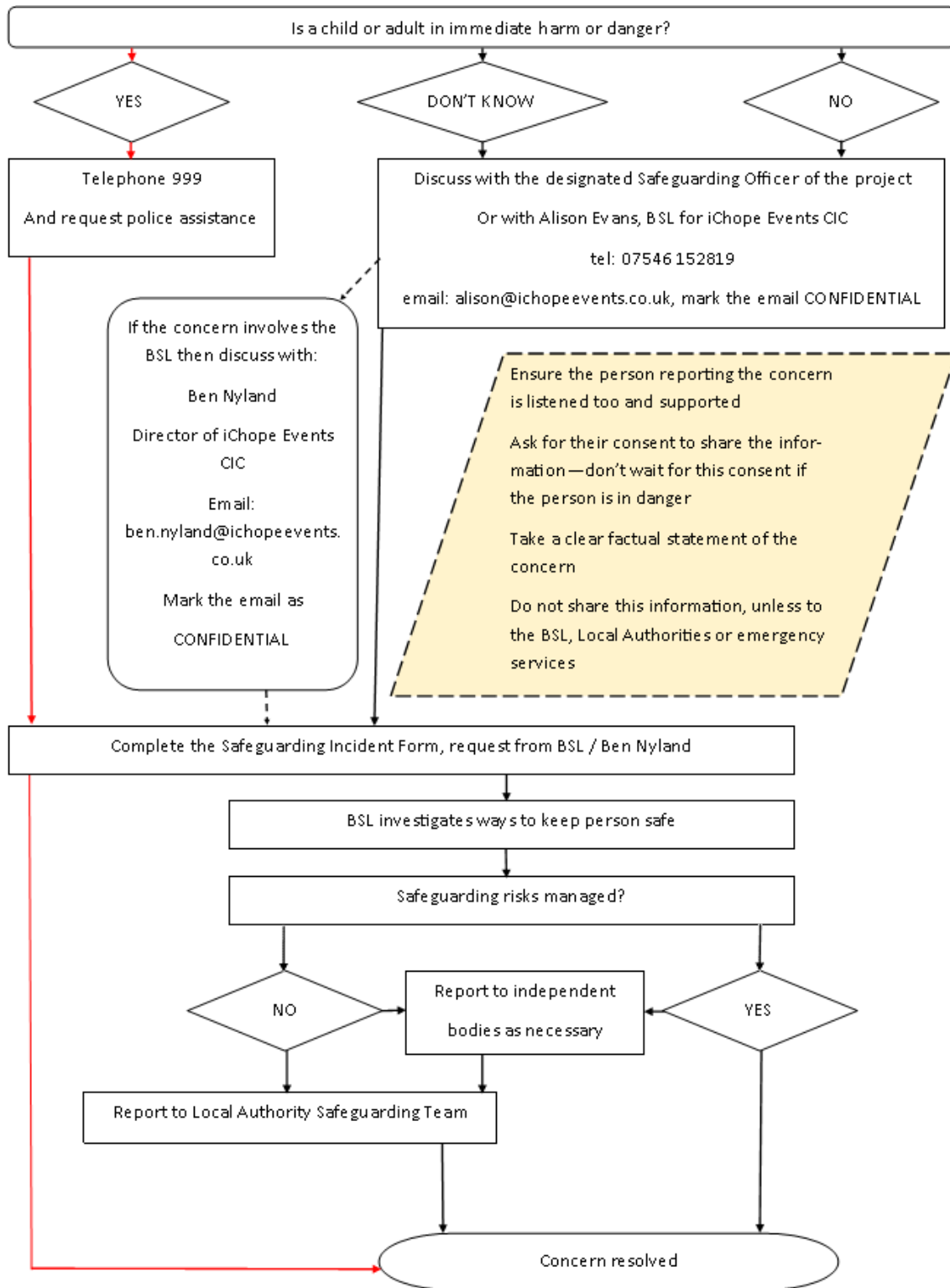
Rhondda-Cynon-Taf Merthyr Tydfil and Bridgend Safeguarding Board:  
<https://www.cwmtafmorgannwgsafeguardingboard.co.uk/En/Home.aspx>

Cardiff Safeguarding Board: <https://www.cardiffandvalersb.co.uk/>

## APPENDIX I

### SAFEGUARDING REPORTING FLOWCHART

Please note – if safeguarding concerns a member of the Vindico Arena team, then the investigation will be led by the Vindico Arena.



REFERENCES:

Social Care Institute for Excellence Safeguarding pages available from:

<https://www.scie.org.uk/safeguarding/>

NSPCC Safeguarding pages available from: <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/>

Care & Support Statutory Guidance issued under the Care Act (2014) by the Department of Health, UK Government, Crown Copyright October 2014 available from:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/506202/23902777\\_Care\\_Act\\_Book.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/506202/23902777_Care_Act_Book.pdf)

Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014, Crown Copyright, available from:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2014/4/contents>

Domestic Abuse Act 2021, Crown Copyright, available from:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2021/17/contents/enacted>

Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015, Crown Copyright, available from:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2015/3/contents/enacted>

Modern Slavery Act 2015, Crown Copyright, available from:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2015/30/contents/enacted>

Children Act 1989, Crown Copyright, available from:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1989/41/contents>

Safeguarding Wales available from: <https://safeguarding.wales/en/>