

u3a

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Safeguarding Policy

This policy is to enable the committee to address issues where there are safeguarding concerns. Safeguarding includes incidents between members, concerns regarding abuse or neglect that a u3a member may be experiencing outside of the u3a, or health related issues or previous or pending criminal convictions.

If the committee becomes aware of a safeguarding concern steps will be taken, as needed, to ensure the safety of adults at risk as a first priority. These steps will be discussed and agreed by the committee and no committee member will act in isolation when dealing with a safeguarding issue.

The member at risk wishes need to be respected as to referring any concerns to the local authority as a safeguarding enquiry under section 42 of the Care act 2014. This may be overruled if in the best interest of the u3a movement.

- The committee will gather as much information as possible to determine the level of risk
- A risk assessment will be developed and recorded as soon as possible
- If it is deemed to be high risk immediate action needs to be taken.
- Relevant local authorities and the u3a Trust head office contacted for advice.
- Consideration needs to be given to individual members risk to other members and reputational risk to the individual u3a and the u3a movement as a whole.

When the risk is not high, support and advice can be accessed from the u3a Trust. The Trust head office should be contacted before excluding a member from the u3a on the basis of a safeguarding risk assessment.

The committee will decide on appropriate action . This could include excluding members from certain groups or attending groups in people's homes or from a group run by a certain leader.

All actions taken must be recorded. Records will remain confidential unless it is necessary to share the record with a relevant statutory body.

This policy was adopted on

Signed Print Name