

# **Dacorum Community Choir Vulnerable Adults Protection Policy**

Dacorum Community Choir is committed to ensuring that vulnerable people who use our services are not abused and that working practices minimise the risk of such abuse. Staff & Trustees of Dacorum Community Choir have a duty to identify abuse and report it.

## **Definition**

Vulnerable adults are people who are over 18 years of age and are getting or may need help and services to live in the community. Vulnerable adults may be unable to take care of themselves and unable to protect themselves from harm or exploitation by other people.

## **Abuse can include:**

- physical,
- financial,
- material,
- sexual,
- psychological,
- discriminatory,
- emotional abuse
- neglect.

Abuse can take place in any setting, public or private, and can be perpetrated by anyone.

## **Rights & Responsibilities**

### **Responsibilities of Dacorum Community Choir Trustee Board**

- To ensure volunteers are aware of vulnerable adult's need for protection
- To notify the appropriate agencies if abuse is identified or suspected
- To support and where possible secure the safety of individuals and ensure that all referrals to services have full information in relation to identified risk and vulnerability
- To Criminal Records Board (CRB) check volunteers that have access to or work with Vulnerable Adults

### **Responsibilities of Dacorum Community Choir Staff & Volunteers:**

- To be familiar with the vulnerable adult protection policy
- To take appropriate action in line with the policy of Dacorum Community Choir
- To declare any existing or subsequent convictions.

## **Support for those who report abuse**

All those making a complaint or allegation or expressing concern, whether they are staff or volunteers or service or carers or members of the general public should be reassured that:

- They will be taken seriously
- Their comments will usually be treated confidentially, but their concerns may be shared with the appropriate authorities if they or others are at significant risk

## **The Vulnerable Adult has the right:**

- To be made aware of this policy
- To have alleged incidents recognised and taken seriously
- To receive fair and respectful treatment throughout
- To be involved in any process as appropriate
- To receive information about the outcome

We are also committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

Chairman's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Caroline Lees \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted on: \_\_\_\_\_ 3.3.2015 \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed date: \_\_\_\_\_ 23.2.2016 \_\_\_-SD\_

20.3.17 SD \_\_\_\_\_

13.3.18 SD \_\_\_\_\_

20.5.21 CL \_\_\_\_\_