



Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Policy

Friends of Par Beach is a small, voluntary organisation whose primary objective is not focussed on working with vulnerable adults. However, as we encourage members of the General Public to participate in our activities, we have a responsibility to protect and support vulnerable individuals. This policy outlines how Friends of Par Beach ensures that such individuals are supported and protected.

According to the Care and Support Statutory Guidance (DHSC 2020), safeguarding means protecting an adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and/or neglect. The Mental Capacity Act 2005 protects people's right to make their own decisions in any situation where they are able to do so. Friends of Par Beach recognises that it is acting in a position of trust and takes seriously the welfare of all vulnerable adults who may join in its activities, aiming to ensure that it provides a supportive, safe and caring environment.

Definition

Vulnerable adults are people who are over 18 years of age who for any reason are unable to take care of themselves or protect themselves from abuse or exploitation. Adult protection concerns preventing the violation of an individual's human and civil rights by another individual. Abuse can be verbal, physical, financial, material, sexual, psychological, domestic, discriminatory (e.g. related to race, gender, disability, religion, sexual orientation), emotional, institutional or neglect. Abuse can occur in any setting, public or private, and can be perpetrated by anyone. Friends of Par Beach Committee has a "no tolerance" approach to any form of abuse and believes that everyone has a right to live their life free from violence, fear, abuse or exploitation.

Responsibilities of Friends of Par Beach Committee regarding safeguarding vulnerable adults:

- To recognise vulnerable adult's need for protection and support.
- To provide a supportive, inclusive environment that welcomes people of all abilities.
- To ensure that anyone attending a Friends of Par Beach activity who may identify as a vulnerable adult is supported within a group setting.
- To ensure that vulnerable adults are accompanied by a carer or support worker if necessary and that both feel supported and included.
- Friends of Par Beach reserve the right to prevent individuals from participating in an activity if the leader is unable to identify sufficient support.
- To take seriously any allegations of abuse or neglect and raise with the appropriate authorities either directly or via Cornwall Council Community Partnership team.

This policy and related guidelines will be reviewed and updated in light of any new legislation or guidance at least every two years.