**StreetGames Protection of Adults at Risk Policy - Reviewed October 2022**

1. Introduction

This policy is designed to dovetail with the StreetGames Safeguarding Children Policy so all young people in contact with the organisation are given due care and attention. To this effect the appendices to the Safeguarding Policy and attached flow diagrams that clearly define the responsibilities of StreetGames staff in relation to safeguarding are to be applied to when working with Adults at risk. In these documents the words ‘young people ‘ can be replaced with ‘adults at risk’

These flow diagrams are to be provided to all staff members upon their induction to StreetGames.

Where StreetGames is directly responsible for delivery, these flow diagrams will be present in the relevant paperwork and be present at in staff paperwork/briefings to the event clarifying their responsibilities to vulnerable adults.

Once a person reaches the age of 18 under U.K. law that person is legally an adult regardless of any disability or impairment they may experience. This policy is based on the following principle that all adults have the right to:

* Live their lives free from fear, violence, harassment, humiliation, degradation, abuse, and neglect;
* Be safeguarded from harm and exploitation;
* Be treated with dignity and respect, protected from mistreatment and abuse;
* Live an independent lifestyle and to make choices, even if some of those choices involve a degree of risk.

The following documents provide background information and further guidance to this policy:

* No Secrets (Dept of Health 2000)
* Safeguarding Adults National Framework of Standards (ADSS publication 2005)

This policy also covers StreetGames’ responsibilities in relation to recent changes in policy linked to protecting adults at risk. from extremism, extremist views and preventing radicalisation.

**Adult at risks are defined as:**

*A person aged 18 years or over “who is or may be in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness; and who is or may be unable to take*

*care of him or herself, or protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation.*

(The Lord Chancellors Department, 1997)

Thus, although StreetGames does not provide specific services to clients who might be considered ‘vulnerable’ under this definition, the spirit of the definition informs the organisations practice. In addition this policy is designed to dovetail with the StreetGames Safeguarding Children Policy so all young people in contact with the Project are given due care and attention.

Abuse, and the fear of abuse, has a significant impact on an individual’s ability to maintain and maximise their health and wellbeing. All individuals and agencies working with, and/or having contact with adults at risk, including the general public, have a key role to play in protecting vulnerable people from abuse, exploitation and/or mistreatment.

In addition all agencies responsible for the welfare and protection of adults at risk have a role in ensuring that all people have a right of expression, protection and redress regardless of: sex; race; colour; language; religion; political or other opinion; national or social origin; sexual orientation; disability; marital status; or age. Also, adults at risk may have additional and particular needs e.g. advocacy/ communication, in relation to the execution of these rights.

1. **Scope**

This policy applies to all staff and volunteers employed directly by StreetGames as well as those representing StreetGames as contractors, on a full or part-time basis. It will be applied consistently regardless of race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, sex, marital status, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, religious belief, disability or age or any other condition or requirement which cannot be shown to be justifiable.

 StreetGames’ Protection of Adults at Risk Policy represents best practice for partner and/or funded organisations that have not already developed such a policy. The policy identifies minimum operating standards for agencies or individuals funded or commissioned by StreetGames to provide services that bring employees or others into contact with adults at risk.

Appendix 1 of this policy demonstrates the varying levels of the StreetGames delivery chain, and at each stage, where this policy comes into effect.

Attached to this policy are flow diagrams that clearly define the responsibilities of StreetGames staff in relation to safeguarding in the following 2 areas of StreetGames work:

* Direct Delivery – e.g StreetGames festivals and events
* Funded/Branded activity – Local delivery by the Network Organisation.

These flow diagrams are to be provided to all staff members through training during their induction to StreetGames.

Where StreetGames is directly responsible for delivery, these flow diagrams will be included in the relevant paperwork and be present in staff paperwork/briefings for the event, clarifying their Safeguarding responsibilities.

The expectations of any organisation holding StreetMark are explained in the guidance document for StreetMark.

1. **Principles**

StreetGames’s Protection of Adults at Risk policy is guided by the following principles:

*• Promote the wellbeing, security and safety of vulnerable people consistent with his or her rights, capacity and personal responsibility, and prevent abuse occurring wherever possible;*

* StreetGames aims to ensure that regardless of age, gender, religion or beliefs, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation or socio-economic background, all;
	+ Have a positive and enjoyable experience of sport , education and learning.
	+ Are protected from abuse whilst participating in a sporting activity and training courses/workshops

*• Ensure that the processes of investigation, assessment and prevention of abuse do not constitute an abusive or harmful series of events for the vulnerable person;*

*• Ensure that the promotion of adults at risk protection is integral to the development and delivery of services by StreetGames*

1. **Responsibilities**

StreetGames acknowledges the duty of care to Adults at Risk and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice.

StreetGames recognises its responsibility to safeguard and promote the interests of Adults at Risk by actively promoting the following practices across the organisation and wider network;

*• Identify the abuse of adults at risk where it is occurring*

*• Respond effectively to any circumstances giving grounds for concern or formal complaints or expressions of anxiety*

*• Ensure the active participation of individuals, families, groups and communities wherever possible and appropriate*

*• Raise awareness of the extent and impact of abuse on adults at risk;*

*• Promote and strengthen partnerships and actions designed to reduce abuse and the fear of abuse as experienced by adults at risk;*

*• Regularly monitor and evaluate the way in which policies, procedures and practices for the protection of adults at risk are working*

*• Regularly review and update policies, procedures and practices to reflect the current state of knowledge in relation to the protection of adults at risk, and learning gained from*

*Experience;*

*• Ensure that the law and statutory requirements are known and used appropriately where necessary so that adults at risk receive the protection of the law and access to the judicial*

*process.*

*This Policy is supported by the Boundaries for Staff policy*

.

**4. Promoting Good Practice in working with Vulnerable Adults**

Abuse can occur within many situations including the home, school and the sporting environment. There are individuals who actively seek employment or voluntary work with Adults at Risk in order to harm or exploit them. More positively, a coach, instructor, official or volunteer having contact can play an important role in identifying cases where protection is needed.

All cases of poor practice should be reported to the appropriate person (see Appendix 6). All reports received will be reviewed by the relevant Designated Person within StreetGames, who will determine the appropriate course of action.

All StreetGames staff and volunteers are required to demonstrate exemplary behaviour in order to promote the welfare of Adults at Risk and reduce the likelihood of misinterpretation of their actions or allegations being made.

 All StreetGames staff and volunteers are required to comply with the StreetGames Code of Conduct whilst working on behalf of the organisation.

StreetGames has a role to play in ensuring high standards and good practice in working with Adults at Risk is carried out across the youth and sport sectors. StreetGames will work with partners in these sectors to share practice and learning in relation to working with Adults at Risk.

StreetGames will also ensure this good practice is shared throughout its network by regularly observing the practice of organisations and challenging their approach to Adults at Risk they are working with can enjoy activity in a safe and protected environment

1. **StreetGames Prevent Duty Strategy -** Preventing extremism, extremist views and radicalisation

As outlined in the introduction section of this policy we see our work in relation to extremism, extremist views and radicalisation as closely related to StreetGames safeguarding policy and work to support the StreetGames network.

Appendix 7 of this policy outlines StreetGames work in this area in more detail.

In line with our Safeguarding work, anything as outlined in the policy and appendix will come under the responsibility of the Designated Safeguarding Officer. With any development work and issues being reported to the following:

* StreetGames Internal Audit Working Group
* StreetGames Audit Committee

In line with the rest of this policy the work in this area will include:

* StreetGames direct delivery
* StreetMark and our support to the network
* Staff Training
* Promotion of good practice and a shared ethos for StreetGames

Central to all of our work will be to ensure StreetGames is guided by the following principles:

* The welfare of Adults at risk is the primary concern.
* StreetGames aims to ensure that regardless of age, gender, religion or beliefs, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation or socio-economic background, all children:
	+ Have a positive and enjoyable experience of sport in a safe and child centred environment
	+ Are protected from abuse whilst participating in a sporting activity

**7. Lone Working**

There are circumstances where StreetGames staff members will be in situation where they are working alone. StreetGames has a lone working policy (Appendix 8 to this Safeguarding Policy).

Lone working in relation to safeguarding is when

* Staff members are in a working alone with an adult deemed as ‘At risk’
* The staff member may be put in a situation where they are isolated from others and hence alone with a young person

The details of the policy in the appendices outline the precautions and actions that staff members who find themselves in this situation should take.

**Appendices**

This policy is supported by the following appendices which provide more detail on how this policy will be implemented and support the work of StreetGames.

Where in these appendices, it mentions ‘Safeguarding of Children and young people, it can be replaced with ‘Adults at Risk’ as the processes will remain the same

## StreetGames and its delivery chain: Who is responsible for safeguarding with the wider sphere of StreetGames.

1. **Designated Safeguarding Roles**
2. **Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) -** StreetGames positions in regulated activity
3. **Staff and Volunteer Recruitment**
4. **Code of Conduct**
5. **Responding to and Reporting a concern** – Recognition of poor practice and the reporting procedure within the organisation
6. **StreetGames Prevent Duty**
7. **StreetGames Lone Working**
8. **Safeguarding Report Form**
9. **Safeguarding and social media.**
10. **StreetGames Photography and Filming Policy Statement**

**Review carried out October 22**