

Lions Clubs International Multiple District 105

Policy concerning the Protection of Vulnerable Persons including Children

Executive Summary

[Lions VP's Policy-amended December 2004](#)

[VP form Information and Consent](#)

[VP form Transport Consent](#)

Members of Lions Clubs International are privileged to work within their local communities, assisting persons often less fortunate than themselves. Activities undertaken by Lions Club members often involve them working closely with adults and vulnerable persons, including children. Lions Clubs International is no different from any other organisation in identifying the need to put in place safeguards to protect vulnerable persons temporarily in our care. The Multiple District 105 *'Policy Concerning the Protection of Vulnerable Persons Including Children'* was developed to introduce standards that we must adopt to safeguard vulnerable persons as well as Lions Club members. The policy document has been circulated widely to all Clubs and is available in electronic format on the Multiple District 105 website.

The policy provides a basic awareness of the abuse of vulnerable persons, including children. It assists in helping to recognise abuse and thereafter to deal sensibly and sensitively with it. The document provides guidance on what is acceptable and unacceptable behaviour, acknowledging that we all have a duty to safeguard those in our care. We must not forget that we also have a duty to safeguard ourselves and the organisation that we belong to. The term 'Vulnerable Persons' is used throughout this document. The term is used to refer to adults who are vulnerable as well as children.

The policy is divided into 9 sections namely:

- Section 1 Introduction
- Section 2 Definitions and Forms of Abuse
- Section 3 Protecting the Vulnerable Person - How to Identify Abuse and what action to take
- Section 4 Protecting Yourself and Your Club
- Section 5 General Advice concerning specific Lions Activities
- Section 6 Role of Vulnerable Persons Officers
- Section 7 Vetting and Criminal Records Bureau 'Disclosures'
- Section 8 Leos
- Section 9 Legal position in Scotland regarding Vulnerable Persons

We all have a duty to look after the interests of Vulnerable Persons as well as Lions Clubs members. It is essential that all Lions take the time to familiarise themselves with the policy.

It would be a sad indictment on society if we could not continue with Lions Clubs activities for fear of undesirables abusing their position of trust or mischievous persons making false allegations. By adhering to the principles set out in the policy, the welfare of vulnerable persons and the protection of Lions Clubs members will at all times be safeguarded.

Each District has appointed a Vulnerable Persons Officer. Lions Clubs members should know who that person is. The Multiple District Vulnerable Persons Officer and each District Vulnerable Persons Officers will gladly assist Clubs in the interpretation of the policy and provide general advice about putting safeguards in place.

The District 105a Vulnerable Persons Officer is Lion Chris Bryant , who can be reached on Email: vulnerable@lions105a.org or Tel 01525 270607, mobile 07850 062706