

## Safeguarding Policy

### Statement of intent

The LNHS is an organisation, led by its members, which values diversity and is committed to a culture of inclusion. Our safeguarding policy is intended to ensure that everyone can participate in our activities and develop a shared understanding and appreciation of the natural world. To do this, the LNHS will, in line with national legislation and relevant national and local guidelines, take steps to ensure that our activities are delivered in a way that keeps everyone safe.

The LNHS recognises that some people may be particularly vulnerable and the LNHS is committed to taking positive steps to ensure safety for all, particularly the most vulnerable members of our community.

This policy is based on templates prepared and disseminated by the Ann Craft Trust.<sup>1</sup> The LNHS thanks the Ann Craft Trust for making these resources available.

### What is safeguarding?

Safeguarding is what an organisation does to promote the welfare of its members and volunteers to keep them safe and protect them from harm, abuse and neglect.

### Our commitments

The LNHS is committed to:

- Promoting a safe environment and culture,
- Ensuring the safety of everyone, including young people and vulnerable adults, involved with the society,
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation,
- Being welcoming and supportive of both beginners and experts, and
- Ensuring discussions and debates are carried out in a respectful manner.

The LNHS will:

- Create a safe society for all,
- Appoint a named **Safeguarding Officer** who works with the Council to implement the Safeguarding Policy and Procedures,
- Support all officers to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse,
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities undertaken in the name of the society,
- Display on the website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns,
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse and follow the appropriate procedures, which will include sharing concerns with agencies who need to know,
- Direct any victims of abuse to appropriate sources of support,
- Ensure that a Health and Safety Policy and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed every two years, and
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy and procedures at least every two years.

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<sup>1</sup> [Safeguarding Adults Policy & Procedures Templates - Ann Craft Trust](#).

## **Our policy**

LNHS members and volunteers are expected to:

- Treat all people with respect,
- Provide a good example of acceptable behaviour,
- Show understanding when dealing with sensitive issues,
- Use the risk assessment forms in the Health & Safety Policy for all activities, and
- Take appropriate action to report any incidence of abuse to the Safeguarding Officer (safeguarding@lnhs.org.uk). This should be done confidentially and in writing.

LNHS members and volunteers should not:

- Permit abusive behaviour,
- Make suggestive or inappropriate remarks or actions,
- Deliberately place themselves or others in a compromising situation,
- Let suspicion, disclosure or allegations go unrecorded or reported, or
- Permit young people under 18 to attend LNHS event without the accompaniment of a responsible adult.

*Anyone who considers that they have experienced, witnessed or been informed about any incidence of abuse should report it to the Safeguarding Officer {safeguarding@lnhs.org.uk} (see the LNHS website for details). This should be done confidentially and in writing.*

## **Change Log**

APPROVED by Council February 2021. For review 2025

APPROVED by Council February 2026. For review 2028