



# **Vulnerable Adults Policy**

**For**

# **Wenlo**

## **Riding for the disabled Group**

Address: Meadow School of Riding, Deans Lane, Nr Woodhouse  
Eaves, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE12 8TE

Registered Charity No: 1073408

## **VULNERABLE ADULTS PROTECTION POLICY STATEMENT**

Abuse is a violation of an individual's human and civil rights; it can take many forms. The staff and volunteers in Riding for the Disabled (RDA) are committed to practices which promote the welfare of vulnerable adults and safeguard them from harm.

Staff and volunteers in our organisation accept and recognise our responsibilities to develop awareness of the issues that cause vulnerable adults harm, and to establish and maintain a safe environment for them. We will not tolerate any form of abuse wherever it occurs, or whoever is responsible. We are committed to promoting an atmosphere of inclusion, transparency and openness and are open to feedback from the people who use our services, carers, advocates, our staff and our volunteers with a view to how we may continuously improve our services/activities.

In pursuit of this, RDA will endeavour to safeguard vulnerable adults by:

- Adhering to our safeguarding vulnerable adult policy and ensuring that it is supported by robust procedures;
- Implementing clear procedures for raising awareness of, and responding to, abuse within the organisation and for reporting concerns to statutory agencies that need to know, while involving carers and vulnerable adults appropriately;
- Ensuring general safety and risk management procedures are adhered to;
- Ensuring all trustees, employees and volunteers report any concerns with regards to the protection of vulnerable adults. It is the responsibility of experts to determine whether or not abuse has taken place, but it is everyone's responsibility to report any concerns;
- Implementing a code of behaviour for all involved with the organisation;
- Appointing designated trustees or delegated volunteers/employees to be the Group Safeguarding Officer;
- Ensuring appropriate training is attended by Safeguarding Officers and other relevant staff or volunteers.

As defined by the 1997 Consultation "Who Cares" a vulnerable adult is someone "who is, or may be, in need of community care services by reason of disability, age or illness; and is or may be unable to take care,

or unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation”. This definition of an adult covers all people over 18 years of age.

The policies and procedures apply to everyone within RDA, whether in a paid or voluntary capacity, including trustees, committee members and designated medical and veterinary staff. Everyone should be aware of safeguarding procedures and best practices, ensuring they are implemented.

## **Legal and Procedural Framework**

The practices and procedures within RDA are based on the principles contained within the UK and International legislation and Government guidance and take the following into account:

Disability Discrimination Act 1995  
The Human Rights Act 2000  
Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006  
Protection of Freedoms Act 2012