##

**THE HAMPSHIRE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION’S POLICY ON SAFEGUARDING**

**ADULTS AT RISK DEFINITIONS**

**For the purpose of this Policy the following definitions apply:**

1. **Adult at Risk1**

Means any adult who is or may be in need of community care services by reason of mental

health issues, learning or physical disability, sensory impairment, age or illness and who

is or may be unable to take care of him/herself or unable to protect him/herself against

significant harm or serious exploitation.

1. **Abuse**

Abuse is defined as a violation of an individual’s human and civil rights by any other person

or persons. It includes acts of commission (such as an assault) and acts of omission

(situations where the environment fails to prevent harm). Abuse may be single act or

omission or series of acts or omissions.

1. **Capacity2**

Capacity refers to an individual adult’s ability to take a specific decision or take a particular

action at a particular time even if they are able or not able to make other decisions at other

times. The starting point should be that the person has capacity to make a decision unless

it can be established that they cannot.

**POLICY**

The Hampshire Football Association is committed to football being inclusive and providing a safe and positive experience for every adult participant involved in the game regardless of age, gender, gender reassignment,

disability, culture, language, race, faith, belief or sexual orientation.

The Hampshire Football Association recognises that some adult participants some may need additional safeguards and/ or protection. These adults are referred to as Adults at Risk.

The Hampshire Football Association recognises its responsibility to safeguard and protect Adults at Risk, and to respond appropriately to any allegations or suspicions of abuse. Everyone who works with Adults at Risk has

a responsibility to commit to this.

If abuse is suspected, or reported, The Hampshire Football Association will work in partnership with the Adult at Risk

wherever possible, depending on their capacity and the risk to them and others. The Association

will also work in partnership with the police, the Disclosure and Barring Service, Safeguarding Adults

Boards and local authorities so these organisations can carry out their statutory duties to safeguard

and protect Adults at Risk. When responding to abuse or allegations of abuse and considering

the sharing of information, The Hampshire Football Association will put the needs of the adult first, work in their best interests and take into account the six principles of safeguarding adults detailed in the Care Act 2014:

empowerment; protection; prevention; proportionality; partnership; and accountability. These

principles will underpin all work with Adults at Risk.

**1** The Care Act 2014 **2** Mental Capacity Act, 2005