

GUIDANCE NOTES:

1.5

SAFEGUARDING ADULTS IN AFFILIATED FOOTBALL

POLICY & PROCEDURES

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TOGETHER, LET'S EMBED SAFEGUARDING IN FOOTBALL'S DNA

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. All the organisations running football – and everyone working or volunteering in football – must play their part. The shared and unequivocal goal must be to ensure the game is safe and enjoyable for all.

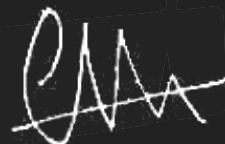
Collectively, the task is to ensure safeguarding measures and processes are in place in affiliated football.

The role of The FA is to lead the game with its safeguarding strategy, policy, procedures and regulatory framework. We also deliver a safeguarding education programme, technological infrastructure, resources and expertise through our safeguarding team.

Our Safeguarding Case Management Team manages the most-challenging adult safeguarding concerns.

We have recently published the latest County FA 'Safeguarding Operating Standard', which includes new information on adults at risk. Every County FA must adhere to the Standard's criteria and processes.

Safeguarding is an ever-present priority for football. It should always be front and centre. And it's not about making sure it's in place tomorrow. It has to be in place now. It will always require our collective and constant vigilance and professionalism.



Greg Clarke
Chairman
The Football Association



FOR ALL

FOOTBALL'S COLLECTIVE VOICE



The Football Association is committed to football being inclusive and providing a safe and positive experience for every adult in the game. Safeguarding is high on our agenda and we are committed to promoting adult safeguarding and responding appropriately to any adult at risk.



The Premier League places great importance on safeguarding and we believe that everyone has the right to enjoy football in a safe and inclusive environment. We are committed to working in partnership with our clubs, their community organisations, Football Authorities and other key partners to promote and protect the safety and welfare of adults at risk. By working together, we create a culture where safeguarding responsibilities and procedures for creating safe environments and raising concerns are widely understood and embedded in our values and practices.



The Premier League Charitable Fund is committed to working together to provide welcoming and inclusive environments where adults at risk are safe, valued and respected. We expect the organisations we fund to have appropriate safeguarding arrangements in place and support a collaborative approach to sharing good practice and strengthening safeguarding arrangements across the game.



The EFL (English Football League) is committed to safeguarding adults at risk. We see part of this commitment as contributing to and endorsing the work of 'The Football Safeguarding Forum'. We are confident that when working together the Football Authorities can have a significant impact in developing a workforce which understands their roles responsibilities and that this, together with a structured framework in which to operate will improve safeguards in football. The English Football League welcomes the sharing of good practice guidance for the benefit of football and those adults at risk participating in the sport.



EFL Trust endorses the collective approach across football to the safeguarding of adults at risk. We are committed to working with our partners, including the 72 Club Community Organisations attached to EFL Clubs, supporting the development of good practice and a shared understanding of responsibilities, ensuring that those engaging with our projects and programmes are enabled to do so in a safe and welcoming environment.



The League Managers Association is fully committed to the safeguarding and protection of young people and adults at risk of harm. We believe our unique position in the game, gives us the opportunity to highlight our work with the other football stakeholders, to identify and maintain both good practice and the responsibilities that are an obligation to us all.



The PFA is committed to ensuring every player within the professional game is protected from abuse, bullying or harassment. We will work with our members and the Football Authorities to implement safeguarding adult policies, practices and frameworks across the game and take appropriate actions if an adult is at risk.



The Football Foundation is happy to endorse the policy and procedures.



The Ann Craft Trust has been pleased to support The FA in developing their safeguarding adults policy for affiliated disability football. The FA recognise the importance of safeguarding adults in sport in order to provide a safe and positive experience for every adult participant and this policy will contribute to this end.

1. INTRODUCTION

This document describes how the Football Authorities (as defined below) will work together to safeguard adults at risk of harm in open-age, affiliated football.

Anyone with any concerns about an adult at risk should report to the relevant Designated Safeguarding Officer in their organisation or seek advice from safeguarding@TheFA.com

If the Participant is under 18 the safeguarding children policy applies.

This document should be read in conjunction with FA rules and regulations, policies, procedures and tailored regulations and guidance as specified by the individual Football Authorities to their members and member organisations. In the event of a conflict between the content of this document and the Rules and Regulations of The FA, the Premier League Rules or the EFL Regulations, the relevant Rules and/or Regulations shall take precedence.

2. DEFINITIONS IN THIS DOCUMENT

ADULT AT RISK OF HARM:

- A person aged 18 or over who has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs) and:
- is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect, and:
- as a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.

An individual's level of vulnerability to harm may vary over time depending on the circumstances they are in and their needs at that time.

Not all adults with care and support needs will be at risk of harm. This will depend on the individual, their current situation and the circumstances they are in.

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.

CAPACITY:

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.

CARE AND SUPPORT NEEDS:

Care and support needs can arise from or are related to a physical or mental impairment or illness and are not caused by other circumstantial factors. This includes if the adult has a condition as a result of physical, mental, sensory, learning or cognitive disabilities or illnesses, substance abuse or brain injury. This list is not exhaustive.

POOR PRACTICE:

Poor practice includes any behaviour that contravenes existing codes of conduct, infringes an individual's rights and/or reflects a failure to fulfil the expected standards of care. Failure to challenge poor practice can lead to an environment where abuse is more likely to occur or continue.

ADULT SAFEGUARDING:

Adult safeguarding is working with adults with care and support needs to keep them safe from abuse or neglect.

CONSENT:

Consent is not given for ever and is only relevant at the point of being expressed and may be for a specific reason only.

FOOTBALL AUTHORITIES:

The 'Football Authorities' refers to The FA, the Premier League, the English Football League ("EFL"), The Professional Footballers' Association and the League Managers Association.



3. THE FOOTBALL AUTHORITIES' POLICY STATEMENT

The Football Authorities listed in this document adopt the statement below:

The Football Authorities are committed to ensuring football is inclusive and provides 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 Football Authorities recognise some people may need additional safeguards and/or protection. These adults are referred to as 'Adults at risk'. The Football Authorities recognise their responsibility to safeguard and protect adults at risk by responding 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 Authorities and The 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, health and/or adult services, 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 Authorities and The Association will put the needs of the adult first 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.



4. RULES AND REGULATIONS

FA Rules and Regulations apply to anyone defined as a 'Participant' (including but not exclusively players, coaches, officials, match officials and staff). Specific regulations include:

- FA Regulations for Safeguarding Adults. Case Management procedures are in place to assess the suitability of individuals to be involved with Adults at Risk in football. In assessing that suitability, the welfare of Adults at Risk is paramount.
- FA Rule E14 sets out a duty to report a potential or actual breach of The FA Safeguarding Children Regulations and the Adults at Risk Regulations.

Each of the Football Authorities may have their own rules, regulations and policies to underpin their own safeguarding adults at risk work.

5. KEY PRINCIPLES

SELF-DETERMINATION

Safeguarding adults can be complex. Adults have a right to self-determination and may choose not to act to protect themselves. Safeguarding adults means creating a culture that informs the adult and consults them on all decisions affecting them and works in partnership with them.

As a principle safeguarding concerns should be discussed with the adult to establish their views and involve them in the safeguarding process. Occasionally however this may not be possible or safe. If in doubt seek advice from safeguarding@TheFA.com

THE CARE ACT

The six principles of the Care Act apply. The principles work together:

- Empowerment – People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent.
- Prevention – It is better to take action before harm occurs.
- Proportionality – The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.
- Protection – Support and representation for those in greatest need.
- Partnership – Local solutions through services working with their communities.
- Accountability – Accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding.

INFORMATION-SHARING

- Abuse in affiliated football: Staff and volunteers should always share safeguarding concerns with their Designated Safeguarding Officer except in an emergency when Police, health and/or adult services or health services should be contacted.
- Any concerns regarding a potential or actual breach of the Adults at Risk Regulations should be reported to The FA and other Football Authorities if relevant (see Appendix 1: GENERIC FLOWCHART FOR REPORTING and Appendix 4: SAFEGUARDING REFERRAL FORM – AFFILIATED FOOTBALL).
- Abuse outside football: If you become aware of an incident outside of football relating to someone involved in football, and need to seek advice please contact safeguarding@TheFA.com

RELATIONSHIPS OF TRUST

The Sexual Offences Act 2003 makes it an offence for those engaged in providing care, assistance or services to someone with a learning disability or mental disorder to engage in sexual activity with that person whether or not that person has the capacity to consent. This clause does not apply to football but the principle of power imbalance must be considered when working with adults at risk.

There are some roles in sport where adults have responsibility for, authority over and influence on others and as a result there is a power imbalance between the two adults. Roles with this power imbalance are described as 'Relationships of Trust'

Relevant roles that may create power imbalance include those that involve caring, advising, supervising, training, coaching, teaching, managing, tutoring, mentoring, assessing, developing, guiding, treating or providing therapy.

Some adults may have additional vulnerabilities arising from previous abuse, complex care histories or conditions that make understanding boundaries in relationships difficult. This can leave adults open to exploitation or abuse.

The power imbalance between those with responsibility and those being coached, mentored or otherwise supported may mean that the Football Authorities may consider a sexual relationship to be inappropriate although not illegal.

The FA Safeguarding Adults at Risk Regulations enable an assessment to be undertaken of the suitability of a person to be involved in football if they may place adults at risk. Sexual relationships where there is an imbalance of power and possible breach of the relationship of trust perceived to be inappropriate will be assessed on a case-by-case basis in partnership with the adult .

All possible breaches of the relationship of trust must be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Officer.

Some Football Authorities may have their own internal rules and regulations about the relationship of trust and these should be made known to those working in affiliated football.



6. THREE-PART STRATEGY

Football has a three-part strategy to turn policy into practice:

1. **Prevention:** implementing preventative safeguarding measures;
2. **Reporting:** making the reporting of concerns as easy as possible;
3. **Investigations:** and resolutions ensuring safeguarding concerns are investigated swiftly and thoroughly with relevant statutory agencies and with demonstrable outcomes

The following are recommended and may be required in certain settings.

1. PREVENTION

- i. Every affiliated Club and League with players aged 18 and over should adopt a Policy and reporting procedures compatible with this affiliated Policy and Procedures, including a named Designated Safeguarding Officer for adults.
- ii. The title and responsibilities of the Designated Safeguarding Officer for adults will vary according to the environment, but should include receiving safeguarding concerns and referring appropriately.
- iii. The Designated Safeguarding Officer for adults should be appropriately recruited, trained and supported. Training should include partnership working with adults.
- iv. All Participants, including players, should know how to recognise and report concerns about an adult at risk.
- v. Where a role will have direct responsibility for adults at risk, appropriate recruitment is required. This should include:
 - Involving Participants in the process when possible;
 - Advertising a positive stance on safeguarding and inclusion;
 - Confirmation of the identity of the applicant with original documentation;
 - Shortlisting and interviewing as appropriate for the role;
 - Requesting at least two written references, which should be followed up prior to any offer of appointment being made;
 - Substantiating qualifications e.g. requesting original copies of certificates;
 - An induction appropriate for the role;
 - Identifying and facilitating training needs.
- vi. The Football Authorities will seek to remain informed of eligibility criteria and review their use of DBS Checks at regular intervals.
- vii. Appropriate guidance and training in safeguarding adults will be provided.

2. REPORTING

Note: This should be read in conjunction with sections 5 and 6.

Safeguarding adults can be complex and the needs and wishes of the adult must be identified and respected. Volunteers and staff are not expected to carry risk nor make assessments of capacity.

Advice can be sought from safeguarding@TheFA.com

- i. All Participants, including players, should know how to recognise and report concerns. This should include a flow chart on how to manage concerns including how to respond out of hours.
- ii. Where people express concerns they will be listened to regardless of role. All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously.
- iii. Allegations of non-recent abuse will be taken seriously.
- iv. Whilst the adult's wishes should be established, all safeguarding concerns must be referred to the relevant Designated Safeguarding Officer.
- v. In an emergency a referral should be made to the Police, health and/or adult services, health or adult services and a written record kept and shared with the Designated Safeguarding Officer.
- vi. Reporting to a statutory agency must be followed through by reporting to The FA Safeguarding Team within one working day.
- vii. Statutory agency advice should be followed if a report is made.
- viii. The Designated Safeguarding Officer must know how to escalate safeguarding concerns and where and when to seek help and advice. County FAs and clubs and leagues in the National Game should seek FA guidance which will be provided by County FA DSOs and The FA's safeguarding team. Clubs in professional leagues should follow relevant league rules and advice.
- ix. The professional game may also have internal reporting requirements.
- x. If the allegation is of abuse or neglect and the alleged perpetrator is involved in football, a report must always be made to safeguarding@TheFA.com
- xi. The referral to The FA should be made by completing the Affiliated Football Referral form. See Appendix 2.

It can be hard to decide if something is poor practice or abuse as this may vary according to different factors including:

- The vulnerability of the victim;
- Why and where it happened;
- How often it's happened;
- How long it goes on for;
- The degree of impact.

Advice can be sought from safeguarding@TheFA.com

3. INVESTIGATIONS AND RESOLUTION

Safeguarding adults can require complex decision-making. Advice can always be sought from safeguarding@TheFA.com

- i. On receipt of information the Designated Safeguarding Officer will seek to clarify the facts, consider if this is poor practice or abuse and seek to understand the adult's wishes.
- ii. Poor practice should be recorded, addressed and monitored and the adult involved whenever possible in the process and resolution.
- iii. If the concern is or may be abuse in football the adult's wishes should be established but it must be referred following internal rules, regulations to the Case Management Team at Wembley safeguarding@TheFA.com
- iv. If the concern is or may be abuse or neglect outside football the adult's wishes should be established. If the adult does wish for any support but there is concern for their safety advice should be sought from safeguarding@TheFA.com or according to internal rules and regulations.
- v. The FA Safeguarding Case Management Team will always work in partnership with the adult concerned.
- vi. The FA Safeguarding Case Management Team will work with statutory agencies to assess people who may pose a risk of harm, and put safeguards in place where appropriate. These include but are not limited to suspensions from football where necessary and barring referrals to DBS when thresholds are met.
- vii. Whistle-blowing in a safeguarding context means revealing and raising concerns over Misconduct, or matters which might be considered to be Misconduct. It can be used as an early-warning system or when it's recognised that appropriate actions have not been taken.

Anyone with concerns about a person's conduct towards an adult at risk can whistle-blow by calling The FA's safeguarding team on **08000 835 902** or via email to safeguarding@TheFA.com. Concerns can also be reported to Police, health and/or adult services or local Adult Services.

Football Authorities may also have their own mandatory reporting regulations i.e. the Premier League (PL) is to be notified at the same time as The FA, in line with PL regulations where referral thresholds are met.



7. COMMUNICATING

To support this three-part strategy and process the Football Authorities will communicate clearly on:

- How to raise concerns about an adult at risk;
- How to manage poor practice concerns;
- How to manage referrals of abuse;
- Complaint processes;
- How to appeal decisions taken by the Safeguarding team at Wembley;
- Support available for those involved in disclosing, supporting or managing allegations of abuse.

The FA's Safeguarding Team can be contacted on safeguarding@TheFA.com.

This policy and procedures documents should be read in conjunction with any relevant supporting regulations and guidance, documents specified by The FA, Premier League, EFL or EFL Trust.



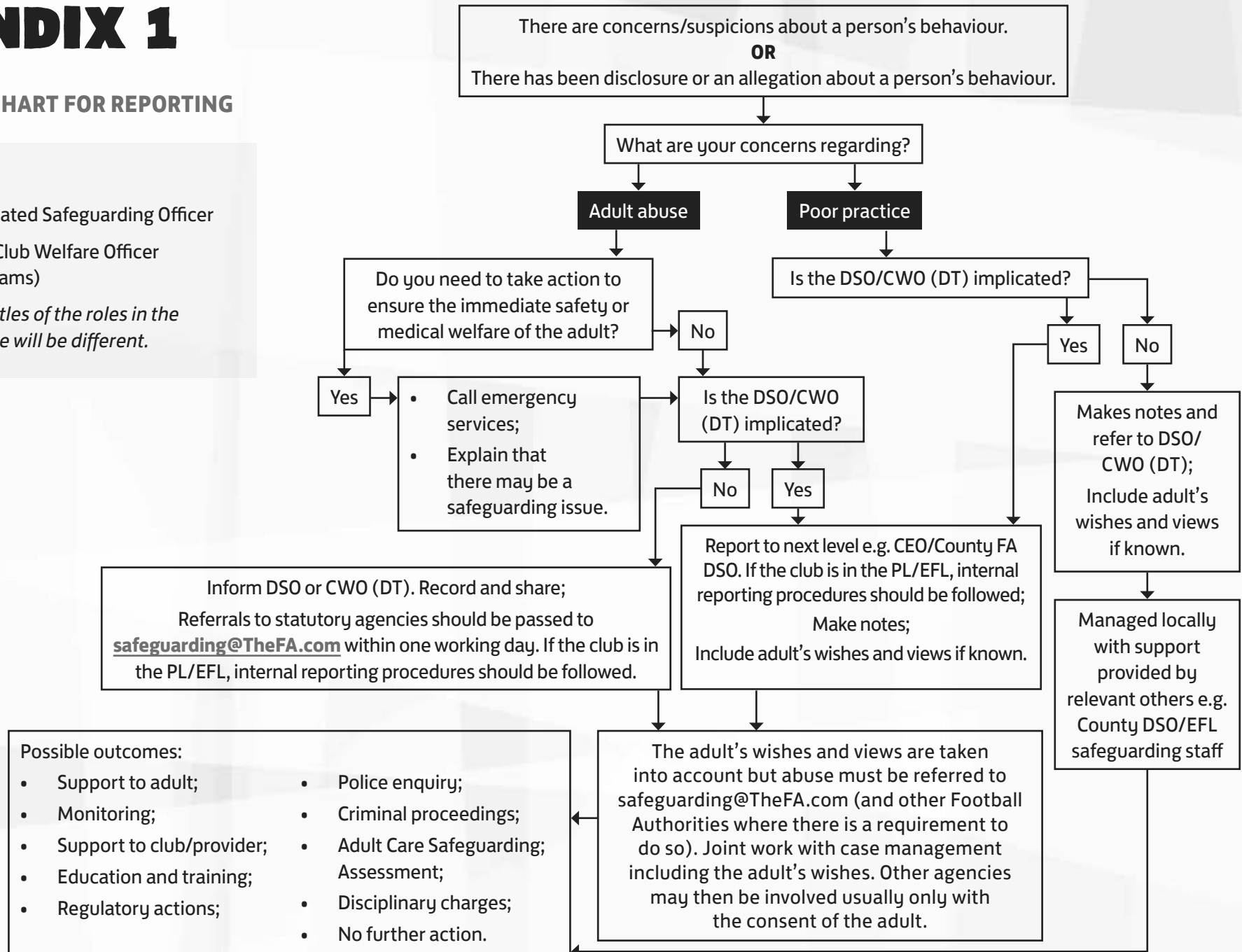
APPENDIX 1

GENERIC FLOWCHART FOR REPORTING

Key:

- DSO = Designated Safeguarding Officer
- CWO (DT) = Club Welfare Officer (Disability Teams)

Please note the titles of the roles in the professional game will be different.



APPENDIX 2

SAFEGUARDING REFERRAL FORM – AFFILIATED FOOTBALL

Date of referral: _____

County FA(s): _____

PARTICIPANT'S DETAILS (THIS IS THE PERSON YOU ARE REFERRING TO THE FA)			
Participant name:		Relationship to victim/s:	
Address:		Tel number:	
		Email:	
		Role in football: (is the post paid?)	
		Club or organisation:	
Postcode:			
Date of Birth:		FAN: (FA Number) – if relevant:	
Gender:		Ethnicity:	
REFERRER'S DETAILS (PLEASE ENTER YOUR DETAILS)			
Name of referrer:		FAN: (FA Number) – if relevant	
Address:		Role/Organisation:	
		Tel number:	
		Email:	
		Relationship to participant:	
Postcode:			

DETAILS OF CHILD/CHILDREN OR ADULT(S) AT RISK

Details of alleged victim/s (age): e.g. Joe Bloggs (12 years), Wembley FC under-13 girls' team (Please include name, age, club, parents/carers' details and any other relevant info)		FAN: (FA Number) – if relevant	
		Gender:	
		Ethnicity:	
		Parent/carers name:	
		Contact details: (telephone number, email, etc.)	
		County FA:	

PROFESSIONAL NETWORK (PLEASE PROVIDE NAME, CONTACT NUMBER AND EMAIL. KINDLY PROVIDE THE ADVICE RECEIVED AND CONTACT DATE WITH AGENCY)

LADO: (Name, telephone number and email address)	
Social Services:	
Police:	
Other : (e.g. NSPCC, Club Designated Safeguarding Officer, etc.)	

APPENDIX 3

CATEGORIES OF ABUSE AND SIGNS AND INDICATORS OF ABUSE

The Care Act recognises 10 types of abuse and The FA recognises 'bullying'.

TYPE OF ABUSE		IN FOOTBALL WE MIGHT SEE...
1	Self-neglect – not looking after own personal hygiene, health or surroundings or hoarding. This happens away from football, but we might see signs in football.	Poor personal hygiene, need for dental care or glasses. Dirty playing kit.
2	Domestic abuse – including psychological, physical, sexual, financial and emotional abuse. It also includes so called 'honour' based violence. This happens away from football but we might see signs in football.	Indicators of domestic abuse, such as a person who is withdrawn , fearful or anxious when a carer or partner or family member comes to collect them, bruising, grip marks or other signs of stress or physical harm.
3	Discriminatory abuse – difference or perceived difference, particularly with respect to race, gender or disability or any of the other protected characteristics of the Equality Act. This might happen in football.	Behaviours such as harassing of a club member because they are or are perceived to be transgender or jokes about a player's disability or use of discriminatory language on- or offline. A player might report this happening to them elsewhere.
4	Organisational abuse – including neglect and poor care practice within an institution, a specific care setting or their own home – or at football.	A club or team persistently fail to meet players' needs. For example allowing players to be injured or ill due to lack of care. A player from sheltered accommodation may report rigid rules and lack of choices in their home – for example, having to go to bed at a certain time.
5	Physical abuse – includes hitting, slapping, pushing, kicking, misuse of medication, restraint or inappropriate sanctions. This might happen in football or elsewhere.	Regular over-training, refusing breaks or intentionally hitting or kicking a player or punishing a player. We might also see bruising to arms or face, repeated injuries, fearfulness or anxiety.
6	Sexual abuse – adults with care and support needs can consent to sexual activity but can still be abused. This includes rape, indecent exposure, sexual harassment, inappropriate looking or touching, sexual teasing or innuendo, sexual photography, subjection to pornography or witnessing sexual acts, indecent exposure.	A coach or manager demands sexually-explicit pictures from a learning disabled adult they are training. A player may comment on behaviours they don't like from other adults or young people. Their behaviour may become disturbed or overly sexual. Adults can be sexually exploited as well as children, so be aware of strangers collecting people, alcohol abuse and fearfulness.

TYPE OF ABUSE		IN FOOTBALL WE MIGHT SEE...
7	Financial or material abuse – including theft, fraud, internet scamming or coercion in relation to an adult’s financial affairs or arrangements.	A club member demanding a player buys them a ticket for a game or insisting they buy everyone rounds of drinks and takeaways they can’t afford and don’t want. A player might not be able to afford match fees/subs or new kit, appear to be hungry or report being unable to pay rent.
8	Neglect – including ignoring medical or physical care needs, failure to provide access to appropriate health social care or educational services, the withholding medication, food or heating.	A player whose medical conditions are untreated or who needs glasses or hearing aids, who is always hungry or complains that their home is always cold or they can’t have a shower at home after football.
9	Emotional or psychological abuse – this could include threats of harm or abandonment, humiliation, blaming, controlling, intimidation, coercion, harassment, verbal abuse, isolation or withdrawal from services or supportive networks.	Threatening a player with physical harm or persistently blaming them for poor performance or sending harassing messages after a game. Players could report that this is happening to them.
10	Modern slavery – slavery, human trafficking, forced labour and domestic servitude. Traffickers and slave masters use whatever means they have at their disposal to coerce, deceive and force individuals into a life of abuse, servitude and inhumane treatment.	Players or others may be hungry, dressed in old clothes and lacking in money despite being in work.

IN FOOTBALL WE MIGHT ALSO SEE:

Bullying – bullying is the repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. It can happen face-to-face or through cyberspace, and comes in many different forms.

Cyber-bullying – using technology to bully and humiliate people

Forced marriage – The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 makes it a criminal offence to force someone to marry. The adult may report gifts of gold, planned trips abroad or disclose anxiety about an event.

Mate crime – when vulnerable people are befriended by members of the community who go on to exploit and take advantage of them. It may not be an illegal act but still has a negative effect on the individual.

Radicalisation – the aim of radicalisation is to attract people to their reasoning, inspire new recruits and embed their extreme views and persuade vulnerable individuals of the legitimacy of their cause. This may be direct through a relationship, or through social media.

Cuckooing – is an expression used when abusers make use of an adult's home for criminal purposes.

All concerns should be reported in line with local reporting procedures.



APPENDIX 4

USEFUL CONTACTS

The Football Association (The FA)

Wembley Stadium,
PO Box 1966,
London, SW1P 9EQ

Tel: 0844 980 8200

Email: info@TheFA.com

W: www.TheFA.com/governance/safeguarding

Premier League

30 Gloucester Place
London, W1U 8FL

Tel: 0207 864 9000

Email: safeguarding@premierleague.com

W: www.premierleague.com/safeguarding

English Football League (EFL)

EFL House
10-12 West Cliff
Preston

PR1 8HU

Tel: 01772 325940

Email: safeguarding@efl.com

The Professional Footballers' Association (PFA)

20 Oxford Court
Bishopsgate
Manchester, M2 3WQ

Tel: 0161 236 0575

Email: info@thepfa.co.uk

W: www.thepfa.co.uk

The League Managers Association (LMA)

St. George's Park
Newborough Road
Needwood

Burton-upon-Trent

Staffs, DE13 9PD

Tel: 01283 576350

Email: lma@leaguemanagers.com

W: www.leaguemanagers.com

The Football Foundation

10 Eastbourne Terrace
London, W2 6LG

Tel: 0345 345 4555

Email: enquiries@footballfoundation.org.uk

W: www.footballfoundation.org.uk

EFL Trust

EFL House
10-12 West Cliff
Preston, PR1 8HU

Tel: 01772 325800

Email: safeguarding@efltrust.com

W: www.efltrust.com

The Ann Craft Trust

Centre for Social Work,
Nottingham, NG7 2RD

Tel: 0115 951 5400

Email: ann-craft-trust@nottingham.ac.uk

W: www.anncrafttrust.org

Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP)

33 Vauxhall Bridge Road
London, SW1V 2WG

W: www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre

CEOP helps keep children and young people safe from sexual abuse and grooming online. They take reports directly from children and from people who may be concerned about a child. If you are working in open-age disability football you may become aware of an online concern about an under-18 and if so you can contact report quickly and directly via their website. In an emergency dial 999.

DETAILS OF CONCERNS

Type of abuse: (please tick as appropriate)	Sexual abuse Bullying	Emotional abuse Other (Please specify):	Physical abuse	Neglect
Incident/s details: Please summarise the incident, including details of any other relevant parties. Clearly identify a list of your safeguarding concern/s				
Do you think this referral relates to: (please tick as appropriate)	High-level poor practice	Possible or actual risk of harm to children	For information only	Not sure
Action taken: Please specify if you referred to a statutory agency, the County FA, the Club Designated Safeguarding Officer or any other action taken related to your concerns (including action taken by the Club).				

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

Further information:

Please include any information that you think is relevant to our investigation

Can The FA contact the victim or their parents/carers directly?

FOR FA USE ONLY

Date received by The FA: _____

Case accepted? (tick as applicable)

Yes

No



FOR ALL

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