

<https://www.baldockeventsforum.org.uk/>



## **Baldock Events Forum Safeguarding Policy**

The Baldock Events Forum (BEF) is a Community Incorporated Company which runs events on a not for profit basis for the benefit of the community. As such, the events that the BEF organise encompass and include people from all sections of society, including those from vulnerable groups, and is committed to keeping everyone safe.

The BEF believes that all Directors, volunteers and attendees at our events have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all people, especially those in more vulnerable groups, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them. The BEF is committed to a culture of anti-discriminatory practice and will give equal priority to keeping all people (including those in vulnerable groups) safe regardless of their age, disability, gender assignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation. The BEF also recognises that there may be additional needs of some individuals which will be assessed and catered for on an event by event basis.

The BEF is committed to safeguarding all people at its events. Whilst the volunteers and Directors of the BEF have not been specifically DBS checked (due to the prohibitive cost of doing so), many of the volunteers have current DBS checks in place for other organisations that they regularly work with, either through their employment or other volunteering work. In addition, the Chair of the BEF is an ex-policeman who can be called upon for relevant advice and guidance where necessary.

If a concern is raised over the appropriateness or behaviour of a volunteer or Director, the remaining Directors of the BEF would undertake an investigation and, where necessary, involve the relevant authorities.

Where a safeguarding concern is raised over the practice at an event held by the BEF, an event official will consult the Event Management Plan (EMP) where required. The EMP is submitted to the NHDC Safety Advisory Group prior to the commencement of the event and contains policies/procedures regarding lost children, health and safety, fire safety, first aid and other noted risks. Where the EMP is not sufficient and/or does not provide sufficient guidance or advice, the appropriate authorities will be contacted.

Any volunteer, Director or member of the public who has concerns over protection of the vulnerable groups can approach an event official at any time, even if the concern is not regarding an occurrence or attendee of a BEF event.

The BEF Directors are committed to providing a safe, inclusive environment at all events.

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