

Stile Antico Foundation: Safeguarding and Protection Policy and Procedures (final 24.6.19 to be reviewed by 16th March 2020)

1. Purpose and requirements:

The Charity Commission makes a strong recommendation that all charities have a Safeguarding and Protection Policy with appropriate procedures. These must be supported and applied by the Trustees and reviewed at regular intervals (yearly). See:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/safeguarding-duties-for-charity-trustees>

The Trustees regard the risks to SAF Beneficiaries, Volunteers, Contractors and Trustees as very low at the present time. SAF will ensure that identification and management of risks remains a priority and this policy and procedure will provide a transparent and effective process to monitor the situation.

Most of the charitable work of SAF is, at present, undertaken by members of the Stile Antico Group (“Group”) who are therefore well known; they also regularly attend Trustees meetings to discuss projects. Trustees normally require members of the Stile Antico Group, Volunteers and Contractors to be in possession of current DBS documentation if they may be working with vulnerable people. Exceptions and reasons will be recorded on proposals.

This Policy and Procedures will remain as part of the integrated Governance structure of SAF and will be reviewed on a yearly basis in the light of other Governance Policies and Procedures that the Trustees will approve.

SAF will require, to the best of its ability, that partnership organisations have similarly effective Safeguarding and Protection Policies and SAF may choose not to partner if SAF feels assurances from partnership organisations are inadequate.

Each proposal to SAF will include a statement identifying possible risks and actions to mitigate these risks, and each report will identify any issues that may have arisen along with actions to correct concerns.

This policy will be shared with the Group, Volunteers, Contractors or partners that SAF works with.

The key paragraphs from the above Charity Commission document are as follows:

Safeguarding children

Safeguarding children duties apply to any charity working with, or coming into contact with, anyone under the age of 18.

Safeguarding children means to:

- protect children from abuse and maltreatment
- prevent harm to children’s health or development
- ensure children grow up with the provision of safe and effective care
- take action to enable all children and young people to have the best outcomes

In England [follow Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018](#)

In Wales [follow All Wales Child Protection Procedures](#)

[Use resources](#) and [follow standards](#) from the NSPCC for safeguarding children.

Safeguarding adults at risk

Safeguarding adults at risk means protecting their right to live in safety and free from abuse and neglect.

Safeguarding duties for adults at risk apply to any charity working with anyone 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 is at risk of, abuse or neglect
- 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 adult at risk of abuse may:

- have an illness affecting their mental or physical health
- have a learning disability
- suffer from drug or alcohol problems
- be frail

In England [follow guidance on the Care Act 2014](#).

In Wales [follow guidance on The Social Services and Well-Being \(Wales\) Act 2014 and Social Care Wales](#)

2. SAF Compliance and reporting procedures

The key requirements are:

- Potential risks will be identified at an early stage by Trustees, members of the Group and/or Volunteers
- Issues or potential issues are to be reported to all Trustees immediately with summary supporting evidence
- Trustees will consider necessary actions, including the requirements for further evidence and external advice, with urgency and certainly within 5 days.
- The above will be on a transparent basis but must be mindful of any confidentiality needs
- The issues, potential issues and any learning lessons will be documented in Trustee meeting documents
- Overall responsibility for Safeguarding remains with the SAF Chair.

3. Framework for SAF Trustee Safeguarding Governance

A summary of Trustee actions to ensure good Governance is provided in the following Charity Commission document:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/756636/10_safeguarding_actions_for_charity_trustees_infographic.pdf