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CMA (UK)

Safeguarding Policy

March 2022.

Christian Motorcyclists’ Association

P.O. Box 8155, Loughborough, LE11 9AR

www.bike.org.uk Tel. 0800 015 4479

Registered Charity no. 1080911

The following definitions apply to this document:

Child:

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child defines a child as everyone under 18 unless, “under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier”.

England

In England a child is defined as anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday. Child protection guidance points out that even if a child has reached 16 years of age and is:

* living independently
* in further education
* a member of the armed forces
* in hospital; or
* in custody in the secure estate

they are still legally children and should be given the same protection and entitlements as any other child (Department for Education, 2018a).

Northern Ireland

In Northern Ireland, The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 defines a 'child' as a person under the age of 18.

Scotland

In Scotland, a child legally becomes an adult when they turn 16, but statutory guidance which supports the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, includes all children and young people up to the age of 18. Where concerns are raised about a 16- or 17-year-old, agencies will need to consider which legislation or guidance is appropriate to follow, given the age and situation of the young person at risk.

Paragraph 21 of the national guidance for child protection in Scotland explains how professionals should act to protect young people from harm in different circumstances (Scottish Government, 2014).

Wales

Section 3 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 states that a child is a person who is aged under 18.

Adults with care and support needs:

The Care Act 2014 defines an adult with care and support needs as someone who is over 18 and needs care and support for their daily living. Adults who are termed as vulnerable may:

* Have a learning disability
* Have mental health problems
* Have substance misuse problems
* Have a long-term illness or chronic condition
* Have a physical disability

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name: Christian Motorcyclists Association (UK) (hereafter known as CMA)

Address: PO Box 8155, Loughborough, LE11 9AR

Tel No: 0800 015 4479

Email address: contact@bike.org.uk

MISSION STATEMENT

The National Executive recognises its responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of children and adults with care and support needs. The Safeguarding Police is an important part of the way in which children and adults with care and support needs coming into contact with CMA will be respected and protected.

As part of its mission, CMA is committed to:

• Valuing, listening to and respecting children and adults with care and support needs as well as promoting their welfare and protection.

• Safe recruitment, supervision and training for any children's/youth workers within the CMA.

• Adopting a procedure for dealing with concerns about possible abuse.

• Encouraging and supporting parents/carers.

• Supporting those in CMA affected by abuse.

• Maintaining good links with the statutory childcare authorities, Police and other organisations.

CMA POLICY

The National Executive recognises the need to provide a safe and caring environment for children and adults with care and support needs. It also acknowledges that children and adults with care and support needs can be the victims of physical, sexual and emotional abuse, and neglect. The National Executive has therefore adopted the procedures set out in this document (hereafter “the policy”). It also recognises the need to build constructive links with statutory and voluntary child protection agencies. The National Executive agrees not to allow the document to be copied by other organisations. The National Executive is committed to on-going child protection training. The National Executive also undertakes to follow the principles found within the Abuse of Trust guidance issued by the Home Office and it is therefore unacceptable for those in a position of trust to engage in any behaviour that might allow a sexual relationship to develop for as long as the relationship of trust continues.

The National Executive is committed to high standards of care and as such both Safeguarding officers shall submit themselves to regular DBS checks at the direction of the National Executive and/or Trustees. These records shall be maintained by the acting National Executive secretary.

RESPONDING TO ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE

Under no circumstances should a CMA member/supporter carry out their own investigation into the allegation or suspicion of abuse. The person in receipt of allegations or suspicions of abuse will do the following:

Concerns must be reported as soon as possible to either or both of the two designated safeguarding officers for CMA UK.

Christopher Houghton. male.safeguarding@bike.org.uk mobile. 0771 097 8338

Katharine Moore. female.safeguarding@bike.org.uk mobile. 0750 093 8419

(Hereafter referenced as safeguarding officers).

These persons are nominated by the National Executive to act on their behalf in dealing with the allegation or suspicion of neglect or abuse, including referring the matter on to the statutory authorities.

The Safeguarding officers may also be required by conditions of the CMA Insurance Policy to immediately inform the Insurance Company.

In the absence of one safeguarding officer, or if the suspicions in any way involve one of the safeguarding officers, then the other safeguarding officer should be contacted.

If the suspicions implicate both safeguarding officers, then the report should be made in the first

instance to ‘thirtyone:eight’ (formerly CCPAS) who are a Christian Charity providing CMA with safeguarding advice and support. Their address is: PO Box 133, Swanley, Kent, BR8 7UQ or telephone 0303 003 1111.

Alternatively contact your local Social Services office. If the welfare of person/s is required, report the details of the circumstances to the Police on 101, requesting a welfare check. Suspicions must not be discussed with anyone other than those nominated above. A written record of the concerns should be made in accordance with CMA procedures and kept in a secure place. All correspondence should be kept secure and password protected.

Whilst allegations or suspicions of abuse will normally be reported to a safeguarding officer, the absence of one or both CMA UK safeguarding officers should not delay referral to the Social Services Department and/or Police.

The National Executive will support the safeguarding officers in their respective roles and accept that any information they may have in their possession will be shared in a strictly limited way on a need-to-know basis.

CMA reserves the right to investigate any issues via whatever means possible with due regard to GDPR.

It is, of course, the right of any individual as a citizen to make a direct referral to the child protection agencies or seek advice from Thirtyone:eight, although the National Executive hopes that members/supporters of CMA will use CMA procedure. If, however, the individual with the concern feels that a safeguarding officer has not responded appropriately, or where they have a disagreement with one or both safeguarding officers as to the appropriateness of a referral, they are free to contact an outside agency direct. We hope by making this statement that the National Executive demonstrates the commitment of CMA to effective protection of children and adults with care and support needs. The role of the CMA UK safeguarding officers is to collate and clarify the precise details of the allegation or suspicion and pass this information on to the Social Services Department and/or Police. It is Social Services and or Police’s task to investigate the matter.

ALLEGATIONS OF PHYSICAL INJURY, EMOTIONAL ABUSE OR NEGLECT

If a child or adult with care and support needs has a physical injury or symptom of neglect, the safeguarding officers will:

• Contact Social Services (or Thirtyone:eight) for advice in cases of deliberate injury, if concerned about the safety of a child or adult with care and support need or if a child is afraid to return home.

• Will not tell the parents or carers unless advised to do so having contacted Social Services.

• Seek medical help if needed urgently, informing the doctor of any suspicions.

• For lesser concerns, (e.g. poor parenting or care), encourage parent/carer to seek help, but not if this places the child at risk of injury.

• Where the parent/carer is unwilling to seek help, offer to accompany them. In cases of real

concern, if they still fail to act, contact Social Services direct for advice.

• Seek and follow advice given by Thirtyone:eight (who will confirm their advice in writing) if unsure whether or not to refer a case to Social Services.

ALLEGATIONS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE

In the event of allegations or suspicions of psychological abuse, (Controlling behaviours intimidation, manipulation, coercion, exploitation, harassment, and bullying), the safeguarding officers will explore the concerns with all parties, identify any safeguarding concerns which may be relevant and, if deemed serious, encourage victims to self-report to appropriate bodies, Branch Chairman or National Executive as necessary.

ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

In the event of allegations or suspicions of sexual abuse, the safeguarding officers will

• Contact the Social Services Department Duty Social Worker for children and families or Police Child Protection Team direct. They will NOT speak to the parent/carer or anyone else.

• Seek and follow the advice given by Thirtyone:eight if, for any reason they are unsure whether or not to contact Social Services/Police. Thirtyone:eight will confirm its advice in writing for future reference.

APPOINTMENT, SUPPORT, SUPERVISION & TRAINING OF LEADERS & WORKERS

The National Executive will ensure that training, support and advice is available in accordance with the principles set out in government guidelines “Safe from Harm” (HMSO 1993) and Thirtyone:eight guidance. The same principles will be applied to those in contact with adults with care and support needs.

SUPERVISION OF GROUP/CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

The National Executive will provide details of the supervision for each specific activity involving children. The organisers of events (at Branch or national level) to complete risk assessments where appropriate.

SUPPORT TO THOSE AFFECTED BY ABUSE

The National Executive is committed to offering pastoral care, working with statutory agencies as appropriate, and support to those members/supporters of CMA who have been affected by abuse.

OFFENDERS

Anyone known to have abused children, or who is under investigation, or is known to be a risk to adults with care and support needs cannot be offered membership or be a registered supporter. In order to avoid giving the impression that such persons are trusted with any responsibility by CMA they cannot be involved in CMA activities. Prayer and pastoral support should be offered. It may be necessary to arrange for such support outside CMA.

This policy will be reviewed annually before the CMA UK AGM, or on or about 1st June.

Signed 1 Katharine Moore. Date 10TH June 2022

Print Name. Katharine Moore.

Appointment. Female Safeguarding officer

Signed 2 Christopher Houghton Date 10th June 2022

Print Name. Christopher Houghton

Appointment. Male Safeguarding officer.

(Last amended 10th June 2022)