

# Irish Beekeepers' Association

Oct 2019

*Appendix to Members' Handbook*

**Child Protection Policy Statement**



## Appendix 1 - Child Protection Policy Statement.

We, Irish Beekeepers' Association CLG are committed to protecting children from harm.

Committee members, members and volunteers in this organisation accept and recognize our responsibilities to develop awareness of the practices which cause children harm.

See separate [comprehensive statement available on our website](#) and to be circulated in tandem with this handbook

We will endeavour to safeguard children by developing, implementing, monitoring and upholding procedures which protect and preserve their health and wellbeing.

1. **All children [under 18] becoming members of an association must be accompanied by their full member guardian who will be responsible for their wellbeing whilst at any beekeeping function. They will be with them at all times.**

### **NO GUARDIAN NO CHILD UNDER 18 YEARS AS A MEMBER.**

- *Each association is requested to have in place a Child Protection policy which has two Child protection officers who have undergone the specific training to be able to deal with a disclosure. [find out who has done the course as part of their own other activities]*
- *The following is a template which can be used by each association adding their own details in areas needed.*
- **WE HAND OVER THE DOCUMENTATION DO NOT KEEP COPIES AS WE DO NOT HAVE PERMANENT FACILITIES WHERE SUCH DOCUMENTS CAN BE STORED SECURELY.**

Definitions, signs and symptoms of Child Abuse

### **Definitions of Child abuse**

Child abuse is defined as neglect, emotional abuse, physical or sexual abuse of a child. A child may be subjected to more than one form of abuse at any given time.

- Neglect occurs by omission where the child suffers significant harm or impairment of development by being deprived of food, clothing, warmth, hygiene, intellectual stimulation, supervision and safety, attachment to and affection from adults, medical care.



- Emotional abuse occurs when a child's need for affection, approval, consistency and security are not met. Emotional abuse is normally to be found in the relationship between care-giver and a child.
- Physical abuse is any form of non-accidental injury which results from a willful or neglectful failure to protect a child
- Sexual abuse occurs when a child is used by another person for his/her gratification or sexual arousal or for that of others

### **Signs of Child Abuse<sup>1</sup>**

Ability to recognise child abuse depends as much on a person's willingness to accept the possibility of its existence as it does on knowledge and information. It is important to note that child abuse is not always readily visible, and may not be as clearly observable as the indicators in Appendix 1 suggest.

### **Name of designated Persons<sup>2</sup>**

***E.G. association secretary and one other both whom have had to have done Child Protection Course to be in this position***

### **Policy on Confidentiality**

- In the case of a child protection issue any person who suspects that a child is being abused or is at risk of abuse, has a responsibility to report their concerns to the designated Child Protection Officer
- All information regarding concerns or assessment of child abuse will be shared only on a "need to know" basis in the interest of the child. Giving information to others for the protection of the children is not a breach of confidentiality. Where the interests of the parents and child appear to conflict, the child's interest are paramount.
- Where the designated Officer suspects child abuse, the family will be informed if a report will be submitted to the health board, unless doing so is likely to endanger the child. The family has the right to complain if they choose, via Knocklong Development Association complaint procedure.
- Arrangements for child protection can only be successful if **the association**[ie 3 Counties Beekeeping Association] works in partnership with and shares relevant information with the Health Service Executive and An Garda Síochána. No undertakings regarding secrecy will be given to a child or family.



All committee, members and volunteers will be briefed on confidentiality on their joining the **association** [ie 3 Counties beekeeping association]

### **Responding to Disclosure of Child Abuse**

Where a child discloses abuse to committee member, member or volunteer the following procedure is followed:

1. Stay calm
2. Listen/Accept
3. Record and date all observations of worrying marks/behaviour
4. Report to designated officer
5. Record your report your record

Do not ask leading questions, delay or start to investigate yourself.

Immediately document concerns and report to the designated Child Protection Officer.

Judgment about the abuse must be left to the HSE

### **Procedure for recording and reporting concerns, suspicions and disclosures of Child Abuse**

-----[ie 3 counties ba] believes that early intervention may reduce the risk of serious harm occurring to a child in the future.

The following examples would constitute reasonable grounds for concern:

- a) A specific indication from a child that (s)he was abused;
- b) A statement from a person who witnessed abuse;
- c) And illness, injury or behaviour consistent with abuse;
- d) A symptom which may not in itself be totally consistent with abuse, but which is supported by corroborative evidence of deliberate harm or negligence;
- e) Consistent signs of neglect over a period of time

The committee member, member, volunteer who has a concern in relation to child abuse logs his/her concerns in the Child Protection Sheet3 and reports to the designated child protection officer



**Where the designated officer suspects or alleges child abuse, the following steps are taken:**

1. A report is made to the HSE in person, by phone or in writing.
2. The form for Reporting Child Protection and/or Welfare Concerns is completed.
3. In the event of an emergency or the non-availability of HSE staff, a report may be made to An Garda Síochána at any Garda Station

Indicators of Child Abuse

<b>Neglect</b>	
<b>Physical Indicators</b>	<b>Behavioural Indicators</b>
Constant hunger Exposed to danger; lack of supervision Inadequate/inappropriate clothing Poor hygiene Untreated illness Tiredness	Listlessness Lack of relationships Low self-esteem Compulsive stealing/begging

<b>Physical Abuse</b>	
<b>Physical Indicators</b>	<b>Behavioural Indicators</b>
Scratches Bite marks or welts Bruises in places difficult to mark Burns, especially cigarette burns Untreated injuries	Self mutilation tendencies Chronic runaway Aggressive or withdrawn Fear of returning home Undue fear of adults Fearful watchfulness

<b>Sexual Abuse</b>	
<b>Physical Indicators</b>	<b>Behavioural Indicators</b>
Soreness, bleeding in genital/anal areas Itching in genital areas Stained or bloody underwear Stomach pains or headaches Pain on urination Difficulty in walking or sitting Bruises on inner thighs or buttocks Anorexic/bulimic	Chronic depression Inappropriate language, sexual knowledge for age group Making sexual advances to adults or other children Low self-esteem Afraid of the dark Wariness of being approached by anyone Substance/drug abuse



<b>Emotional Abuse</b>	
<b>Physical Indicators</b>	<b>Behavioural Indicators</b>
Sudden speech disorders Wetting and soiling Signs of mutation Frequent vomiting	Rocking or thumb sucking Rear of change Chronic runaway Poor peer relationships Attention seeking behaviour

Procedure for reporting suspicions/disclosure of child abuse

Committee member, member, volunteer immediately documents his/her concerns and reports to  
Designated Child Protection Officer

**Designated Persons**

Name: [I.E. Pauline Walsh]



Role: Child Protection Officer: [i.e. 3 Counties beekeeping association]

Tel: 000000000000000000

Address:

Name:

Role: Child Protection Officer

Tel:

Address:

Social Work Manager:

Gardá Síochána Station:

### Child Protection Record Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date and time	
Incident	
Physical injury	



Conversation	
Behaviour causing concerns	
Actions	
Signature	