

## **SAFEGUARDING POLICY** (Formerly Vulnerable Adults Policy). 17<sup>th</sup> November 2025 v4

### **What is Safeguarding?**

Safeguarding means protecting a person's right to a safe environment, free from abuse or neglect. It is about people and organisations working together to prevent and stop both the risks and experiences of abuse and neglect, whilst ensuring that an adult's wellbeing is promoted. This includes, where appropriate, having regard for their views, wishes, feelings and beliefs.

### **Romsey Men's Shed sets out the following values in safeguarding its**

#### **Members:**

- All Members have the right to participate in the activities of the Shed, subject to Shed rules, free from abuse or neglect or fear of abuse or neglect.
- All Members have the right to have their views, wishes, feelings and beliefs respected and taken into account.
- All Members have the right to be provided with a safe environment with adequate health and safety procedures in place.
- All Members have the right not to be discriminated against for their age, gender, sexuality, race or other personal characteristics.
- All Members have the right to have any allegation they make about abuse or neglect taken seriously and acted on immediately.

#### **Romsey Men's Shed members' responsibilities in the community:**

- Men's shed activities include delivering projects at venues in the community including schools and early education provision. It is therefore expected that any members involved in such activities are cognisant of, and comply with, the safeguarding policies of those with whom we have dealings.
- Men's shed projects which are delivered 'off site' or at another organisation will include consideration of safeguarding within the risk assessment process undertaken prior to commencement of the activity.

### **How to report a safeguarding concern**

Members who have a complaint or concern relating to safeguarding should report it immediately to a Trustee who with all of the Trustees will investigate the allegation and take the appropriate action.

### **Adults at Risk (formally Vulnerable Adults)**

#### **How do you determine whether an adult is at risk?**

The Care Act 2014, which provides the legal framework for safeguarding, recognises an adult at risk as an adult whom:

- a. Has needs for care and support.
- b. Is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect, and



- c. As a result of those needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.

### **Are Members considered adults at risk?**

Members will not be considered to be at risk unless they give cause for concern when we will speak with our local care giving authority for advice. It is not the responsibility of Romsey Men's Shed to organise or seek carers for Members.

### **Adults at Risk**

Where every effort will be made for the Shed to be accessible to everyone, it is recognised that safety is the most important factor and the nature of the Shed activities may mean that not everybody will be able to attend.

Romsey Men's Shed recognises that its Members are not care practitioners and that an adult at risk wanting to be a member of the Shed may need professional support to do so. Therefore, it will ensure that appropriate steps are taken to ensure that prospective members are met with and an assessment is made as to whether the Shed is a safe place for them, or whether they may need professional support, at an appropriate person to person ratio to be able to safely attend the Shed.

Romsey Men's Shed is a voluntary organisation and not professional care practitioners. Therefore, help will need to be sought for any instance or allegation of abuse towards an adult at risk. Local Authorities take the lead in providing care to adults at risk in their area and should always be the first point of contact (Adult Services Team, Hampshire County Council Tel: 03005 551386 or [adult.services@hants.gov.uk](mailto:adult.services@hants.gov.uk)) unless the situation is deemed an emergency or crime, at which point the police should be called (on 999).

This policy will be reviewed annually each November. A newly signed document will only be required if the Trustees update or change the policy during the annual review.

Date.....19<sup>th</sup> November 2025

Signature Chair.....

Signature of Trustee.....