



VALEWAYS

Safeguarding Policy

Purpose

Valeways is a registered charity in the Vale of Glamorgan working to facilitate and promote country walking, hiking and rambling in the Vale. We achieve this by utilising volunteers as trustees, walk leaders and other activities. We also have responsibilities to our members and other members of the public who use our services.

We are aware of our responsibility to our users to provide a safe environment. In particular, we need to reduce the risks to vulnerable adults and children who may be especially vulnerable.

The purpose of this safeguarding policy is to define our policy for minimising risks in particular to these vulnerable groups.

Although our ethos is to welcome everyone regardless of their age or sex, we are unable to provide specialist assistance. Therefore, we can only welcome children under the age of 18 if they are accompanied by a responsible adult. Adults who are unable to care for themselves are only accepted if they are accompanied by a carer.

Responsibilities

Walk leaders and other activity organisers have the responsibility for ensuring the safety of all participants. They may exclude potential participants if they feel they would be, or others would be, in danger.

Trustees have the responsibility of ensuring that we act in accordance with the law and that we have policies in place to ensure that we act in a safe manner.

Participants have the responsibility for informing the activity leaders of anything that may compromise either their safety or that of others.

Valeways commitments

Valeways will to the best of its abilities provide an environment in which both participants and volunteers feel safe. They will achieve this by:

- Adopting procedures that comply with this Safeguarding policy and that meet the need of Valeways, its participants and volunteers.
- Ensuring that all volunteers are aware of Valeways policies and have undergone relevant training.
- Work with outside agencies and within their parameters.
- Reporting any concerns to the appropriate authorities.

Review and Revision

This policy will be updated when there is a change in legal or other requirements. This policy will be also reviewed every two years.

Copies of all other Valeways policies are available on the website.

Adopted August 2021

Reviewed December 2023