

Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust Child Protection Policy

The reason for our Trust requiring a Child Protection policy is that we hold a register of Junior Members.

Junior Members are members of the community, aged between 12 and 17 years, who have requested official 'membership' of the Trust. The Trust does NOT undertake any activities where we are responsible for children directly, either as individual Directors or as a Directorial body.

The only direct contact we will have with a Junior member, in the usual course of Trust activities, is in the sending out, by post or by email, relevant Trust information such as Minutes, Email bulletins, Newsletters etc. The same information is also sent out to adult members. The Trust believes that every child regardless of age has at all times and in all situations a right to feel safe and protected from any situation or practice that results in a child being physically or psychologically damaged.

- We do hold a register of Junior members, strictly for the purposes mentioned above;
- we will only accept Junior members if they provide a Junior members application form, which requires the signature and details of a parent/guardian;
- we do NOT pass the Junior members listing out to anyone, for any reason. This policy overrides any request by other members and/or non-members to request a copy of the list as per the Companies' Act 2006;
- we treat all members with respect;
- we will communicate our Minutes, Email bulletins, Newsletters etc. directly to the Junior member either by email or by post;
- we will be aware that someone else may misunderstand our actions even if they are well intentioned;
- we will not set up any situation where Trust Directors or employees are located with any Junior members who are unaccompanied by a responsible adult. A responsible adult will be either a parent/guardian or Teacher or other person who has had a full Disclosure check;
- when providing grant assistance to any group working with children, we will ensure that we have sight of their Constitution and their Child Protection policy;
- we will only provide grants to individual children following an application form signed by their parent/guardian;
- we will respect a Junior member's right to privacy;
- when engaging with Junior members, we will take action to stop or prevent any inappropriate verbal or written behaviour; and

- all Directors and Contractors will share any concerns with the Trust’s designated Child Protection officer who, unless otherwise stated, is understood to be the Chairperson – contacts are available here [About the Trust | Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust \(stratherrickcommunity.org.uk\)](http://stratherrickcommunity.org.uk). The designated officer will record what they have been told, discuss it as soon as possible with two other Directors and agree what action needs to be taken.

The local area Social Work Office information here on the Council Website [Child protection | Child protection | The Highland Council](#) and for Police dial 101.

Review

This Policy and these Procedures will be regularly reviewed:

- In accordance with changes in legislation and guidance on the protection of children or following any changes within Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust
- Following any issues or concerns raised about the protection of children within Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust
- In all other circumstances, at least every year

Last reviewed 21/11/2023