



Child Safeguarding Statement Wexford Water Safety Area Committee/ Club

In accordance with the requirements of the Children First Act 2015, Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 and Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements, Irish Water Safety - **Wexford** has agreed the Child Safeguarding Statement set out in this document.

- 1 The National Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Aisling Nesbitt
- 2 The Irish Water Safety - **Wexford** Designated Liaison Persons (Deputy DLP) are : Tom Doyle, Áine Stafford, Joanne Beaver and Marie Rossiter Gargan
- 3 Irish Water Safety - **Wexford** recognises that child protection and welfare considerations is of paramount importance and must be reflected in its policies, procedures, practices and activities. In its policies, procedures, practices and activities, Irish Water Safety – Wexford will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare:

The Irish Water Safety - **Wexford** will:

- recognise that the protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance, regardless of all other considerations;
- fully comply with its statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015 and other relevant legislation relating to the protection and welfare of children;
- fully co-operate with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child protection and welfare matters
- adopt safe practices to minimise the possibility of harm or accidents happening to children and protect workers from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of abuse or neglect;
- develop a practice of openness with the public; and
- fully respect confidentiality requirements in dealing with child protection matters.

Irish Water Safety – **Wexford** will also adhere to the above principles in relation to any adult or child with a special vulnerability.

- 4 The following procedures/measures are in place:
 - In relation to any member of Irish Water Safety - **Wexford** who is the subject of any investigation (howsoever described) in respect of any act, omission or circumstance in respect of a child, Irish Water Safety - **Wexford** adheres to the relevant procedures set out in the Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport.
 - In relation to the approval of members and their suitability to work with children, Irish Water Safety - **Wexford** adheres to the statutory vetting requirements of the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Acts 2012 to 2016.

- In relation to the provision of information and, where necessary, instruction and training, to members of Irish Water Safety - **Wexford** in respect of the identification of the occurrence of harm (as defined in the 2015 Act) the Irish Water Safety - **Wexford** -
 - Will provide each member with a copy of its Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Will ensure all new members are provided with a copy of its Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Will require all members to avail of relevant training

- In relation to reporting of child protection concerns, members of Irish Water Safety - **Wexford** are required to adhere to the procedures set out in the Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport under the Children First Act 2015.

- Irish Water Safety - **Wexford** has appointed the above named DLPs as the “relevant people” (as defined in the Children First Act 2015) to be the first point of contact in respect of the Child Safeguarding Statement.

- In accordance with the Children First Act 2015, Irish Water Safety - **Wexford** has carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child attending or participating in Irish Water Safety - **Wexford** approved activities. A written assessment setting out the areas of risk identified and the WSAC’s procedures for managing those risks is attached as an appendix to these procedures.

- The various procedures referred to in this Statement can be accessed via Irish Water Safety – **Wexford** website, the IWS website or will be made available on request by the WSAC.

Note: The above is not intended as an exhaustive list.

- 5 This statement has been published on Irish Water Safety – **Wexford** website, the IWS website and has been provided to all members of Irish Water Safety - **Wexford**. It is readily accessible to members of the public on request.

- 6 This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed annually or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which this statement refers.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by the Irish Water Safety **Wexford on pending Water Safety Committee Meeting Next scheduled meeting : March 2nd 2019**

Signed: _____

Signed: _____

Chairperson of IWS – **Wexford**

Secretary of IWS – **Wexford**

Date: _____

Date: _____