

Bruiser Safeguarding Adults at Risk and Child Protection Policy v1.2

Date	Policy version	Updates	Approved	Next review due
27/11/2022	V1.0	N/A	Rosie Timoney	November 2024
26/11/2024	V1.1	Reviewed policy and updates made to external organisations (addition of out of hours and PSNI updates). Board members updated.	Diana McKeown	November 2026
28/05/2025	V1.2	Board members and Designated officer updated.	Colin Morelli	May 2027

Bruiser safeguarding adults at risk and child protection policy statement

Everyone in Bruiser is committed to carrying out our work in ways which protect children, young people and adults at risk from harm. Staff, volunteers and artists in this organisation accept and recognise their responsibilities relevant to safeguarding children, young people and adults at risk and will endeavour to carry these out by

- having an awareness of the issues which cause children, young people and adults at risk harm
- adopting safeguarding guidelines for staff, leaders, volunteers and artists
- providing information about safeguarding and good practice to children, parents, staff, volunteers and artists
- Reporting or sharing information appropriately about concerns with children, young people, adults at risk, parents and others who need to know
- following carefully the appropriate procedures and recruitment and selection of helpers (staff, volunteers, artists) and the management of the group
- undertaking appropriate training and effective management of staff and volunteers
- keeping safeguarding policies under regular review
- providing safeguarding information as required to management committees/ funders.

Bruiser will also request the completion of a consent form by staff and volunteers, in order to request an Access NI disclosure check if required.

This policy draws on the Arts Council of Northern Ireland's Safeguarding Best Practice Guidelines for Arts Organisations, and users of this policy document should also consider consulting ACNI's own Safeguarding Policy for useful guidance and contacts.⁽¹⁾

This policy will be reviewed and updated as appropriate in line with current legislation and best practice.

The Aims of this Policy

Bruiser's safeguarding and child protection policy clearly sets out what we will do to keep children safe when they are involved in Bruiser activities. The policy, and the attached procedures, demonstrates Bruisers commitment to:

- ensuring the welfare of all children, young people and adults at risk participating in Bruiser activities through commitment to good practice that protects them from harm
- providing and maintaining a service that protects children from harm, protects staff, and thirdly protects the company itself from potential allegations
- ensuring that the Board, staff and volunteers are carefully selected, trained and that they are familiar with this policy and its associated procedures
- ensuring that all reasonable steps are taken to ensure that unsuitable people are prevented from working with children
- ensuring that safeguarding and child protection concerns are reported to the appropriate authorities
- ensuring that Bruiser's stakeholders are familiar with this policy and its associated procedures

Code of Practice

Bruiser Theatre Company expects that all staff and volunteers will be aware of this code of practice and adhere to its principles when their work with Bruiser brings them into contact with children.

It is important not to deter children from making a 'disclosure' of abuse through fear of not being believed, and to listen to what they have to say. Guidance on handling a disclosure is set out below.

If a disclosure gives rise to a child protection concern it is important to follow Bruiser's procedure for reporting such concerns (as set out below), and not to attempt to investigate the concern yourself.

You should be familiar with the definitions of abuse and information on potential indicators of abuse contained in Appendix 6.

It may sometimes be necessary for staff or volunteers to do things of a personal nature for children, particularly if they are young or are disabled. These tasks should only be carried out with the full understanding and consent of parents and the carers involved. There is a need to be responsive to a person's reactions.

If a person is fully dependent on you, talk with him/her about what you are doing and give choices where possible. This is particularly so if you are involved in any dressing or undressing of outer clothing, or where there is physical contact, lifting or assisting a child to carry out particular activities. Avoid taking on the responsibility for tasks for which you are not appropriately trained.

Do not make suggestive or inappropriate remarks to or about a child, even in fun, as this could be misinterpreted.

Procedure for Responding to Allegations or Suspicions of Abuse

Dealing with a Disclosure:

DO's when dealing with abuse disclosure:

Listen and believe - Take the disclosure seriously and avoid questioning the person's account. Let them speak without interruption and acknowledge their courage in coming forward.

Stay calm and supportive - Maintain a non-judgmental attitude and reassure the person that the abuse is not their fault. Your reaction can significantly impact their willingness to continue sharing.

Document carefully - Write down exactly what was said using the person's own words as soon as possible. Include dates, times, and any relevant details without adding interpretation.

Follow mandatory reporting - Report to appropriate authorities (child protective services, police, designated safeguarding officer) as required by law and organisational policies.

Ensure immediate safety - If there's immediate danger, take steps to protect the person while following proper protocols.

DON'Ts when dealing with abuse disclosure:

Don't promise absolute confidentiality - Explain that you may need to share information to keep them safe, but only with people who need to know.

Don't interrogate or investigate - Avoid asking leading questions, demanding details, or trying to "fact-check" their account. This is the role of trained professionals.

Don't confront the alleged abuser - This could compromise investigations, destroy evidence, or put the victim at greater risk.

Don't discuss with others unnecessarily - Only share information with those who have a legitimate need to know for safety or reporting purposes.

Don't make promises you can't keep - Avoid guaranteeing specific outcomes or saying

things like "everything will be fine."

The one thing you MUST NOT do is NOTHING.

In all cases, you must:

Be prompt, calm, assured and professional

Make a detailed record of the disclosure using the Recording Allegations of Abuse Form (see Appendix 2).

Report the matter immediately to the designated person for child protection (the Education Officer), who will countersign the form.

If the Education Officer is not available, then contact the Development Manager.

Keep any details strictly confidential and share only on a 'need to know' basis.

See Appendix 4 for contact details for relevant internal staff and external organisations. The following points should be noted/considered when recording allegations of abuse (see the form on page 9).

The child's name, age, date of birth, home address and telephone number.

Whether or not the person making the report is expressing their own concerns or those of someone else.

The nature of the allegation. Include dates, times, any special factors and other relevant information.

Make a clear distinction between what is fact, opinion or hearsay.

A description of any visible bruising or other injuries. Also, any indirect signs, such as behavioural changes.

Details of witnesses to the incident(s).

The child's account, if it can be given, of what has happened and how any bruising or other injuries occurred.

Have the parents been contacted? If so, what has been said?

Has anyone else been consulted? If so, record details.

If the child was not the person who reported the incident, has the child been spoken to? If so, what was said?

Has anyone been alleged to be the abuser? Record details.

Where possible, referral to the police or social services should be confirmed in writing within 24 hours and the name of the contact who took the referral should be recorded.

If you are worried about sharing concerns about abuse with the Education Officer or Board of Directors, you can contact Social Services or the Police directly, or the **NSPCC Child Protection Helpline** on **0808 800 5000** or **Childline** on **0800 1111**. See the list of contact information at Appendix 4 on page 13.

Action if you suspect abuse:

If you witness any behaviour which causes you concern or if for any reason you are concerned that a child may have been the victim of abuse you must inform the Education Officer immediately. If the Education Officer is not available you should contact the Development Manager. Again, if you are worried about sharing concerns about abuse with the Education Officer or the Development Manager, you can contact Social Services or the Police directly, or the **NSPCC Child Protection Helpline** on **0808 800 5000**, or **Childline** on **0800 1111**. See the flowchart at Appendix 1 on page 8 for further information.

Procedure if bullying is suspected

All allegations of bullying should be reported to the Education Officer, who will investigate and take action to ensure the victim is safe.

(In the following guidance, any reference to a bully in the singular also implies a reference to bullies.)

Action to help the victim and prevent bullying

Take all signs of bullying very seriously.

Encourage all children to speak and share their concerns. (It is believed that up to 12 children per year commit suicide as a result of bullying, so if anyone talks about or threatens suicide, seek professional help immediately). Help the victim to speak out and tell the person in charge or someone in authority.

Speak with the victim and the bully separately.

Reassure the victim that you can be trusted and will help them, although you cannot promise to tell no one else.

Keep records of what is said (what happened, by whom, when).

Report any concerns to the Education Officer if it is a workshop where Bruiser has responsibility for the participants, or to the school teachers present if it is a workshop in which the teachers are present and have responsibility for the participants.

Action towards the bully:

Ensure that the matter will be treated seriously, immediately and confidentially, and any appropriate actions will be taken.

Talk with the bully, explain the situation, and try to get the bully to understand the consequences of their behaviour.

Seek an apology to the person who has been bullied.

Inform the bully's parents if appropriate

Insist on the return of 'borrowed' items

Impose sanctions as necessary.

Encourage and support the bully to change behaviour.

Hold meetings with the families to report on progress if the bullying is ongoing

Inform appropriate staff on actions taken.

Keep a written record of action taken.

Policy on use and storage of disclosure information

As an organisation using Access NI to help assess the suitability of applicants for positions of the Board, Bruiser Theatre Company complies fully with Access NI's Code of Practice regarding the correct handling, use, storage retention and disposal of Disclosure Applications and Disclosure information. We also comply fully with our obligations under the **Data Protection Act 2018** and other relevant legislation pertaining to the safe handling, storage, retention and disposal of Disclosure information. See Appendix 5 for our complete policy.

Photographing, videoing and filming

Prior consent should be sought from parents or guardians before photographing, videoing or filming children at an event or activity, and certainly before using any of the images taken. Consent should be provided in writing using the consent form at Appendix 3.

Where it is practical and possible, those wishing to use photographic / film / video equipment at a venue should obtain permission from the organisers prior to the event or activity taking place.

Where applicable all materials promoting an event or activity should state clearly that accredited photographers will be present.

Accredited photographers should carry visible identification badge / sticker pass, at all times, on the day of the activity / event.

No unsupervised access or one-to-one photographic sessions should be permitted

with children unless it is with the prior approval of the parent/guardian and the event organisers.

Particular care must be taken in publishing photographs, video, film footage of 'vulnerable' children (those with learning, physical or language disabilities), as they could be particularly vulnerable to abuse.

The use of images to promote activities on the Bruiser Theatre Company website will be carefully monitored. It is possible for the content of any photo to be manipulated or adapted for inappropriate use. Only images of children and young people in suitable dress should be used to limit potential 'inappropriate use'.

Recruitment and selection

Role Description for Volunteers

Volunteers are not required to possess any specific qualifications, but must possess the following key skills:

- Leadership skills, especially while managing groups of children, young people or adults at risk.
- Strong communication skills.
- Commitment to the projects they are engaged with.

Open Recruitment Process

When recruiting for staff or volunteers, we will ensure the process is as open as possible. We will widely advertise positions to ensure a diverse pool of applicants can apply.

Application Forms

All applicants for staff roles or volunteers will complete an application form. This will be provided alongside a clear role description, information about the organisation's aims, a copy of our safeguarding policy, with an assurance that all information received will be dealt with confidentially.

Interview Process

There will be an interview process for all qualifying candidates which is appropriate to the role they are applying for.

Carrying out checks as part of recruitment and selection:

(a) New employees

The recruitment of all posts within Bruiser Theatre Company is administered by the Development Manager. The Development Manager should notify the Board of Directors of those posts which have substantial access to children under 16 years of age, and adults at risk of harm or adults in need of protection.

For every new employee the Board will seek to obtain:

- Two references, at least one of which should be the present or most recent employer.
- A criminal record background check.

For every new employee or facilitator likely to have substantial access to children the Board will request an Access NI check before appointing anyone to the post.

(b) Volunteers

Volunteers working for the Board will be asked for consent to carry out the necessary police and Access NI checks by the relevant department.

(c) Facilitators

All persons to be included on the Board's approved list of education and workshop facilitators will undergo an Access NI check prior to being engaged to undertake any work.

(d) Chaperones

The Board will ensure that any chaperones provided by organisations other than Bruiser Theatre Company have undergone appropriate background checks.

(e) Overseas Applicants

Access NI is unable to obtain overseas criminal records or other relevant information as part of the Disclosure service.

If Bruiser is recruiting from overseas and needs to check criminal records, Access NI will only be able to provide details of offences committed in the UK. A person who has recently moved to the UK may not appear on any of the records searched by Access NI.

It is our responsibility as the employer to consider and evaluate the risks involved in these circumstances.

If Bruiser Theatre Company is intending to employ applicants from overseas, the organisation may contact the country's representative in the UK. Contact details for those countries that have a representative in the UK can be found on the Foreign and Commonwealth Office website www.fco.gov.uk or telephone 020 7008 1500.

We may also consider examining the website of the police force of the country of origin.

Induction Process

Once staff or volunteers have been selected, they will engage in the induction process. This will inform them of the Bruiser policies, provide them with this handbook for reference, and inform them of relevant procedures.

Probationary periods for staff and trial periods for volunteers will be outlined during the induction.

Where required, relevant training will be provided to ensure the safe fulfilment of the role.

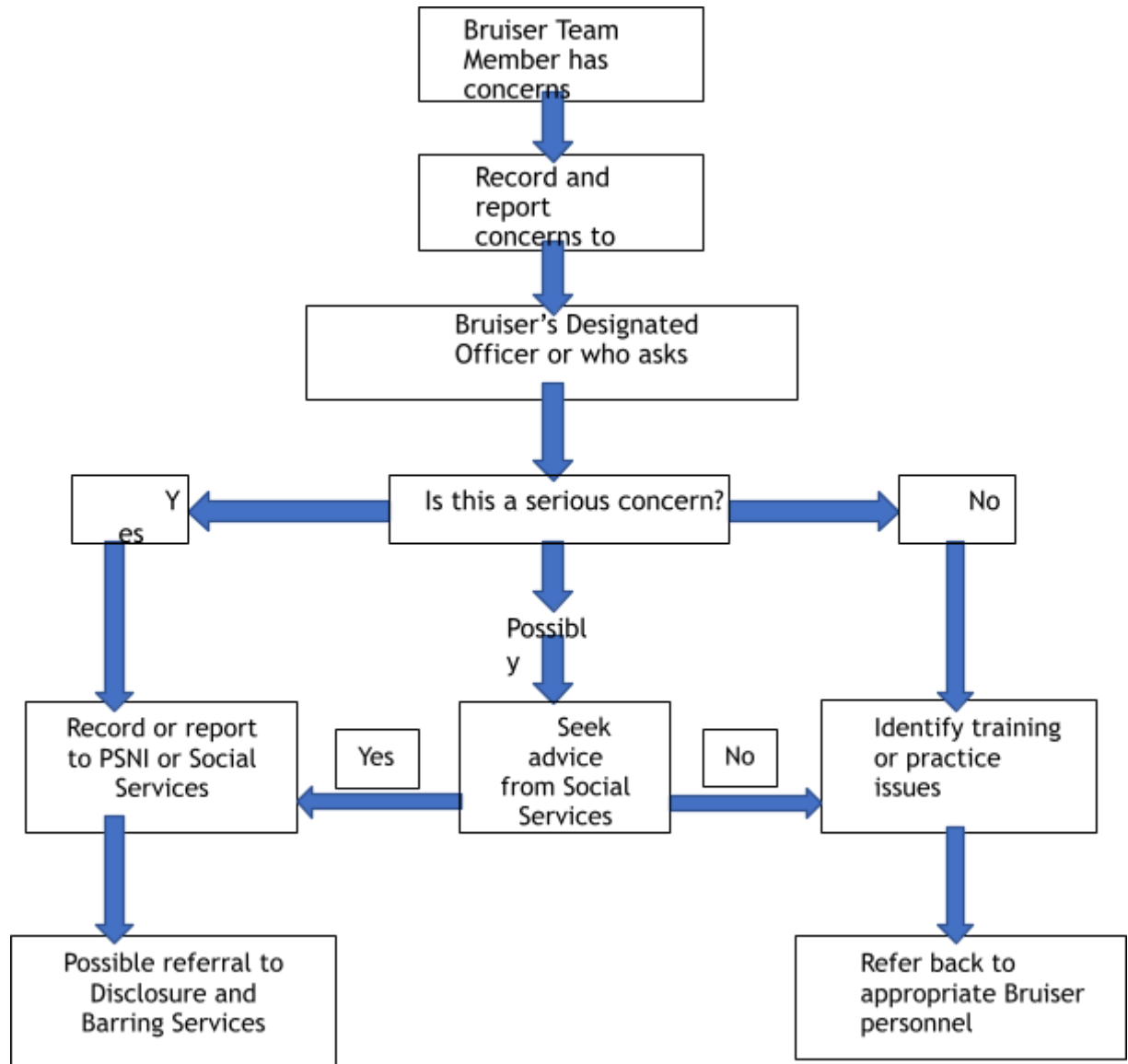
The induction will reiterate what is expected of their role, and raise awareness on the recognition, recording and reporting of abuse. It will also include practical information such as the use of breaks, holidays etc.

Support and Supervision

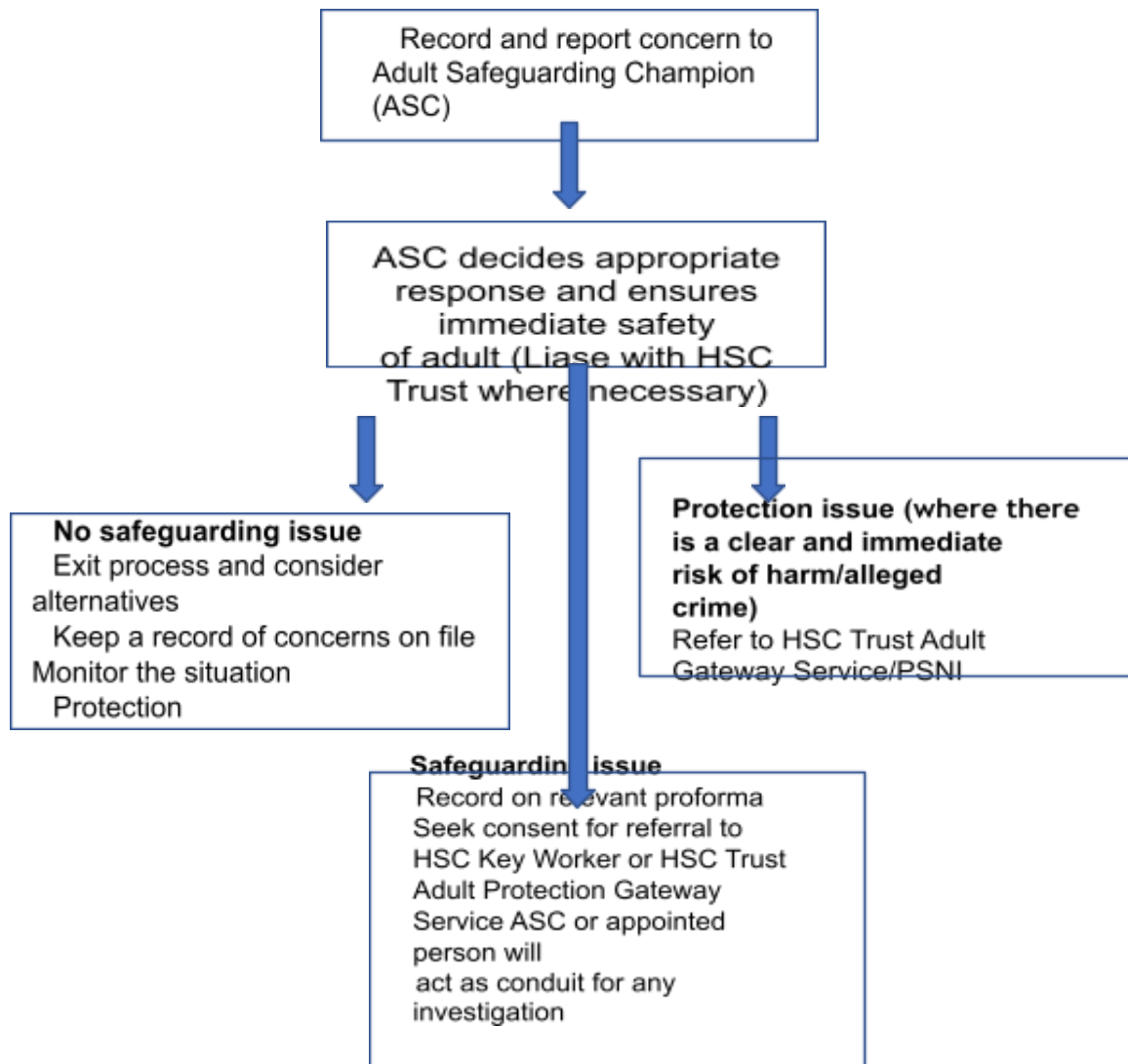
It is essential that all Bruiser staff and volunteers feel supported in their work. We support our staff by regularly facilitating discussion after events, so that we are aware of any issues that may have affected the work being carried out. This discussion can be one-to-one meetings, group meetings, or through email.

Appendix 1: Procedures for reporting concerns

Young people and children:



Adults at risk:



Appendix 2: Recording allegations or suspicions of abuse

The two-page form overleaf should be used to record allegations or suspicions of abuse in the context of Bruiser activities involving children.

Record of allegations or suspicions of abuse			
Name of Child		Age / Date of Birth	
Date of Incident			
Are there any special factors?			
Name of parent or guardian and home address. Please include telephone number if available.			
Is the person making the report expressing their own concerns or passing on those of somebody else? Make distinction between what is fact and what is hearsay.			
What has prompted the concerns? Include dates, times etc of any specific incidents. Are there any physical signs? Behavioural signs? Indirect signs?			
Has the child been spoken to? By whom? If so, what was said? (Continue on an additional sheet if required)			

Have the parents been contacted? By whom? If so, what was said
Has anybody been alleged to be the abuser? If so, record details.
Has anyone else been consulted? If so, record details and outcome of consultation.
Name of person reporting the concerns, and their position in Bruiser

Signature of designated child protection officer		Date	
Signature of Bruiser board member		Date	

The following form should be used to record allegations or suspicions of abuse in the context of Bruiser activities involving adults at risk. For details of the Adult Safeguarding Champion (ASC) see below.

Work Location:
Name of Adult:
Age/Date of Birth:
Identified Gender:
Names of carers (if known)
Home address (if known)
1. Disclosure by adult at risk
When was the disclosure made (dates and times)?
Who did the adult make the disclosure to?
What did the adult actually say?
2. Indicators
Describe any signs or indicators of abuse (with times and dates)
Has the adult alleged that any particular person is the abuser (if so, please record details and the relationship, if any, to the adult below)
3. Concerns expressed by another person about an adult at risk

Record the concerns that were passed to you (with dates and times) and if possible ask the person who expressed the concerns to confirm that the details as written are correct

4. Details of any immediate action taken, e.g. first aid, etc

5. Has the adult expressed any reservations about you talking to your Adult Safeguarding Champion about the matter?

6. Does the adult have any particular needs, e.g. communication, etc?

Signatures

To be signed by the person reporting the concern

Name:

Job title:

Signed:

Date

Date received and actioned by Adult Safeguarding Champion

Name:

Signed:

Date:

Action taken by Manager/Designated Safeguarding officer

Signed:

Date:



Allegations made against staff and volunteers

In the event of an allegation being made against a member of Bruiser staff or a volunteer, we will follow this reporting procedure to ensure we uphold our responsibilities to both the young person/adult at risk

Appendix 3 Consent Form

The 2-page form overleaf should be issued in advance of activities involving young people, and completed by a parent or guardian

Bruiser Theatre Company Consent form			
Title of event			
Date		Venue	
Full Name of Child			
Date of Birth			
Address			
Postcode		Home tel.	

Additional Emergency Contacts			
Name		Relationship	
Mobile		Daytime No.	
Name		Relationship	
Mobile		Daytime No.	

Medical Details	
Does your child take any medication? YES/NO	If 'YES' please give details
Does your child suffer from any allergies? YES/NO	If 'YES' please give details
Does your child have a disability? YES/NO	If 'YES' please give details

Please note that Bruiser staff and volunteers are not permitted to administer any medication to children in our care.

I give my permission for the above-named child to participate in this project.			
Name		Relationship	
Signed		Date	
I give my permission for the abovenamed child to have their photograph taken, and agree that photos may be used for Bruiser publications including publicity material.			
Name		Relationship	
Signed		Date	

Appendix 4: Contact details

Designated Officer and Adult Safeguarding Champion:

Lara Albergo

Email: lara@bruisertheatrecompany.com

Mobile No: +44 7407 080396

Board Members:

Diana McKeown - Chair

Colin Morelli- Vice Chair (act Chair)

Paula McKernan

Stephen Beggs

Marie O'Donoghue

Laura Johnston

Ella Griffin

Vincent McCann

Cathryn Gibson

Victoria Preece

Contact details of external organisations

PSNI

Should you need to report any incident of child abuse contact:

- The police service on 101, the non-emergency telephone number, where you will be put in contact with a specially trained police officer.
- In an emergency situation dial 999.

Gateway Teams - Social Work Service

- Belfast Trust: 028 9050 7000 / 028 95049999 (after 5pm or weekends)
- Northern Trust: 0300 1234 333 / 028 94468833 (after 5pm or weekends)
- Southern Trust: 08007837745 or 02837415285 (after 5pm or weekends)
- South Eastern Trust: 0300 1000 300 / 028 95049999 (after 5pm or weekends)
- Western Trust: 028 71314090 / 028 95049999 (after 5pm or weekends)
- Online contact details: <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/publications/gateway-service-teams-contact-details>

NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000

Adult Protection Gateway Service 9-5pm/Out of hours emergency

- Western 028 7161 1366 / 028 9504 9999
- Southern 028 3756 4423 / 028 9504 999
- Greater Belfast 028 9504 1744 / 028 9504 9999

- Northern 028 9441 3659 / 028 9504 9999
- South Eastern 028 9250 1227 / 028 9504 9999

Appendix 5: Policy on use & storage of disclosure information

As an organisation using AccessNI to help assess the suitability of applicants for positions on its board, Bruiser Theatre Company complies fully with Access NI's Code of Practice regarding the correct handling, use, storage, retention and disposal of disclosure applications and disclosure information. We also comply fully with our obligations under the **Data Protection Act 2018** and other relevant legislation pertaining to the safe handling, storage, retention and disposal of disclosure information.

Storage and access

Disclosure information is kept securely, in lockable, nonportable storage containers with access strictly controlled and limited to those who are entitled to see it as part of their duties.

Handling

In accordance with section 124 of the Police Act 1997, disclosure information is only passed to those who are authorised to receive it in the course of their duties. We maintain a record of all those to whom disclosures or disclosure information has been revealed and it is a criminal offence to pass this information to anyone who is not entitled to receive it.

Usage

Disclosure information is only used for the specific purpose for which it is requested and for which the applicant's full consent has been given.

Retention

Once the recruitment or other relevant decision such as a regulatory or licensing decision has been taken, Bruiser does not keep disclosure information for any longer than is necessary. Information will not be retained but destroyed once a decision, on recruitment or otherwise, has been made.

Disposal

Once the retention period has elapsed, we will ensure that any disclosure information is immediately destroyed by secure means i.e. by shredding, pulping or burning. While awaiting destruction, disclosure information will not be kept in any unsecured receptacle (eg wastebin or confidential sack). We will not keep any photocopy or other image of the disclosure or any copy or representation of the contents of a disclosure or any other relevant non-conviction information supplied by police but not included on the disclosure.

However, despite the above, we may keep a record of:

- the date of issue of a disclosure
- the name of the subject

- the type of disclosure requested
- the position for which the disclosure was requested
- the Access NI unique reference number of the Disclosure Certificate and the details of the recruitment decision taken.

Security Policy

Bruiser Theatre Company agrees to abide by the following conditions in relation to all disclosure information as described in the Access NI Code of Practice.

- Disclosure information is not passed to persons who are not authorised to receive it under section 124 of Part V of the Police Act;
- Disclosure information is available only to those in the organisation who need to have access in the course of their duties;
- The Board will not retain disclosures or a record of disclosure information for longer than is required for the particular purpose. This will be no longer than six months after the date on which the recruitment or other relevant decisions have been taken; or after the date on which any dispute about the accuracy of the disclosure information has been resolved. This period will only be exceeded in very exceptional circumstances which justify retention for a longer period;
- all sensitive and personal disclosure information is stored when not in use in a locked and non-portable container in a secure environment;
- it cooperates with Access NI to undertake assurance checks as to the proper use and safekeeping of disclosure information; and
- it reports to Access NI any suspected malpractice in relation to this policy or any suspected offence concerning the handling or storage of disclosure information.

Appendix 6: Definitions of Abuse

The common denominator for all forms of child abuse is that it makes children feel bad and worthless. Child abuse can occur in a number of ways so the actual harm caused cannot always be easily categorised. The Children (NI) Order 1995 defines four categories of abuse:

Physical abuse - is the deliberate physical injury to a child or the willful or neglectful failure to prevent physical injury or suffering. This may include hitting, biting, pinching, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning or suffocating. For children with disabilities it may include confinement to a room or cot, or incorrectly giving drugs to control behaviour.

Emotional abuse - is the persistent emotional ill treatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to children that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only in so far as they meet the needs of another person. It may include not giving a child opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them, or 'making fun' of what they say or how they communicate. It may involve causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corrupting of children. Emotional abuse may involve bullying - including online bullying through social networks, online games or mobile phones - by a child's peers.

Sexual abuse - occurs when others use and exploit children sexually for their own gratification or gain or the gratification of others, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including penetrative or nonpenetrative acts. It may include noncontact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or the production of, pornographic material or watching sexual activities, or encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways. Sexual abuse can be committed by anyone, including men, women, and children.

Neglect - is the persistent failure to meet a child's physical and/or psychological basic needs, likely to result in significant harm. It may involve failure to provide adequate food, shelter or protection from physical harm or danger, and failing to ensure adequate medical care in case of injury or a lack of stimulation and supervision.

Bullying - Although bullying has not been defined as abuse within the Children (NI) Order 1995, a child who is bullied may be suffering any type of abuse as defined. It may take many forms but the main types are: physical (e.g. hitting, kicking, theft); verbal (e.g. sectarian/racist remarks, name calling); indirect (e.g. spreading rumours), cyberbullying (e.g. text messages or social media).

General Indicators of Abuse

Some of the identifying characteristics of potential abuse may include:

- Changes in mood, sudden outbursts / temper;

- Demeanour - becomes quiet and withdrawn;

- Emotional distress or different patterns of behaviour;

- Fear of a particular adult - particularly of one with whom a close relationship would be expected;

Inappropriate sexual awareness or language;

Children who are reluctant to go home;

Sudden weight loss;

Nervousness when touched.

It should be recognised that the presence of one or more of these indicators does not prove that abuse has occurred or is occurring, as other factors such as the birth or death of a family member may also affect behaviour in children.

Definitions of Adult Abuse

An adult may be at risk of harm because of their personal characteristics and/or life circumstances, which may increase exposure to harm either because a person may be unable to protect him/herself or their situation may provide opportunities for others to neglect, exploit or abuse them.

Abuse is a single or repeated act, or a lack of appropriate action, which occurs within a relationship where there is an expectation of trust, which causes harm or distress to another individual or violates their human or civil rights. (Action on Elder Abuse: definition of abuse 1993). "Adult Safeguarding: Prevention and Protection in Partnership" (July 2015) outlines the main forms of abuse against adults:

Physical abuse - the use of physical force or mistreatment of one person by another which may or may not result in actual physical injury. This may include hitting, pushing, rough handling, exposure to heat or cold, force feeding, improper administration of medication, denial of treatment, misuse or illegal use of restraint and deprivation of liberty.

Sexual violence and abuse - any behaviour of a sexual nature that is controlling, exploitative, harmful, or unwanted that is inflicted on anyone. This can be physical, psychological, verbal, or virtual. Non-contact activities can also be classed as sexual violence or abuse, such as indecent exposure, stalking, grooming, or being forced to watch sexually explicit material or activities. It may involve physical contact, including but not limited to non-consensual penetrative or non-penetrative sexual activities. Sexual abuse can occur across all sections of society, regardless of a person's background.

Psychological/Emotional abuse - is behaviour that inflicts mental distress by verbal or non-verbal conduct to threaten or humiliate. This may include threats, ridicule, provoking fear of violence, shouting, yelling and swearing, blaming, controlling, intimidation and coercion.

Financial abuse - is attempted or actual theft, fraud, or burglary. It is the misuse of money, property, benefits, material goods or other assets which a person did not or could not consent to, or which were invalidated by intimidation, coercion or deception. This may include withholding pension or benefits, exploitation, embezzlement, or pressure exerted around wills, property or inheritance.

Neglect - occurs when a person deliberately withholds or fails to provide the

appropriate care and support required by an adult at risk. This may be from a lack of awareness, or a failure to take reasonable action from the information and facts available to them at the time. This may include physical, medical, access to care, or basic needs such as nutrition, warmth and clothing, or a failure to intervene in situations where the person concerned is not able to assess the risk to themselves or others.