

Lothians Conservation Volunteers

www.lcv.org.uk



A registered Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation, No. SC020384

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Policy on the protection of Vulnerable Groups

Under the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007 LCV has a duty to ensure that any regulated work it carries out is carried out in accordance with the Act.

Regulated work with adults

LCV believes that it does not carry out regulated work with adults because it does not provide:

- Registered care services;
- Health services;
- Community care services; or,
- Welfare services.

Regulated work with children

LCV does, on occasion, encounter children in a context which might qualify as regulated work but is exempt as this is incidental to our work with adult members of the general public. This is because:

- our activities are open to all;
- publicity is aimed at the general public and (predominantly adult) students and is not targeted at children or protected adults;
- our activities are attractive to a wide cross-section of society; and,
- attendance on our activities is discretionary.

In addition:

- children under the age of 16 cannot attend tasks in the absence of an accompanying parent or guardian. LCV is never in sole charge of them, nor is our contact with them ever unsupervised; and,
- it is rare for children of any age to join our groups.

Conclusion

As LCV believes that LCV does not carry out regulated work LCV has not taken any formal action under the Act.

Risk mitigation

LCV is, however, aware of the risks posed to children and vulnerable adults by others and does seek to avoid risky situations and the potential for false accusations. We expect volunteers to work in groups of at least three and to take additional care to supervise any child, or any adult who

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seems to be having difficulty. We also aim to direct children towards alternative organisations which may offer them similar activities in groups nearer their own age.

Regular review

LCV keeps this position under review and would modify it in the event of any noticeable increase in the number of children coming on task, or any change in the way we operate which would result in our work with adults becoming regulated.