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## Section A: Policy

### Statement

This policy will enable the South Tynedale Railway Preservation Society (STRPS) to demonstrate its commitment to keeping safe adults at risk with whom it works. The STRPS acknowledges its duty to create a positive and inclusive culture for all who work at the railway and will act appropriately to any allegations, reports or suspicions of abuse of vulnerable adults.

It is necessary to have these policies and procedures in place in order that trustees and volunteers can work to prevent abuse and know what to do should a concern arise.


### Purpose

This policy and associated procedures have been drawn up in order to enable the STRPS to:

- Promote good practice and work in a way that can prevent harm, abuse and coercion occurring.
- To ensure that any allegations of abuse or suspicions are dealt with appropriately and the person experiencing abuse is supported, and
- To stop that abuse occurring.

#### 1.1. Definition.

Abuse is a violation of an individual's human and civil rights by any other person or persons (DH, 2000).

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Abuse may be:

- A single act.
- Repeated acts.
- An act of commission or omission such as neglect.

The document should use the term 'adult at risk' in compliance with The Care Act 2014.


An adult at risk is defined by The Care Act 2014 as:

A person who:

- a. Has needs for care and support (whether or not the authority is meeting any of those needs),
- b. Is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect, and
- c. As a result of those needs is unable to protect him or her against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.

An adult at risk may therefore be a person who:

- Is elderly and frail due to ill health, physical disability or cognitive Impairment.
- Has a learning disability.
- Has a physical disability and/or a sensory impairment.
- Has mental health needs including dementia or a personality disorder.
- Has a long-term illness/condition.
- Misuses substances or alcohol.
- Is a carer such as a family member/friend who provides personal assistance and care to adults and is subject to abuse.
- Is unable to demonstrate the capacity to make a decision, and is in

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need of care and support.

## 1.2 Policy Application.


The policy applies to all trustees, volunteers, paid staff (if any) and freelance and external contractors.

In order to implement the policy the STRPS will work:

- To promote the freedom and dignity of the person who has or is experiencing abuse.
- To promote the rights of all people to live free from abuse and coercion.
- To ensure the safety and wellbeing of people who do not have the capacity to decide how they want to respond to the abuse they are experiencing.
- To manage the railway in a way which promotes safety and prevents abuse.
- Recruit staff (if any) and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made for those that work with vulnerable adults.

The STRPS:

- Will ensure that all trustees and volunteers and carers/families are familiar with this policy and procedures.
- Will work with other agencies within the framework of the Cumbria Adult Safeguarding Board Policy and Procedures, issued under Care Act 2014 statutory guidance.
- Will generally gain permission from vulnerable adult volunteers before

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sharing information about them with another agency.

- Will make a referral to the relevant local authority as appropriate should it be suspected that abuse of a vulnerable adult is taking place and this referral will take place with the involvement of the vulnerable adult in question wherever possible.
- Will endeavour to keep up to date with national developments relating to preventing abuse and welfare of adults.
- Will ensure that the Designated Named Person understands their responsibility to refer incidents of adult abuse to the relevant statutory agencies.

The Designated Named Person for Safeguarding Adults at the South Tynedale Railway Preservation Society is:


David Granath  
Head of Safety  
South Tynedale Railway Preservation Society

Tel: 07740 612 804

Who should be contacted for support and advice on implementing this policy and procedures.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Cumbria Adult Safeguarding policies and procedures which are available at:

Home page: [cumbriasab.org.uk](http://cumbriasab.org.uk)

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This policy and associated procedures are part of the STRPS Safety Management System and form part 8.3.11 of that system.