

Safeguarding Annual Report



For Financial Year 2017-18

Preamble

Active Essex (along with all CSPs and NGBs receiving Sport England funding) is required by Sport England to maintain the Safeguarding and Protecting Children in Sport standard, which includes having an annual action plan monitored and reviewed by the Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU) of the NSPCC.

Key principles of maintaining the standards is for Active Essex to demonstrate high quality practices in safeguarding, be a good example of these practices to other sports agencies within the county and provide support and advice where possible to the wider sport and safeguarding communities.

Implementation Plan

The 2017-18 Implementation Plan detailed the actions and outcomes for Active Essex in that year. These were set after the annual internal review at the end of the previous year and were agreed with the CPSU as part of the Annual Review at that time. The 2018-19 Implementation Plan was delivered and completed to the satisfaction of both the internal review and external review by CPSU receiving a Green RAG rating for the Sport England annual report.

Designated Safeguarding Staff

Active Essex's policy is to maintain two Designated Safeguarding Officers and to have additional members also capable of fulfilling this role if possible and/or desirable. Throughout 2017/18 period Jim Messenger remained in the role of Lead DSO, Dawn Catley as the Deputy DSO and Melissa Huggins as assistant DSO. Additional support for activity at the Hadleigh Park site was provided by two trained DSOs, Alexa Cadwallader and Keely Bunton.

Safeguarding Training

Internal Training: During the autumn of 2017 Active Essex implemented a process of further raising staff awareness by introducing on-line training through the provider iHasco.

External training: Active Essex facilitated the delivery of nine 'Safeguarding and Protecting Children in Sport' courses for coaches and administrators within Essex during the year, with an attendance of 158 individuals.

Incidents and Actions

There were again very few direct safeguarding concern incidents brought to the attention of Active Essex. Active Essex does not deal with case management of incidents. Active Essex advice was sought on two occasions from Essex County Council LADO service and once from Southend Unitary Authority LADO. In all cases the incidents were dealt with by the LADO Service and the communications were logged by Active Essex.

Active Essex was informed by a local authority sports and leisure department of press reports about a local coach receiving a conviction for offenses against young people carried-out over a number of years. Active Essex assisted by establishing contact between the ECC LADO service and the local authority sports development personnel.

Policy Review

Active Essex is implementing a separation of the existing Safeguarding Policy in to separate documents for young people and adults under advisement from CPSU. Legislation for safeguarding of young people and adults in need of support is different and using common terminology can be misleading. The new, separate policies are due to be approved and published in summer of 2018.

External Annual Review

The external annual review with the CPSU took place on 5th March 2018 at the University of Hertfordshire. In attendance; Denise Williams (CPSU), Jim Messenger (Safeguarding Lead, Active Essex), Brian Shaw (Senior Management Team, Active Essex). The CPSU was overall satisfied with the accomplishments of the previous Implementation Plan. The 2018-19 Implementation Plan also received approval and subsequently a RAG rating of GREEN was awarded to Active Essex for Safeguarding.

Jim Messenger
Lead Designated Safeguarding Officer
Active Essex

28th June 2018