



## **BAB Safeguarding Policy & Guidance**

as it applies to

### **Vulnerable Adults**

#### **Policy Statement**

*In accordance with Clause 12.2 of the Constitution, the BAB's Safeguarding & Protection Policy is mandatory for all Member Associations, including their clubs and individual members providing services for vulnerable adults.*

This document is intended to give basic guidance on working with vulnerable adults and the need for a BAB CRB check.

#### **Information Regarding Vulnerable Adults**

A vulnerable adult is defined as a person who is aged 18 years or older and, for example:

- is living in residential accommodation such as a care home or a special school.
- is living in sheltered housing?
- is receiving domiciliary care in his or her own home.
- is under the supervision of the probation services.
- is receiving a service which is specifically targeted at people with age-related needs, disabilities or prescribed physical or mental health.
- requires assistance in the conduct of his or her own affairs

As with CRB checks for those working with children, it is essential that the CRB applicant is eligible to undertake the check. The CRB Code of Practice states that only those who are eligible may be asked to apply for a CRB Disclosure. The *Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006* defines which activities are 'regulated' and are therefore within the scope of requiring a CRB check. Regulated activity is defined as:

- Activity involving contact with vulnerable adults which is of **a specified nature** (e.g. teaching, training, care, supervision, advice, medical treatment or in certain circumstances transport) on a **frequent, intensive and/or overnight** basis;
- Activity involving contact with vulnerable adults in a **specified place** (e.g. schools, care homes, etc) frequently or intensively;

What is frequently, intensively and/or overnight?

- **Frequently** is currently defined as 'once a week' for most services
- **Intensively** takes place on '3 days in one month or more'
- **Overnight** takes place between 2-6 a.m

The *Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006* further defines regulated activity as any form of training, teaching or instruction **provided wholly or mainly for vulnerable adults.**

In order to be eligible for a BAB CRB check for working with vulnerable adults the applicant must be applying to work in (or volunteer for) an activity which meets the above criteria. It is not enough that an aikido class has an open door policy (i.e. a vulnerable adult could attend on any given night) or has an occasional vulnerable adult in attendance or has a small number of vulnerable adults in regular attendance. The *Safeguarding*



## Vulnerable Adults

*Vulnerable Groups Act 2006* stipulates that the activity must be **wholly or mainly for vulnerable adults**

An activity involving vulnerable adults which would require a CRB check could be described as *'a regular weekly aikido class designed for and largely limited to vulnerable adults'*

The *Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act* makes no distinction between paid staff and volunteers. Also, when applying for a vulnerable adult CRB check it is important that the applicant specifies the position they are applying for, e.g. 'instructor working with vulnerable adults'. This means that the application will be cross-checked against the ISA's list of people barred from working with vulnerable adults (this list replaces the POVA list). If instructors work with vulnerable adults (as defined in this document) and with children, then make this clear in the position applied for.

At the time of writing this document the ISA registration process is 'on hold' pending a government review. The ISA will continue to maintain a list of those who may not work with vulnerable adults, but at present it is not possible for individuals to register with the ISA.

**Please note that this Information Sheet does not and is not intended to replace any legal guidance.**

For more information please contact the BAB Safeguarding Officer: [Iso@bab.org.uk](mailto:Iso@bab.org.uk)