

## ADMRC Vulnerable Person Policy

Date	Version	Author	Notes
June 2021	0.1	unknown	Initial Draft
July 2025	0.2	Chris Nutman	Minor amends and updates
8 Jan 2026	0.3	Phil Cole	Reformatting

Last Review: October 2025

Next Review: October 2026

This policy applies to all club members.

The Abingdon & District Model Railway Club (ADMRC) is open to all above the age of Seventeen. Club membership is based on a hobby interest and membership is not restricted except that the applicant has professed an interest in joining the club and agrees to meet a requirement to comply with the rules and constitution of the club. The application and confirmation of membership process does not lend itself to any vetting process. Young people below the age of sixteen and above the age of eight are welcome at the club, but must be accompanied by a parent, or guardian at all times.

The club recognises that there is a need to ensure that no individual, adult or child is treated any less favourably than others. The club recognises that people, without exception, have the right to protection from abuse regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality or beliefs.

Recognising the shortcomings, the club has adopted rules and procedures for the safeguarding of vulnerable people and where appropriate has included these in the club rules.

The club membership is not static, people join and leave as they wish and unlike a business or workplace there is no expectation that a person will remain a member for a long period of time, although this is encouraged; nor can there be any expectation of notice to leave. It is therefore not practical for the club to appoint particular members to positions where that individual has a responsibility for protection issues. The Trustees and Club Committee have an overall responsibility for monitoring membership applications, protection issues, maintaining an overview of safeguarding issues and reviewing those as may be necessary.

Children or young people may visit the club at the age of eight. There is a requirement that when they attend the club they are accompanied at all times by a parent/guardian or responsible adult appointed by the parent/guardian. That person has a responsibility for that young person whilst on the club premises or partaking in club activities. The child and

parent/guardian are informed of the policy and procedures as part of the application process and have to agree to these rules.

Where a club member makes the club aware they have particular qualifications for the safeguarding of children the club will seek to utilise those qualifications if the member is willing to put his expertise at the disposal of the club, for example by being responsible for the young person's section of the club, although it is recognised that although qualified the member may not wish to undertake these duties.

The club recognises that it is impossible to meet the needs of everyone, however we will continue to review access and make reasonable and practicable adjustments where we can. A record is kept of the adjustments made to the premises. The club also recognises that this policy cannot take account of all vulnerable people and where not otherwise provided for, the club will consider the individual and how we can assist that person to become a member of the club.

All concerns and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously by trustees and members and will be responded to appropriately. A response may include referral to the appropriate body or the Police. The club will adopt a whistle blowing policy.

This policy is reviewed annually on or near the anniversary of its last review or when relevant legislation changes.