

Safeguarding's Mest-Up Rough Guide

Key Figures

- **Mest Up Rep** - YOU! Any Mest-Up trained DF is a representative of Mest-Up
- **Mest Up Coordinator** - The DF Committee member responsible for coordinating Mest Up's overall presence and continuation.
- **Other On Shift DFs** - You will be working with DFs in First-Aid and Orange roles on shift. Safeguarding concerns may also be reported to them.
- **Safeguarding Rep** - Safeguarding Representative on DF Committee
- **Event Safeguarding Lead** - The designated DF focused on safeguarding on an event. This role is likely to be filled by the Safeguarding Rep.

What is safeguarding?

The NHS defines safeguarding as:

Safeguarding means protecting a citizen's health, well-being and human rights; enabling them to live free from harm, abuse and neglect.

What does it mean in a DF context?

Safeguarding for DFs is slightly different to everyday safeguarding because we spend the majority of time together in a very specific environment on events. This means that certain issues, for example, drug use, may be more likely to come up than in "the real world".

What preparations have been made before this event?

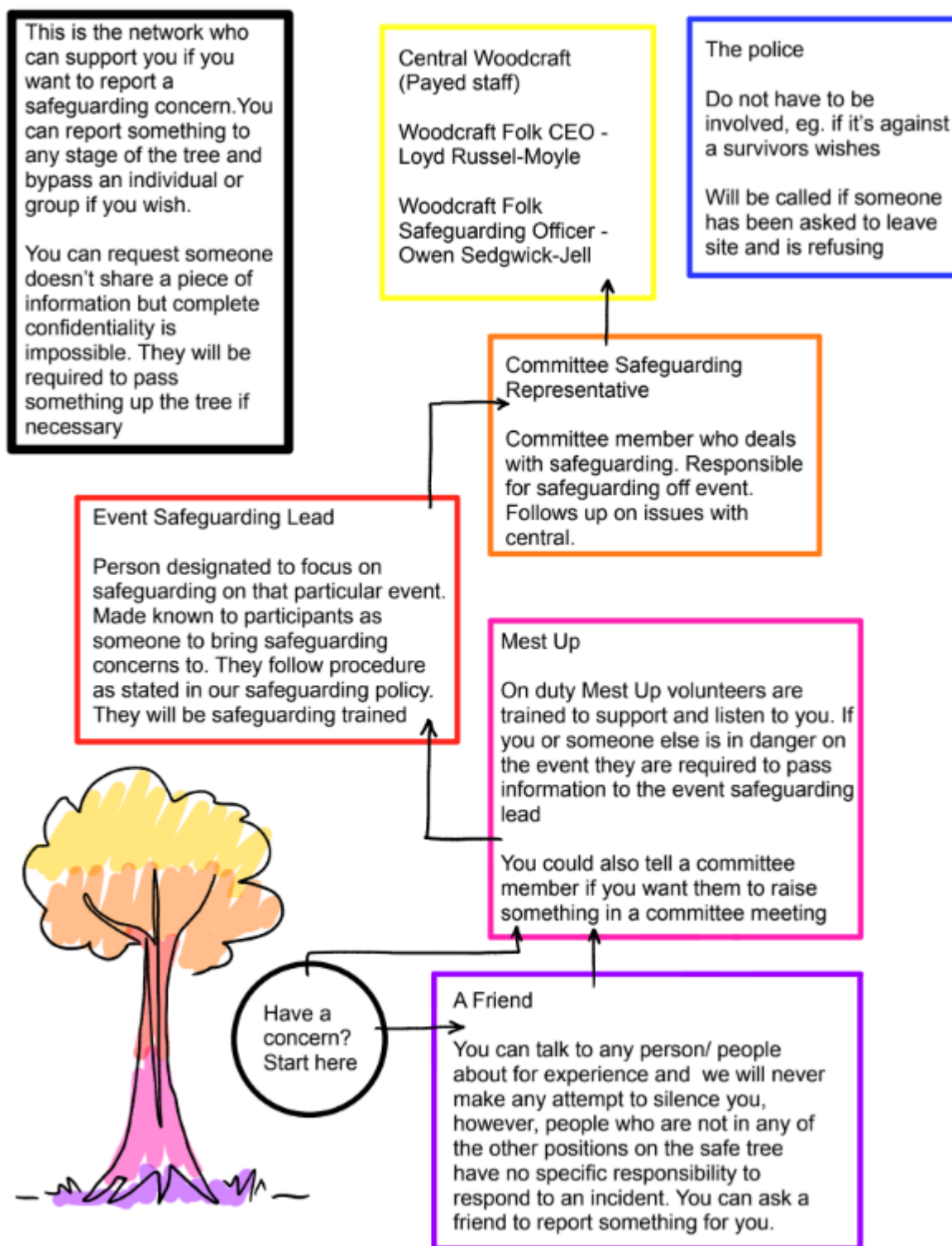
- A risk assessment and safeguarding general plan written and submitted to Central Woodcraft by the DF committee Safeguarding Representative and event co-ord team.
- A safeguarding lead has been appointed for the event. This person will make themselves clear as someone to go to with any concerns regarding safeguarding.
- Participants have completed required checks (DBS/PVG).
- The Safeguarding Rep is supported and guided by Central Woodcraft.

Whose responsibility is it?

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. However, there are varying levels of what you may encounter as a Mest-Up Rep and it is important to know what to do in a more serious situation. This is why you need to familiarise yourself with the Safe Tree.

Safe Tree

The Safe Tree is the structure we use to report issues. Please get to know your role and responsibilities as part of the Safe Tree.



If an incident is reported this safe tree shows the various stages it will go through. It's not a definitive structure- stages can be skipped or missed out if the person reporting isn't comfortable with someone at one of these stages being made aware of the issue. The only step that cannot be skipped is Loyd seeing the complaint if it becomes an official complaint.

How to report an incident

If someone tells you or you notice something that makes you concerned for their safety, chances are it's a safeguarding concern and will need reporting, even if you are not on shift at the time. It is also worth noting that if something happens to you, it should be reported in whatever way you're comfortable with. It may also be that someone brings up an issue at a debrief and it is decided there that it needs reporting.

The most obvious point of contact on an event is the safeguarding lead who will then fill out a form that gets passed on to Woodcraft's safeguarding officer, Owen.

You can also tell a member of committee, who will then pass the relevant information onto the safeguarding rep or straight to Loyd.

If the person involved doesn't want anyone else involved at all, they can talk directly to Loyd.

If the person/people involved wants to stay anonymous, that has to be respected. Privacy is very important however situations arise where you have a duty to pass something to protect people's safety. Confidentiality cannot always be upheld and it is important those reporting know this. If you want support to deal with something you've been told, you should talk to someone you trust but you must keep names and as much detail as possible out of it, even if talking to someone.

If someone confides in you, it is not your responsibility to deal with or solve the situation. Your role is to pass the information onto the appropriate person, even if you are in doubt as to whether it is serious enough.

Safeguarding concerns/incidents examples

- Lack of consent being given for an act
- Abuse of a role of responsibility- role of responsibilities include being on shift, committee or the coord team
- Over 18 in a role or responsibility buying an under 18 alcohol or offering them illegal drugs
- Unsafe situations outside of Woodcraft, eg. abusive relationship, alcohol or substance overuse, emotional or mental health difficulties that could increase a person's vulnerability
- Significant age gaps in sexual relationships, discretion must be used

Useful contact info

safeguarding@spanthat.world - DF committee safeguarding rep

owen@woodcraft.org.uk - Woodcraft safeguarding officer

safeguarding@woodcraft.org.uk - Woodcraft folk safeguarding staff