



GPI POLICY – SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN ON PITCAIRN ISLAND

1.1. This document sets out how organisations and individuals should work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children on Pitcairn Island.

1.2 The terms of reference for The Crisis Group are set out in appendices 1. The procedures for managing individual cases, by the Review Group, are described in appendices 2 and summarised in flowchart form. More detailed information on aspects of the Safeguarding process are contained in appendices.

1.3 Key Principles.

The key principles on which to base work with children and families are found in The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child to which Pitcairn Island, through the UK, is a signatory.

All children deserve the opportunity to achieve their full potential. They should be enabled to:

- be as physically and mentally healthy as possible;
- gain maximum benefit possible from good quality educational opportunities;
- live in a safe environment and be protected from harm;
- experience emotional wellbeing;
- feel loved and valued, and be supported by a network of reliable and affectionate relationships;
- become competent in looking after themselves and coping with everyday living;
- have a positive image of themselves and a secure sense of identity;
- develop good inter-personal skills and confidence in social situations

1.4 Those on Pitcairn who deal with children in a professional capacity, i.e. teachers, doctor/nurses and members of the police, who have a concern over the safety and well-being of a child, or to whom a child or a member of the public raise a concern, must communicate that concern to a member of the Crisis Group.

1.5 When a concern is discussed with a member of the Crisis Group it should always be recorded in writing, including whether or not further action is to be taken. There should be a clear and explicit agreement about who will be taking what action.

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- 1.6 All staff involved in safeguarding should be aware that they have a strict duty of confidentiality in relation to Child Protection concerns and that these should not be discussed outside the professional framework. This is of particular importance in the small, close-knit community of Pitcairn, where a lack of confidence in the confidentiality of the process may influence people against reporting a concern.
- 1.7 If, following the discussion with the member of the Crisis Group, it is decided to make a formal referral, it should lead to a meeting of the Crisis Group to decide what further action – if any is required.

LIST OF APPENDICES:

For use by Pitcairn Island Review Group and Crisis Group if required

Appendices 1	The Crisis Group
Appendices 2	Review Group
Appendices 3	The Initial Assessment
Appendices 4	Allegations of Harm Arising from Under Age Sexual Activity
Appendices 5	The Formal Enquiry
Appendices 6	The Child Protection Case Conference, the Child Protection Plan and Review Case Conferences
Appendices 7	Support and Supervision
Appendices 8	Child Wellbeing Charter
Appendices 9	Safety Guide
Appendices 10	Legal Context
Appendices 11	Definitions

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