



**ARG UK**

## **ARG UK Safeguarding Protocols**

Amphibian & Reptile Groups of UK (ARG UK) is a registered charity (number 1165504) committed to the conservation of native amphibians and reptiles and their natural environment by supporting the development of a network of independent volunteer amphibian and reptile groups (ARGs).

Our safeguarding protocols apply equally to our staff, trustees, volunteers and members of the wider public attending our events, activities and training days. We want all of our members and volunteers including children and vulnerable and protected adults to enjoy their involvement with ARG UK and its affiliated groups. To engender this we commit to operating safely, with safeguarding as the top priority, and to act and be seen to act appropriately at all times.

### **Safeguarding Protocols**

#### **Who do I go to if I am concerned?**

The named responsible person for safeguarding duties for ARG UK is **Angela Julian**, Coordinator (contact: [angela.julian@arguk.org](mailto:angela.julian@arguk.org), mobile: 07891 633692), supported by **Suzanne Collinson**, Lead Safeguarding Trustee ([safeguarding@arguk.org](mailto:safeguarding@arguk.org)).

All staff and volunteers should contact the ARG UK safeguarding lead, Dr Angela Julian, with any concerns/queries they have in regards to safeguarding adults or children. A log of the concern must be kept. If the allegation is against the safeguarding lead, seek advice from **Suzanne Collinson** at [safeguarding@arguk.org](mailto:safeguarding@arguk.org) (Lead Safeguarding Trustee).

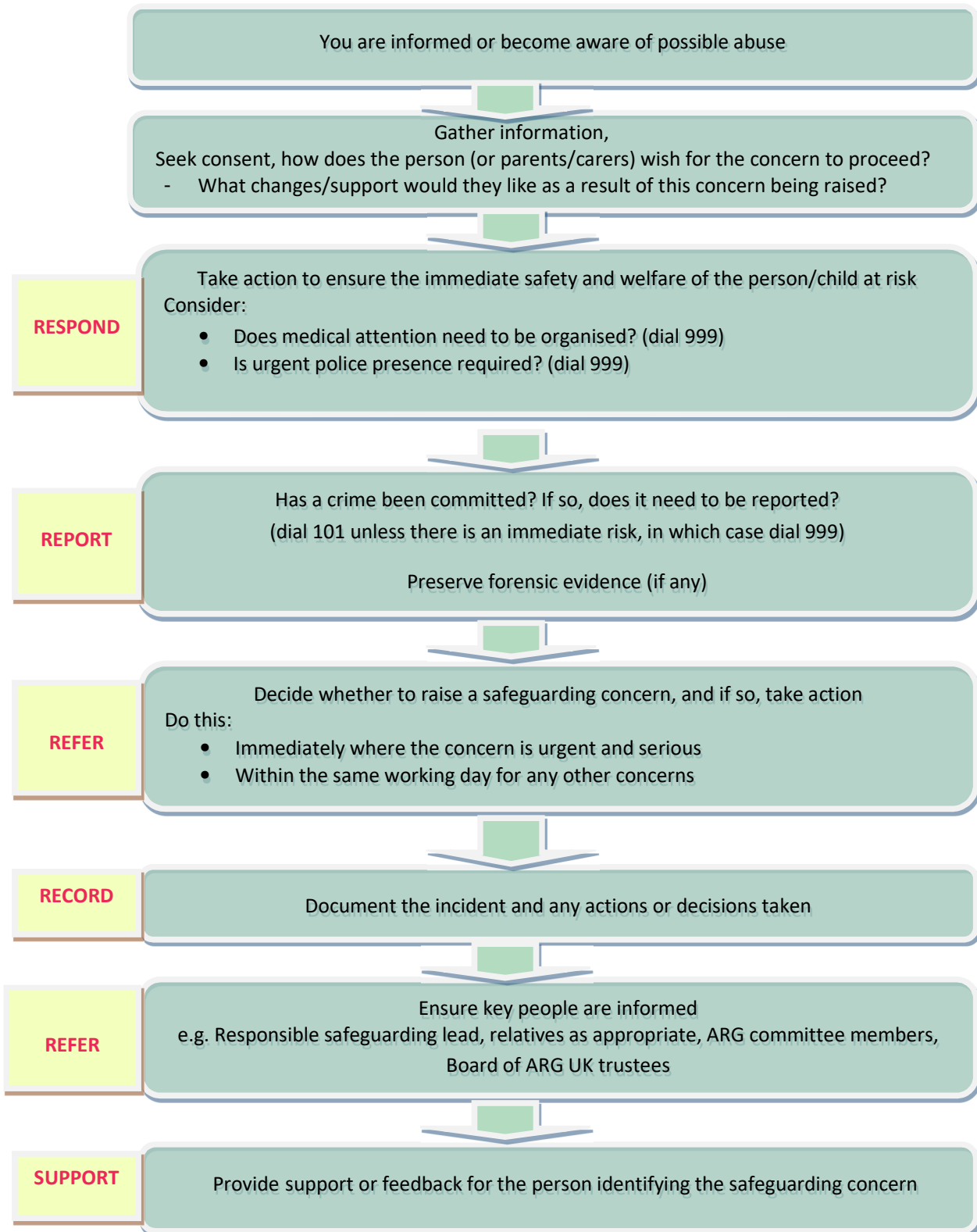
The designated safeguarding leads are responsible for providing acknowledgement of the referral and brief feedback to the person raising the original concern. Feedback should be given in a way that will not make the situation worse or breach the Data Protection Act. If the police are involved, they should be consulted prior to giving feedback to the referrer to ensure any criminal investigation is not affected.

Angela Julian, will also ensure that safeguarding policies and procedures are in place and up to date. They will ensure a safe environment is promoted for staff, volunteers and members of the public working with ARG UK and the affiliated ARGs.

*Amphibian and Reptile Groups of UK (ARG UK) is a registered charity (number 1165504) committed to the conservation of native amphibians and reptiles and their natural environment by supporting the development of a network of independent volunteer amphibian and reptile groups (ARGs)*

## What should I do if I am concerned?

### Raising a safeguarding concern



**NOTE: Incidents of abuse may be one-off or multiple and may affect one person or more. Staff and volunteers should look beyond single incidents to identify patterns of harm. Accurate recording of information will also assist in recognising any patterns.**

### **Confidentiality and information sharing**

ARG UK expects all its staff, volunteers and trustees to maintain confidentiality at all times. In line with Data Protection law, ARG UK does not share information if not required.

It should however be noted that information will be shared with authorities if a person is deemed to be at risk of immediate harm. Sharing the right information, at the right time, with the right people can make all the difference to preventing harm. For further guidance on information sharing and safeguarding see: <https://www.scie.org.uk/care-act-2014/safeguarding-adults/sharing-information/keymessages.asp>