

## Child Safeguarding Statement

Irish Underwater Council provides various sporting activities and opportunities for young people through participation in clubs, regional/provincial events and through our national teams.

Irish Underwater Council is committed to safeguarding children and by working under the guidance of our Safeguarding Policies our staff, both volunteers and employed, working with our young people, throughout the organisation, seek to create a safe environment for young people to grow and develop.

Irish Underwater Council's written Risk Assessment document indicates the areas of potential risk of harm, the likelihood of the risk occurring, and gives the required policy, guidance or process documents require to alleviate these risks. The list of risks identified are contained in the following categories: Club and Coaching Practices; Complaints & Discipline; Reporting Procedures; Use of Facilities; Recruitment; Communications; and General Risk of Harm.

The Risk Assessment was undertaken on 4/3/18.

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, (the Children First: National Guidance, and Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice), as well as Gateway NI. In addition to our Risk Assessment document described above, there are further procedures that support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our activities.

Irish Underwater Council has the following procedures in place as part of our Safeguarding Policies:

- Procedures for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct by staff or volunteers against a child availing of our activities
- Procedures for the safe recruitment of staff and volunteers to work with children in our activities
- Procedures for access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm
- Procedure for reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities

The Relevant Person for Irish Underwater Council is Fidelma Carroll.

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our Governing Body is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our activities.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on February 2020.

Signed: *Jean Kelleher* Date: *4/3/18*

On behalf of the Irish Underwater Council.

Name: *JEAN KELLEHER* Phone no: *087 2897921*

For queries on this Child Safeguarding Statement, please contact Fidelma Carroll.