

SVP Health and Safety Policy Statement

The purpose of the Health and Safety Policy is to clearly define the levels of responsibility, practices and procedures necessary to manage the relevant legal provisions of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 and all other Health and Safety Legislation that may apply to the St Vincent de Paul Society (England and Wales), hereafter referred to as the SVP.

The SVP, through the auspices of its Board of Trustees, recognises and accepts its responsibilities to provide wherever practicable safe, healthy and pleasant working conditions for all staff. It has a duty of care to its volunteers and members and will minimise risks in the workplace and activities carried out by:

- Providing employees and offering members and volunteers sufficient information, instruction, training and supervision to enable them to avoid hazards and contribute positively to their own health and safety in their Vincentian work.
- Continually supporting and actively promoting full and effective consultation on health and safety matters between Central Councils, Community Support Projects and Special Works organisers, providing sufficient resources for the effective implementation of the Policy.
- Introducing risk management strategies to assist Community Support Projects and Special Works organisers, managers and Safety Co-ordinators in carrying out systematic general examinations of work and voluntary activities so as to identify hazards and develop counter measures via suitable and sufficient risk assessments.
- Developing and implementing a continuous and routine programme of accident prevention, recording and monitoring.

The ultimate responsibility for health and safety rests with the Board of Trustees, through the office of the National President.

The responsibility for the implementation of this and all supporting health and safety policies and procedures rests with the appropriate managers, supervisors, organisers, Central Councils and District Councils.

Without detracting from the primary responsibility of organisers, managers, supervisors, Central Councils and District Councils, competent technical support and advice will be made available on health and safety matters, where necessary, through the auspices of the National and Central Councils, Health and Safety Consultant and Health and Safety Co-ordinators.

The Policy will be updated to reflect any necessary health and safety changes or improvements required. The Policy and the way in which it operates will be monitored and reviewed annually and may be supplemented as appropriate. A copy of this Policy Statement will be issued to all staff, members and auxiliary helpers.

Signed on behalf of the St Vincent de Paul Society (England and Wales) National Council



Kate Nightingale - CEO of SVP (England & Wales)

Date: February 2026