

Update on Safeguarding and Vulnerable Groups Act 2006

The act is designed to prevent unsuitable people from working with or volunteering with children or vulnerable adults. The Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) will be responsible for administering the Vetting and Barring Scheme (VBS) and will work closely with the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB). The scheme covers all home countries with variations occurring in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Who will be affected?

It will be compulsory from 2015 for all individuals who work with children or vulnerable adults to be ISA registered.

After 2015 It will be a criminal offence to 'knowingly employ' an individual who is not registered.

Phasing in Period

There will be a phasing in period which will be as follows:

July 2010: Implementation begins and entry to the scheme will be optional for existing volunteers and workers

October 2010: It will be mandatory for new volunteers and workers to apply

2011: existing volunteers and workers can apply

2012 and 2015 those who have already have previously been checked can be introduced to the scheme.

This gives the equestrian industry a full year to prepare and to provide clear guidance for members at every level of our organisation. The Government will issue guidance specific to the sport and leisure sector and we will then be in a position to provide more detailed information and further our preparations.

How to apply

From July 2010 a new application form will be available from the CRB. This will include a section on applying for an ISA check.

Applicants can apply for an ISA check only, **Enhanced** CRB check only or both. Once the application form has been filled in and the appropriate identity documents checked, forms will be sent to CRB. CRB process and pass on information to ISA who will decide whether or not the person can be registered. The applicant will receive copies of CRB disclosure (if obtained) and their ISA registration number.

Cost

Volunteers will be free –umbrella/registered bodies administration charges will apply.

Checks for employees will be:

VBS only £64

VBS plus CRB £64

CRB alone £36

Umbrella/registered bodies administration charges will apply

More information

www.isa.gov.org.uk

www.crb.gov.uk

www.disclosurescotland.co.uk

www.accessni.gov.uk