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HOWTH CELTIC AFC

REPORTING CHILD ABUSE PROCEDURE

Any person who knows or suspects that a child is being harmed or is at risk of being harmed has a duty to convey his/her concern to the local health board.

Any person may discuss concerns with the club children's officer.

Howth Celtic children's officer is nominated as a designated officer with responsibility for reporting suspected or actual child abuse to the health board.

The children's officer when reporting suspected or actual child abuse to the statutory authorities will first inform the family of their intention to make such a report unless doing so would endanger the child or impede or undermine any subsequent investigation.

In cases where an allegation has been made, then the matter will be reported immediately to the relevant statutory authorities.

Should allegations of a sexual nature be made against a coach/volunteer/official, he/she will be asked to stand aside pending an appropriate investigation.

All concerns and allegations made will be carefully recorded. Confidentiality will be maintained at all stages.

In the case of suspension, the coach/volunteer/official being suspended will be formally notified by senior personnel within the club.

A coach/volunteer/official against whom an allegation of abuse has been made will be informed that this is not an accusation and that the procedures being undertaken are in accordance with statutory guidelines.