



CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2026

What Club Safeguarding Officers Need to Know



5-MINUTE BRIEFING FOR CRICKET CLUBS



THE GOOD NEWS: CRICKET IS ALREADY LARGELY COMPLIANT

The new legislation introduces changes to DBS eligibility and mandatory reporting requirements. Most cricket clubs are **already meeting these requirements** through existing ECB safeguarding processes.



1. DBS & SAFER RECRUITMENT

WHAT HAS CHANGED?

The Act removes the "Supervision Exemption". Individuals who regularly work with children can now be eligible for:

- ✓ Enhanced DBS Checks
- ✓ Children's Barred List Checks

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR CRICKET?

Very little changes in practice.

- ✓ Coaches & supervisors working with children require DBS clearance
- ✓ Assistant Coaches already require DBS checks
- ✓ Individuals in regulated activity cannot coach children without DBS clearance



ACTION FOR CLUBS

Continue following existing ECB safer recruitment procedures.
No change to current DBS processes.



2. PARENT HELPERS & ALL STARS ACTIVATORS

Many clubs rely on parents to support junior & All Stars sessions.

CURRENT POSITION REMAINS THE SAME



Parents can help for up to **3 sessions** without a DBS check

After helping at **3 combined sessions**, they become an

ADULT HELPER

and must apply for an ECB DBS check **immediately**



WHY?

- ✓ A welcoming route into volunteering
- ✓ Appropriate safeguarding protections



3. MANDATORY REPORTING THE BIGGEST CHANGE

The Act introduces a **legal duty to report child sexual abuse concerns** for those working in regulated activity.



COACH

If a child discloses sexual abuse



REPORTS CONCERN TO CLUB SAFEGUARDING OFFICER (CSO)



CSO ESCALATES TO COUNTY SAFEGUARDING OFFICER (CSO)



CSO ENSURES REFERRAL TO STATUTORY AGENCIES



4. NEW INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY



You cannot assume someone else has reported.

Every individual has a responsibility to be confident the concern has been escalated appropriately.

EXAMPLE

A coach reports a disclosure to the CSO.

The coach must:

- ✓ Follow up
- ✓ Seek reassurance the concern has been escalated
- ✓ Be confident the referral has been made



FAILURE TO REPORT

Failure to ensure concerns are appropriately reported may result in:



DBS Referral



Investigation



Potential barring from child-facing roles



6. WIDER CHANGES

The Act also introduces wider safeguarding measures and new criminal offences, including:



Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE)



Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG)



New criminal offences linked to safeguarding



Further guidance will be incorporated into ECB **Safeguarding Kit Bag Resources** and shared directly with Club Safeguarding Officers.



5. TRAINING UPDATE

Mandatory reporting requirements are now included within

SGL3

SAFE HANDS TRAINING



Individual responsibilities



Reporting expectations



Escalation procedures



Working with statutory agencies



KEY MESSAGES FOR CSOs



RECOGNISE

Know the signs and listen to concerns.



REPORT

Follow existing reporting pathways immediately.



REASSURE YOURSELF

Do not assume others have acted – check that concerns have been escalated.



ONE TAKEAWAY

Reporting pathways have not changed.
INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTABILITY HAS.



If you receive a safeguarding concern, **report it** and make sure it has been properly escalated.