

## **SU Scotland**

The current proposed Disclosure (Scotland) Bill has many positive changes. SU Scotland as a voluntary organisation recognise that the proposed legislation will involve some additional administration and communication to volunteers. However, we can see that this additional work will effect improvement.

The one area which causes us concern is the proposed 5 yearly update requirement. Our understanding is that if someone doesn't update their information they will lose their PVG membership and it will be an offense for them to continue in a regulated role. In this circumstance someone for whom there is no safeguarding concern may find them facing prosecution. This seems excessive.

We have also been communicating that the benefit of the PVG system is that you only need to register with us once at the start of volunteering. If the regulations change we will need to change that message, but I don't believe our volunteers will perceive any associated benefit. Furthermore, an explanation that they will be breaking the law if they don't do it and continue in the role they have been volunteering in for many years will cause great upset and loss of volunteers.

SU Scotland are fully committed to safeguarding. We are also committed to valuing and supporting volunteers. I believe that this new update requirement will be detrimental to the volunteering experience without effecting any improvement in safeguarding.