**Social Group Volunteers Statement**

The trustees of Dorchester Municipal Charities (DMC) have created a Managing Volunteers Policy. Whilst they consider the resident members of the Social Group to be volunteers, they do not feel the usual volunteer requirements, listed below, are necessary in this context for the following reasons:

**APPLICATION FORM**

Social Group members are residents and completed an application form prior to their residency at DMC. They are therefore already known by DMC staff and trustees.

**REFERENCES**

Social Group members have usually provided references as part of the application process.

**DISCLOSURE AND BARRING SERVICE (DBS) CHECKS**

* Part of the function of the Social Group is to manage the residents’ Social Fund, a pot of money that pays for Christmas lunch subsidies for residents, bus costs for social trips and various small items for the community room. The fund is discussed at each meeting of the Social Group but residents do not have access to the fund without staff input as all documentation is held within the office.
* A small amount of petty cash is held in the office safe, which is only accessible by staff.
* 2 residents and General Manager act as cheque signatories for the social fund bank account.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Social Group, *Social Group Guidelines*, February 2019

Social Group, *Social Fund Payments*, October 2019