

# The Independent Safeguarding Authority - Vetting and Barring Scheme

## UPDATE – June 2010

The government has halted commencement of voluntary registration (due on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2010) under the Vetting and Barring scheme. They have confirmed that the Scheme and criminal records regimes will be reviewed to ensure that they are scaled back to common sense levels.

While the Government undertakes its review, the aspects of the Scheme which were introduced in October 2009 will continue to apply, including:

- A person who is barred from working with children or vulnerable adults will be breaking the law if they work or volunteer, or try to work or volunteer with those groups.
- An organisation which knowingly employs someone who is barred to work with those groups will also be breaking the law.
- If your organisation works with children or vulnerable adults and you dismiss a member of staff or a volunteer because they have harmed a child or vulnerable adult, or you would have done so if they had not left, you must tell the Independent Safeguarding Authority.

For clubs, centres and organisations that employ staff and volunteers, it is important therefore, that they undertake CRB checks where they are required to ensure they do not employ someone who is barred.

In October 2009 the right to ask for enhanced CRB disclosure was extended to all those who employ or use volunteers in “Regulated Activity”. This right remains and you should continue to carry out appropriate checks, including the CRB checks where appropriate or required by law.

The ISA will continue to carry out its work as an independent decision making body as well as continuing to maintain the barred lists, and will also continue to accept referrals.

Further details can be found on the ISA website: [www.isa-gov.org.uk/](http://www.isa-gov.org.uk/).

In the meantime, it is important to continue with good recruitment practices and screening of individuals including CRB checks.