

SAFEGUARDING ADULTS AT RISK POLICY

Introduction

New Tribes Mission UK (NTM-UK) recognises the importance of safeguarding adults at risk and protecting them from neglect or abuse, through supporting them to make decisions about their own lives and care, and creating a safe, risk-free environment.

All adults have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse, regardless of age, ability, gender, racial heritage, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or personal characteristics, which may indicate additional vulnerabilities.

Purpose

This policy is intended to support all personnel [NTM-UK fulltime personnel, associates and volunteers] and students working or studying at NTM North Cotes to understand their role and responsibilities in safeguarding adults at risk.

This policy is based on the [Care Act 2014](#), and statutory support guidance (Care and [Support Statutory Guidance 2018](#)) to ensure and promote the safeguarding and wellbeing of adults.

The key objectives of this policy are for all personnel and students to:

- have an overview of adult safeguarding
- be clear about their responsibility to safeguard adults
- ensure the necessary actions are taken where an adult with care and support needs is deemed to be at risk

Training and awareness

All personnel and students will receive basic awareness training on safeguarding adults.

Definition

The definition of an adult at risk from the Care Act 2014, is any person aged 18 or over who:

- has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs) and;
- is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect; and
- as a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.

Key principles that underpin safeguarding adults

Empowerment

People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent.

Prevention

It is better to take action before harm occurs.

Proportionality

The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.

Protection

Support and representation for those in greatest need.

Partnership

Local solutions through services working with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse.

Accountability

Accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding.

Types of abuse and neglect

(This list is not exhaustive but indicates the sort of behaviour that might give rise to safeguarding concerns.)

Sexual abuse including:

- rape
- indecent exposure
- sexual harassment
- inappropriate looking or touching
- sexual teasing or innuendo
- sexual photography
- subjection to pornography or witnessing sexual acts
- indecent exposure
- sexual assault
- sexual acts to which the adult has not consented or was pressured into consenting

Physical abuse including:

- assault
- hitting
- slapping
- pushing
- misuse of medication

- restraint
- inappropriate physical sanctions

Domestic violence including:

- psychological
- physical
- sexual
- financial
- emotional abuse
- so called 'honour' based violence

Psychological and emotional abuse including:

- emotional abuse
- threats of harm or abandonment
- deprivation of contact
- humiliation
- blaming
- controlling
- intimidation
- coercion
- harassment
- verbal abuse
- cyber bullying
- isolation
- unreasonable and unjustified withdrawal of services or supportive networks

Financial or material abuse including:

- theft
- fraud
- internet scamming
- coercion in relation to an adult's financial affairs or arrangements, including in connection with wills, property, inheritance or financial transactions
- the misuse or misappropriation of property, possessions or benefits

Organisational abuse:

Including neglect and poor care practice within an institution or specific care setting such as a hospital or care home, for example, or in relation to care provided in one's own home. This may range from one-off incidents to ongoing ill-treatment. It can be through neglect or poor professional practice as a result of the structure, policies, processes and practices within an organisation.

Neglect and acts of omission including:

- ignoring medical, emotional or physical care needs
- failure to provide access to appropriate health, care and support or educational services
- the withholding of the necessities of life, such as medication, adequate nutrition and heating

Self-neglect

This covers a wide range of behaviour neglecting to care for one's personal hygiene, health or surroundings and includes behaviour such as hoarding. It should be noted that self-neglect may not prompt a section 42 enquiry.

An assessment should be made on a case by case basis. A decision on whether a response is required under safeguarding will depend on the adult's ability to protect themselves by controlling their own behaviour. There may come a point when they are no longer able to do this, without external support.

Domestic abuse

The cross-government definition of domestic violence and abuse is: any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to:

- psychological
- sexual
- financial
- emotional

How to recognise abuse

Abuse and neglect can be difficult to spot. You should be alert to the following possible signs of abuse and neglect:

- Depression, self-harm or suicide attempts
- Difficulty making friends
- Fear or anxiety
- The person looks dirty or is not dressed properly
- The person never seems to have money
- The person has an injury that is difficult to explain (such as bruises, finger marks, 'non-accidental' injury, neck, shoulders, chest and arms)
- The person has signs of a pressure ulcer
- The person is experiencing insomnia
- The person seems frightened, or frightened of physical contact
- Inappropriate sexual awareness or sexually explicit behaviour

- The person is withdrawn, changes in behaviour
- Substance misuse

Incidents of abuse may be one-off or multiple and affect one person or more. Professionals and others should look beyond single incidents or individuals to identify patterns of harm. Repeated instances of poor care may be an indication of more serious problems and of what is described as organisational abuse.

In order to see these patterns, it is important that information is recorded and appropriately shared.

What to do with your concerns

If you are concerned about an adult who may be at risk, inform the designated Safeguarding Officer as soon as possible. They will take appropriate action.

Always raise any concerns with your designated Safeguarding Officer, who will help you decide what to do.

The NTM-UK Safeguarding Team:

Stephen Jerrard (Safeguarding Officer)

Ellen Cox (Assistant Safeguarding Officer)

Allan Caley (DBS Recruiter)

Yolanda Jerrard (Safeguarding teacher and advisor).

Contacts:

LDASS (Lincolnshire Domestic Abuse Specialist Service) 01522 510041

Police:

Emergency 999

Non-emergency 101

NTM-UK policies that relate to this safeguarding policy

- Safeguarding Children Policy
- Anti-Radicalisation and Extremism Policy
- Anti-Bullying and Harassment Policy
- Complaints Procedures
- Whistleblowing Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Internet Usage Policy
- Personnel Welfare Policy
- Student Welfare Policy

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