



cancer fund
for children

**SAFEGUARDING
ADULTS
POLICY**



1. Statement of Policy

The activities carried out by Cancer fund for Children mean that there are a range of employees and volunteers who may come into contact with people who may be at risk of harm, including children and adults. The contact may happen in different ways, for example face to face, or on the telephone.

Cancer fund for Children is committed to safeguarding the well-being of all service users, employees and volunteers who are involved in or affected by our work. All children and adults, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse and the right to be treated with respect and dignity.

All employees and volunteers have a duty to prevent the abuse of children and adults and report any safeguarding concerns to the relevant person.

This policy sets out our approach to removing, reducing and managing risks our work and the agreed action that staff and volunteers are required to take to follow best practice in dealing with Safeguarding concerns.



Signed Raph O' Connor

Adult Safeguarding Champion
Residential Services Manager



Phil Alexander CEO

March 2019

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Aims

The activities carried out by Cancer Fund for Children support mean that there are a range of employees and volunteers who may come into contact with people who are at risk of harm, including children and adults who the law says are vulnerable. The contact may happen in different ways, for example face to face, on the telephone.

Cancer Fund for Children is committed to safeguarding the well-being of all service users, employees and volunteers who are involved in or affected by our work. All children and adults, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse and the right to be treated with respect and dignity.

Cancer Fund for Children will not tolerate the abuse of adults in any of its forms and is committed to safeguarding adults with care and support needs from harm.

This policy outlines the steps Cancer Fund for Children will make to safeguard an adult with care and support needs if they are deemed to be at risk or at risk. This policy sets out the roles and responsibilities of Cancer Fund for Children in working together with other professionals and agencies in promoting the adult's welfare and safeguarding them from abuse and neglect.

Cancer Fund for Children will ensure that decisions made will allow adults to make their own choices and include them in any decision making. Cancer Fund for Children will also ensure that safe and effective working practices are in place.

This policy is intended to support staff and volunteers working within Cancer Fund for Children to understand their role and responsibilities in safeguarding adults. All staff and volunteers are expected to follow this policy.

The key objectives of this policy are for all employees and volunteers of Cancer Fund for Children 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

This policy is based on:

- The Care Act 2014 and the Care and Support statutory guidance
- Regional Adult Safeguarding Prevention and Protection in Partnership (DHSSPS-NI 2015)
- London Safeguarding Adults policy and procedures
- Islington Safeguarding Adults Board's local procedures and appendices
- Safeguarding Vulnerable groups (NI) Order (2007)

Under the Human Rights Act 1998, everyone has the right to live free from abuse and neglect.

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/human-rights/human-rights-act>

Copies of this policy should be available within Cancer Fund for Children and it will not tolerate the abuse of adults in the organisation and staff and volunteers should be made aware of how this policy can be accessed.

What is Safeguarding adults?

'Safeguarding means protecting an adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. It is about people and organisations working together to prevent and stop both the risks and experience of abuse or neglect, while at the same time making sure that the adult's wellbeing is promoted including, where appropriate, having regard to their views, wishes, feelings and beliefs in deciding on any action. This must recognise that adults sometimes have complex interpersonal relationships and may be ambivalent, unclear or unrealistic about their personal circumstances.'

Care and Support Statutory Guidance, Department of Health, updated February 2017

All adults should be able to live free from fear and harm. But some may find it hard to get the help and support they need to stop abuse.

An adult may be unable to protect themselves from harm or exploitation due to many reasons, including their mental or physical incapacity, sensory loss or physical or learning disabilities. This could be an adult who is usually able to protect themselves from harm but maybe unable to do so because of an accident, disability, frailty, addiction or illness.

Cancer Fund for Children adheres to following the six key principles that underpin safeguarding work (See Care Act 2014 guidance)

- Empowerment
- Prevention
- Proportionality
- Protection
- Partnership
- Accountability

Cancer Fund for Children will not tolerate the abuse of adults in staff and volunteers should ensure that their work reflects the principles above and ensure the adult with care and support needs is involved in their decisions and informed consent is obtained. Cancer Fund for Children should ensure that the safeguarding action agreed is the least intrusive response to the risk. Partners from the community should be involved in any safeguarding work in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse. Cancer Fund for Children should be transparent and accountable in delivering safeguarding actions.

What is Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP)?

MSP means a case should be person-led and outcome-focused. The individual should be involved in identifying how best to respond to their safeguarding situation by giving them more choice and control as well as improving quality of life, wellbeing and safety.

Cancer Fund for Children will not tolerate the abuse of adults and the organisation will ensure that adults are involved in their safeguarding arrangements and each individual is dealt with on a case by case basis. As adults may have different preferences, histories and life styles, the same process may not work for all.



For example if a parent/ guardian is displaying abusive or aggressive behaviours towards other adults/families during a short break, on site at our premises, then our staff or volunteers will act immediately to safeguard all families.

Who do adult safeguarding duties apply to?

The Care Act 2014 sets out that adult safeguarding duties apply to any adult who:

- has care and support needs, and
- is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse and neglect, and
- is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect, because of those needs.

Who do I go to if I am concerned?

The named responsible person for safeguarding duties for Cancer Fund for Children is:
Raph O'Connor raph@cancerfundforchildren.com 028 4372 4212 / 074 8405 2352

All staff and volunteers should contact Raph O'Connor for any concerns/queries they have in regards to safeguarding adults, or alternatively in his absence contact Phil Alexander CEO on 028 9080 5599. A log of the concern must be kept.

Raph O'Connor will be responsible to make decisions about notifying adult social services if required and consider alternative actions, where necessary.

Raph O'Connor will also ensure that the safeguarding adult's policies and procedures are in place and up to date. They will ensure a safe environment is promoted for staff and volunteers and adults accessing the service.

Cancer Fund for Children to ensure that all staff/volunteers are up to date with their safeguarding adults training.

What should I do if I am concerned?

Staff and volunteers at Cancer Fund for Children who have any adult safeguarding concerns should:

1. Respond

- Take emergency action if someone is at immediate risk of harm/in need of urgent medical attention. Dial 999 for emergency services
- Get brief details about what has happened and what the adult would like done about it, but do not probe or conduct a mini-investigation
- Seek consent from the adult to take action and to report the concern. Consider whether the adult may lack capacity to make decisions about their own and other people's safety and wellbeing. If you decide to act against their wishes or without their consent, you must record your decision and the reasons for this.

2. Report

- Report any potential safeguarding concerns to Raph O'Connor.

3. Record

- As far as possible, records should be written contemporaneously, dated and signed.
- Keep records about safeguarding concerns confidential and in a location where the alleged abuser will not have access to the record. Access should not be given to any unauthorised person for accessing confidential information including the sharing of passwords. A copy of Cancer Fund for Children's Data Protection Policy can be found on the Staff Intranet.

4. Refer

In making a decision whether to refer or not, the designated safeguarding lead should take into account:

- (1) the adult's wishes and preferred outcome
- (2) whether the adult has mental capacity to make an informed decision about their own and others' safety
- (3) the safety or wellbeing of children or other adults with care and support needs
- (4) whether there is a person in a position of trust involved
- (5) whether a crime has been committed

This should inform the decision whether to notify the concern to the following people:

- Contact the police if a crime has been committed and/or
- Contact the Health & Social Care Trusts duty 'Designated Adult protection Officers' (DAPO) Access & Advice Team for possible safeguarding enquiry
- Relevant regulatory bodies such as Care Quality Commission, Ofsted, Charities commission
- Service commissioning teams
- Family/relatives as appropriate (seek advice from adult social services)

The designated safeguarding lead should keep a record of the reasons for referring the concern or reasons for not referring.

Incidents of abuse may be one-off or multiple and may affect one person or more. Staff and volunteers should look beyond single incidents to identify patterns of harm. Accurate recording of information will also assist in recognising any patterns.

As soon as Adult Social Services becomes involved, a 4-stage safeguarding adult's process is followed. For more information about this 4-stage safeguarding adult's process, refer to the London Safeguarding Adults Procedures.

Accountability and Responsibility for this Policy

A key element of the adult safeguarding is the nomination of Adult Safeguarding Champions (ASC)¹. An ASC must be accessible to all service areas in the organisation as a source of advice and guidance. The nominated ASCs should be senior people within the organisation, suitably trained, experienced and skilled to carry out the role.

The term Adult Safeguarding Champion is intended to encompass the roles of the 'Nominated Manager' referred to in the Volunteer Now Standards and Guidance document 'Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults - a Shared Responsibility' and the role of the 'Alerting Manager' in the NIASP Adult Safeguarding Strategic Plan 2013-2018.

The role of the Adult Safeguarding Champion is:

- to provide information and support for staff on adult safeguarding within the organisation;
- to ensure that the organisation's adult safeguarding policy is disseminated and support implementation throughout the organisation;
- to advise within the organisation regarding adult safeguarding training needs;
- to provide advice to staff or volunteers who have concerns about the signs of harm, and ensure reporting to HSC Trusts where there is a safeguarding concern (see section 10);
- to support staff to ensure that any actions take account of what the adult wishes to achieve - this should not prevent information about any risk of serious harm being passed to the relevant HSC Trust Adult Protection Gateway Service for assessment and decision-making;
- to establish contact with the appropriate HSC Trust Designated Adult Protection Officer (DAPO) (see section 11), PSNI and other agencies as appropriate;
- to ensure accurate and up to date records are maintained detailing all decisions made, the reasons for those decisions and any actions taken;
- to compile and analyse records of reported concerns to determine whether a number of low-level concerns are accumulating to become significant; and make records available for inspection.
- the ASC is not immediately available, this should not prevent action being taken or a referral being made to the HSC Trust in respect of any safeguarding concern.
- Where our accountability for this policy rests with the Director of Services but all employees and volunteers have a duty to know what action to take if they are concerned that a service user or colleague is at risk.
- Individual teams will have specific policies and procedures around safeguarding for their own area of work, and the Safeguarding Manager should be involved in the development and review of such policies. These include, but not exclusive to:
 - **Services Team** - for dealing with concerns and allegations about the welfare of vulnerable people who are supported by staff/volunteers, and for providing support to such staff/volunteers
 - **Marketing and Communications** - for safeguarding vulnerable people who are using / being featured in or who are seeking peer support using Cancer Fund for Children digital media.
 - **HR** - for recruitment best practice and training and for DBS checks and referrals
 - **Fundraising** - for dealing with concerns raised by supporters and for safeguarding issues at events.

All Managers in Service Teams have a responsibility to ensure that any new activity requested by or for service users (such as childcare or personal care) is appropriate and acceptable. As a minimum this will involve discussing the activity with the Safeguarding Lead and agreeing any required conditions and control measures with Cancer Fund for Children's insurers before the activity is carried out.

Failure to follow this policy is a serious matter and may be dealt with under the disciplinary policy (for employees) and the problem solving procedure (including all volunteers).

What are your roles and responsibilities?

- All staff, management, trustees and volunteers at Cancer Fund for Children are expected to report any concerns to the named person for safeguarding. If the allegation is against one of Cancer Fund for Children members, volunteers, trustees or directors, seek advice from Cancer Fund for Children Adult Safeguarding Lead Raph O' Connor. If the allegation is against the safeguarding lead, seek advice from Health & Social care Trusts duty Designated Adult protection Officers (DAPO) Access & Advice Team (part of adult social services) for possible safeguarding enquiry Advice Team.

The designated Safeguarding Adults Lead should be responsible for providing acknowledgement of the referral and brief feedback to the person raising the original concern. Feedback should be given in a way that will not make the situation worse or breach the Data Protection Act 2018. If the police are involved, they should be consulted prior to giving feedback to the referrer to ensure any criminal investigation is not affected.

The local Health and Social Care Trust will decide on who will lead on a safeguarding enquiry should it progress to that stage. The named organisation should not conduct its own safeguarding enquiry unless instructed to do so by the local authority.

Staff and volunteers should ensure that the adult with care and support needs is involved at all stages of their safeguarding enquiry ensuring a person-centred approach is adopted.

Complaints procedure

Cancer Fund for Children Child promotes transparency and honesty when things go wrong. All staff and volunteers should apologise and be honest with service users and other relevant people when things go wrong.

If a staff or volunteer or any other member of the organisation is unhappy with Cancer Fund for Children Child decision about the safeguarding concern, refer them to <https://cancerfundforchildren.com/contact-us/>

Cancer Fund for Children is committed to ensuring that staff and volunteers who in good faith whistle-blow in the public interest, will be protected from reprisals and victimisation. A copy of the Organisation's whistle blowing policy is available in the staff handbook.

The NI Mental Health Order (1986) is to be used when decisions on behalf of those adults with care and support needs who are unable to make some decisions for themselves. Refer to the Mental Capacity Act Code of Practice, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mental-capacity-act-code-of-practice>. You will need to involve an advocate if the person lacks capacity to make decisions about the safeguarding concern.

Why is it important to take action?

It may be difficult for adults with care and support needs to protect themselves and to report abuse. They rely on you to help them.

Confidentiality and information sharing

Cancer Fund for Children Child expects all staff, volunteers, trustees to maintain confidentiality at all times. In line with Data Protection law, Cancer Fund for Children Child does not share information if not required.

It should however be noted that information should be shared with authorities if an adult is deemed to be at risk of immediate harm. Sharing the right information, at the right time, with the right people can make all the difference to preventing harm. For further guidance on information sharing and safeguarding see:

<https://www.scie.org.uk/care-act-2014/safeguarding-adults/sharing-information/keymessages.asp>

Cancer Fund for Children is signed up to the Health and Social Care -Adult Safeguarding Champion protocols as per the Regional Adult Safeguarding Prevention and Protection in Partnership Policy (July 2015).

Recruitment and selection

Cancer Fund for Children Child is committed to safe employment. Safe recruitment practices, such as disclosure and barring checks reduce the risk of exposing adults with care and support needs to people unsuitable to work with them. Refer to Access NI procedures and guidance on Safer Recruitment

Training, awareness raising and supervision?

Cancer Fund for Children ensures that all staff and volunteers receive basic awareness training on safeguarding adults as they may come across adults with care and support needs who may be at risk of abuse. Those adults may report things of concern to staff or volunteers who should be equipped with the basic knowledge around safeguarding adults and be confident to identify that abuse is taking place and action is required. All staff and volunteers should be clear about the core values of Cancer Fund for Children and commitment to safeguarding adults.

It is also useful to discuss training with staff who have attended training sessions to ensure they are embedding this in practice.

Voluntary organisations (including volunteers) who support adults with care and support needs can access free basic awareness safeguarding adults on-line. See:

<https://www.islington.gov.uk/social-care-health/im-a-professional/professional-and-carers-training>

Similarly, staff and volunteers may encounter concerns about the safety and wellbeing of children. For more information about children's safeguarding, refer to Cancer Fund for Children Child Protection policy (2019) and The Cancer Fund for Children Child ROI Child Protection guidelines (2019):

<https://cancerfundforchildren.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/child-protection-policy-2017.pdf>

Prevent

Radicalisation and extremism of adults with care and support needs is a form of emotional/psychological exploitation. Radicalisation can take place through direct personal contact, or indirectly through social media.

If staff are concerned that an adult with care and support needs is at risk of being radicalised and drawn into terrorism, they should treat it in the same way as any other safeguarding concern.

For more information about Prevent see:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>

Useful contacts

Raph O' Connor
Adult Safeguarding Champion
Cancer Fund for Children
Daisy Lodge, Newcastle

raph@cancerfundforchildren.com
02843724212 / 074840523521

If your concern relates to an adult at risk of harm or abuse, please also contact with the appropriate HSC Trust Designated Adult Protection Officer (DAPO) for first point of contact for advice/referral

Useful links

Adult Safeguarding Prevention and Protection in Partnership 2015

<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/dhssps/adult-safeguarding-policy.pdf>

Regional Adult safeguarding prevention and protection partnership-Northern Ireland

<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/articles/adult-safeguarding-prevention-and-protection-partnership>

London Safeguarding adults policy and procedures

<http://londonadass.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/LON-DON-MULTI-AGENCY-ADULT-SAFEGUARDING-POLICY-AND-PROCEDURES.pdf>

Care act

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/23/contents/enacted>

Carer and support statutory guidance

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/506202/23902777_Care_Act_Book.pdf

Prevent

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>

Appendix 1

What are the types of safeguarding adults abuse?

The Care and Support statutory guidance sets out the 10 main types of abuse:

- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse
- Psychological
- Financial abuse
- Discriminatory
- Organisational
- Domestic violence
- Modern Slavery
- Self-neglect

However, you should keep an open mind about what constitutes abuse or neglect as it can take many forms and the circumstances of the individual case should always be considered.

What are the possible signs of 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

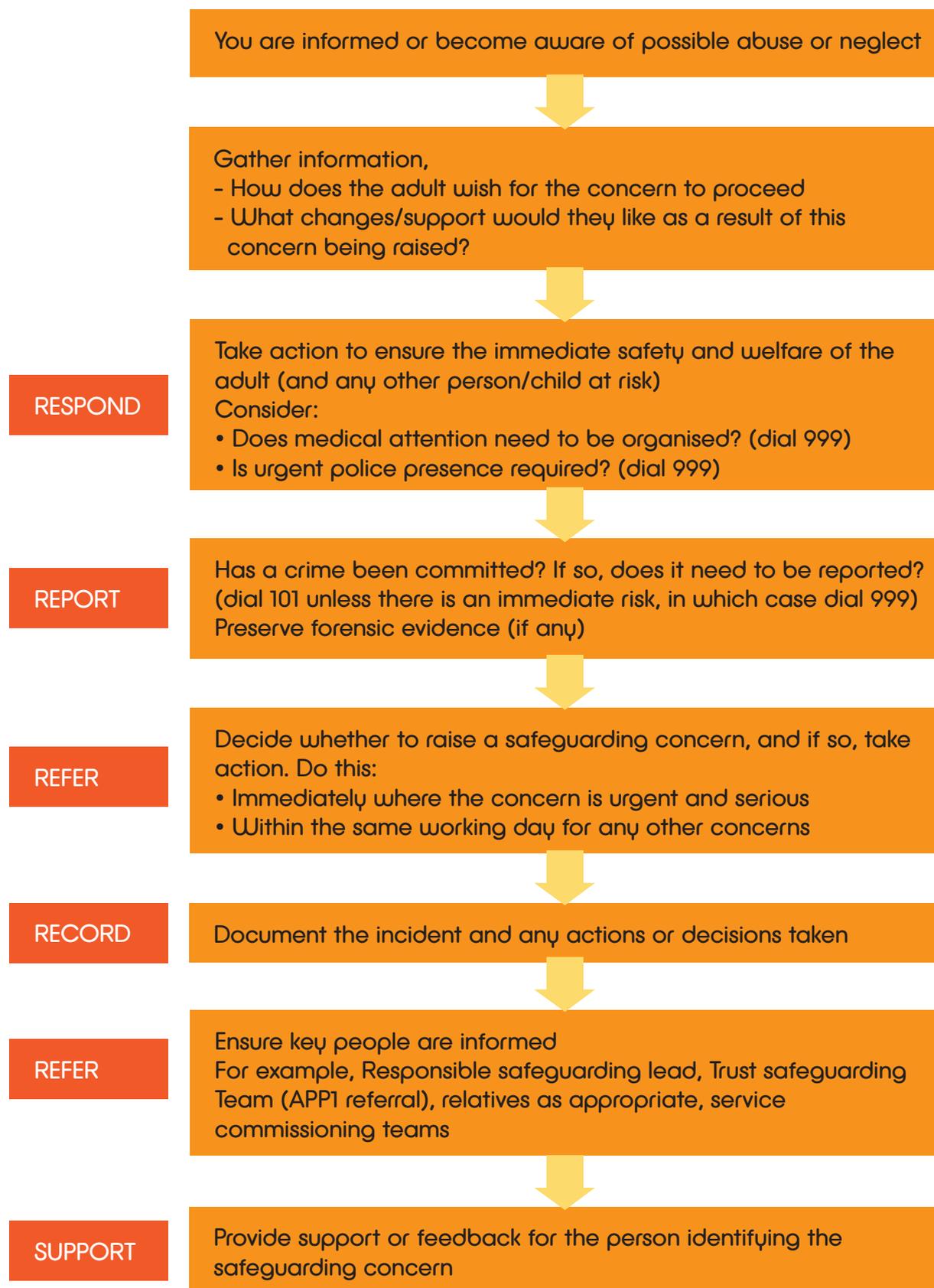
You should ask the person if you are unsure about their well-being as there may be other explanations to the above presentation.

Who abuses and neglects adults?

Abuse can happen anywhere, even in somebody's own home. Most often abuse takes place by others who are in a position of trust and power. It can take place whether an adult lives alone or with others. Anyone can carry out abuse or neglect, including:

- partners;
- other family members;
- neighbours;
- friends;
- acquaintances;
- local residents;
- people who deliberately exploit adults they perceive as vulnerable to abuse;
- paid staff or professionals; and
- volunteers and strangers

Raising a Safeguarding Concern



Appendix 2

Glossary of terms

Access NI: AccessNI is a criminal history disclosure service in Northern Ireland. By law some employers must check your criminal history before they recruit. When asked by these employers, AccessNI supplies criminal history information about job applicants, volunteers and employees.

Adult Protection Gateway Service: Adult Protection Gateway Service is the central referral point within the HSC Trust for all concerns about an adult who is, or may be, at risk.

Care Plan –A care plan sets out the assessed care and support needs of an individual and how those needs will be met to best achieve the individual’s desired outcome. The individual should be fully involved in the development of the care plan.

APPI Adults at risk of harm/concern referral. HSC Regional Adult Safeguarding Procedure Adult at risk of harm concern APPI Form. For completion by all organisations required to have an Adult Safeguarding Champion.

Care Management: Care Management embraces the key functions of: case finding; case screening; undertaking proportionate, person-centred assessment of individual’s needs; determining eligibility for service(s); developing a care plan and implementing a care package; monitoring and reassessing need and adjusting the care package as required.

Child Protection Gateway Service: The Child Protection Gateway Service is the central referral point within the HSC Trust for all concerns regarding the safety and welfare of children.

NI Criminal Justice Inspection Northern Ireland is the independent statutory inspectorate with responsibility for inspecting all aspects of the criminal justice system in Northern Ireland apart from the judiciary. Also inspects a number of other agencies and organisations that link into the criminal justice system. CJI is funded by the Department of Justice and the Chief Inspector reports to the Minister for Justice.

Delegated Statutory Functions: Delegated Statutory Functions refer to all requirements of legislation with which statutory HSC organisations must comply. In successive legislation, the Health and Social Care Board (HSCB) is designated as ‘The Authority’ that is required to fulfill all relevant statutes. The HSCB delegates this responsibility to HSC Trusts under legally binding schemes referred to as ‘Schemes for the Delegation of Statutory Functions’.

Designated Adult Protection Officer: Social worker within the HSC Trust with responsibility for managing and co-ordinating the adult protection process.

DHSSPS: The Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety.

DOJ: The Department of Justice.

Direct Payments: Direct payments are paid by an HSC Trust to people who have been assessed by an HSC Trust to meet the eligibility criteria for assistance from social services. A payment is made in lieu of the service so that the person can arrange and pay for their own care and support services instead of receiving them directly from the HSC Trust.

ETI: The Education and Training Inspectorate. The organisation which provides inspection services and information about the quality of education being offered including that within schools, further education and work-based learning, where adults at risk may be enrolled.

HSCB: The Health and Social Care Board. This is the body responsible for arranging or ‘commissioning’ a comprehensive range of modern, effective and safe health and social services for the people of Northern Ireland.

HSC Trust Health and Social Care Trust: There are five Health and Social Care Trusts in Northern Ireland, providing local and regional health and social care services to the Northern Ireland public. The use of “HSC Trust” in the Policy document refers to the following five HSC Trusts:

- The Belfast Trust
- The South Eastern Trust
- The Southern Trust
- The Northern Trust
- The Western Trust.

Joint Protocol: The Protocol for Joint Investigation of Alleged and Suspected Cases of Abuse of Vulnerable Adults 2009. The Protocol sets out a framework for joint working in a complex area of practice and emphasises the need to involve all other relevant agencies in information sharing, early assessment and the planning process. The overall aim of the Protocol is to prevent abuse by promoting a multi-agency approach to the protection of vulnerable adults, and to ensure that they receive equitable access to justice in a way that promotes their rights and well-being.

LASP: Local Adult Safeguarding Partnerships. The five local multi-agency, multi-disciplinary partnerships located within their respective HSC Trusts.

MARAC: is a Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference. It is a forum for local agencies to meet with the aim of sharing information about the highest risk cases of domestic violence and abuse and to agree a safety plan around victims.

National Referral Mechanism: A framework which exists to assist in the formal identification of victims of human trafficking and help to coordinate support to potential victims to appropriate service. The Department of Justice (DOJ) funds organisations to provide this support to adult potential victims of human trafficking. The PSNI are the lead agency in managing this response. However, consideration should be given to use of the Joint Protocol arrangements.

NIASP: The Northern Ireland Adult Safeguarding Partnership. The regional multi-agency, multi-disciplinary partnership that brings together representatives from organisations and communities of interest who have a significant contribution to make to adult safeguarding.

Office of Care and Protection: Office of Care and Protection is the department of the Court with responsibility for the administrative work associated with Part VIII of the Mental Health Order. This includes matters relating to enduring or lasting powers of attorney, and court-appointed deputies.

PBNI: Probation Board for Northern Ireland. PBNI works alongside statutory and other partners to minimise the risk of harm posed by offenders. PBNI is a Non Departmental Public Body of the Department of Justice (DOJ).

PCSP: Police and Community Safety Partnerships. Local bodies made up of Councillors and independent people in each Council area. PCSPs work with their community to identify issues of concern in the local area and potential solutions, and prepare plans to address these concerns.

Personal data: Personal data means data which relate to a living individual who can be identified –
(a) from those data, or
(b) from those data and other information which is in the possession of, or is likely to come into the possession of, the data controller, and includes any expression of opinion about the individual and any indication of the intentions of the data controller or any other person in respect of the individual. it is important to note that, where the ability to identify an individual depends partly on the data held and partly on other information (not necessarily data), the data held will still be “personal data”. The definition also specifically includes opinions about the individual, or what is intended for them.

PPANI: Public Protection Arrangements Northern Ireland. The purpose of the PPANI framework is to reduce the risks posed by sexual and violent offenders when they are released into the community in order to protect the public, including previous victims, from serious harm.

PPT Public Protection Team. These are located in police stations throughout Northern Ireland.
Programme of Care The structure in HSC Trusts within which social care is commissioned and delivered in Northern Ireland.

Protection Plan: A plan agreed with the adult at risk (or the person representing them or their best interests) detailing the actions to be taken, with timescales and responsibilities, to support and protect the person from harm.

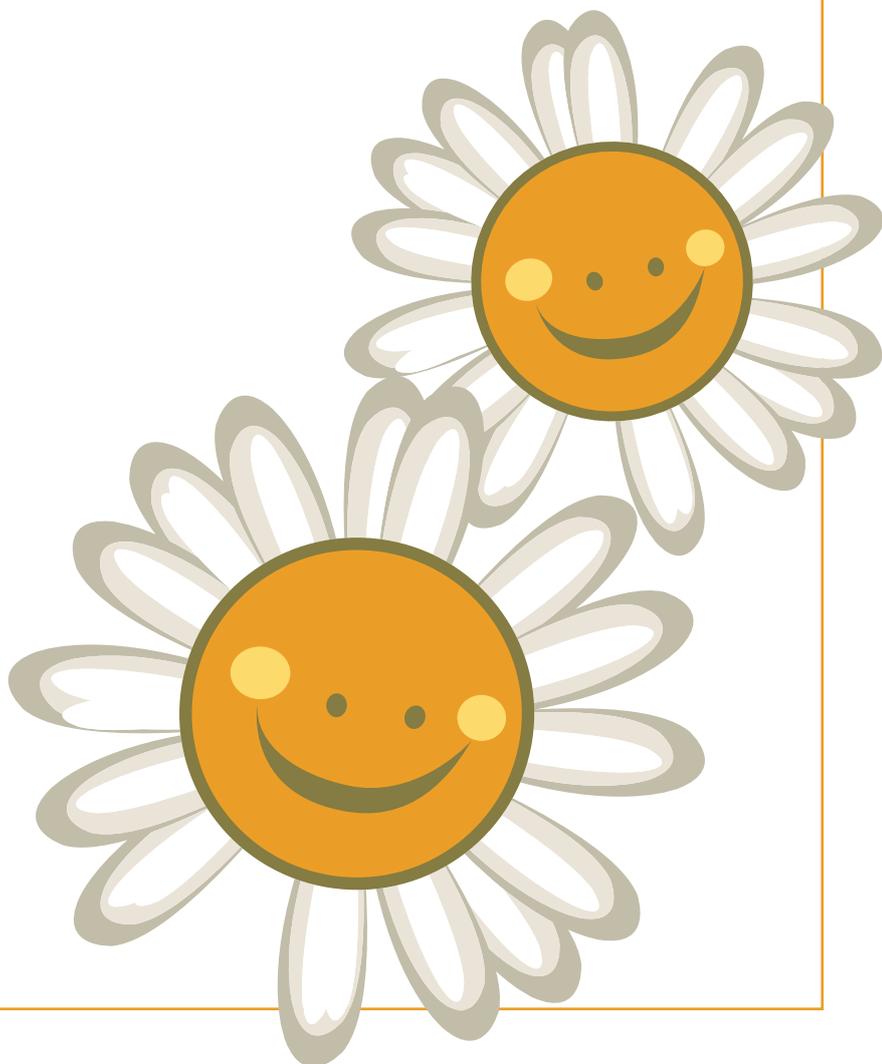
PSNI: The Police Service of Northern Ireland.

RQIA: The Regulatory and Quality Improvement Authority. Northern Ireland's independent health and social care regulator, responsible for monitoring and inspecting the availability and quality of health and social care services in Northern Ireland, and encouraging improvements in the quality of those services.

Sensitive Personal Data: Sensitive Personal Data means personal data consisting of information as to —

- (a) the racial or ethnic origin of the data subject,
- (b) his political opinions,
- (c) his religious beliefs or other beliefs of a similar nature,
- (d) whether he is a member of a trade union (within the meaning of the MI Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992),
- (e) his physical or mental health or condition,
- (f) his sexual life,
- (g) the commission or alleged commission by him of any offence, or
- (h) any proceedings for any offence committed or alleged to have been committed by him, the disposal of such proceedings or the sentence of any court in such proceedings.

Sensitive Personal Data has a higher threshold when considering whether or not it can be shared, and carries higher requirements for secure management.





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