

Adult Safeguarding Policy

Introduction

We all have a responsibility to safeguard adults who are experiencing, or are at risk of, abuse and neglect.

This policy and procedures outline what safeguarding is and what to do if you have a concern.

Policy statement

This company is committed to creating and maintaining a safe and positive environment for all adults. It accepts its responsibility to assist in the welfare of all adults and to safeguard them from poor practice, abuse and bullying.

All individuals within the company have a role and responsibility to help ensure the safety and welfare of all.

This company accepts that we are required to fulfil our duty of care, which means that we must do everything that can be reasonably expected of us to help safeguard and protect people from harm, and to act when we suspect that someone is being harmed, or is at risk of harm.

What is safeguarding?

The official definition of “safeguarding” is working with adults with care and support needs to keep them safe from abuse or neglect. It is an important part of what many public services do, and a key responsibility of local authorities (Care Act 2014).

The safeguarding duties apply to an adult who:

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

People can have a need for care and support for a variety of reasons – for example they may have a learning disability, a physical disability, a chronic health condition or have a mental health issue. Such conditions may bring with them additional vulnerabilities, however having care and support needs does not mean that people are automatically adults at risk and need safeguarding.

Types of abuse typically suffered by adults identified in the Care Act 2014 are:

- Physical
- Sexual
- Psychological/Emotional/Mental
- Financial and material
- Neglect and act of omission
- Discriminatory
- Organisational
- Modern Day Slavery
- Domestic Violence
- Self Neglect – including hoarding

Other types of harm that adults may experience include:

- Cyber Bullying
- Forced Marriage
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Mate Crime
- Radicalisation

Safe recruitment and safeguarding training

We want to make sure that all of our staff have the right skills and qualities to create a safe environment. All staff will be subject to safe recruitment procedures and will also be updated with any relevant legislation, policies and procedural changes. Appropriate training will also be identified and offered, including safeguarding training.

Communication

The company will make available its Safeguarding Policy and Procedures to all staff, customers and suppliers.

What to do if you have concerns about an adult

Company staff are not expected to be an expert in recognition of a safeguarding concern; however, all staff working, volunteering and participating have a duty of care to be vigilant and respond appropriately to suspicions of poor practice, abuse or bullying. They should also respond to any indication of abuse that may be occurring outside of the organisation setting.

This does not mean that it is your responsibility to decide if a situation is poor practice, abuse or bullying, but it is your responsibility to report your concerns to the safeguarding officer.

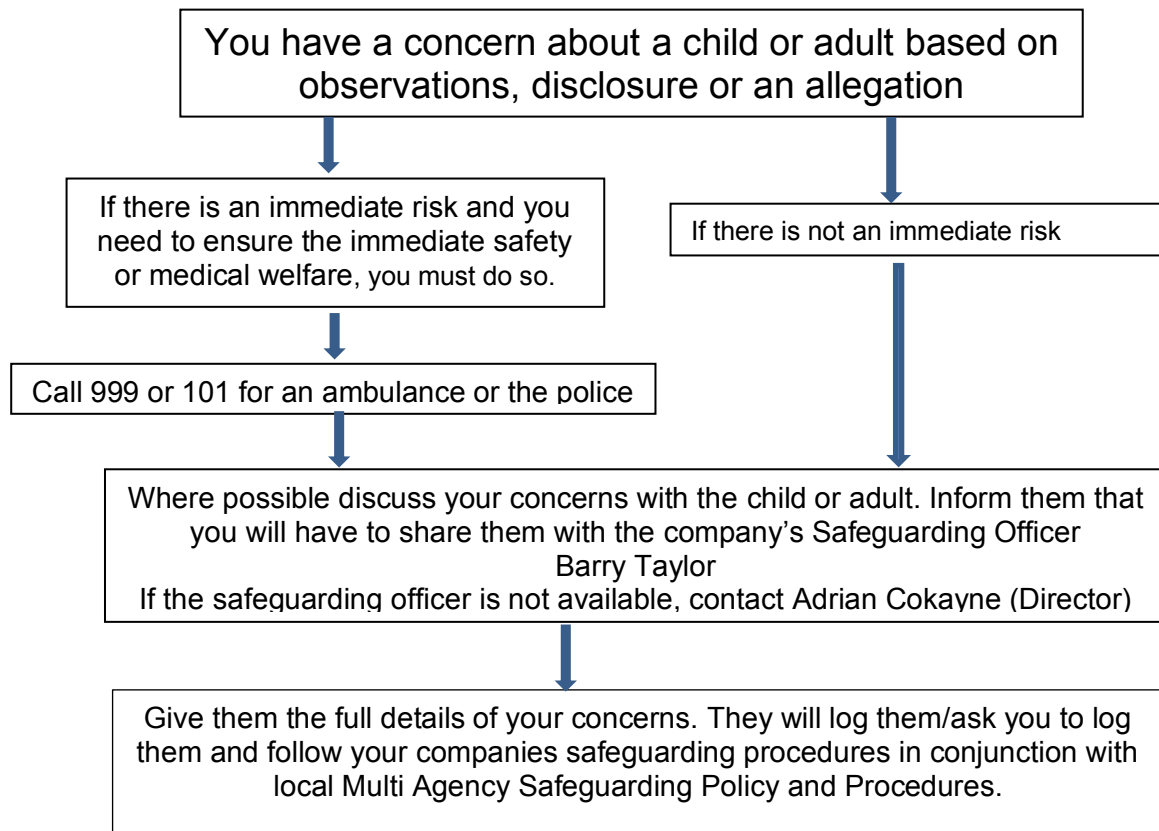
Monitoring

The policy will be reviewed a year after development and then every three years, or in the following circumstances:

- changes in legislation and/or government guidance
- as a result of any other significant change or event.

(Last reviewed Jan 2024)

What to do if you have a concern about a child or adult



Remember

It is not your duty to investigate concerns about a child or adult but don't ignore them – talk to the child or adult if possible and get in touch with someone to help.

BTaylor

(Last reviewed July 2024)