

## **SAFEGUARDING VULNERABLE ADULTS POLICY**

**The Designated Vulnerable Adult Protection Officer is the BACT Manager.**

### ***WHO IS AT RISK OF ABUSE?***

A vulnerable adult is anyone over the age of 18 who may be unable to protect themselves from abuse or harm and is receiving or in need of community care services. This vulnerability may be due to the fact that a person is older and frail, has a physical or learning difficulty or a mental health problem.

Remember abuse can happen to men and women and is any behaviour that causes that person harm endangers life or violates his/her rights.

### ***ABUSE MIGHT BE:***

- **Physical** – such as rough or inappropriate handling or physical violence resulting in falls and injuries.
- **Sexual** – such as any sexual contact that the person does not want, understand or agree to, or has been pressurised into agreeing to.
- **Psychological** – such as verbal or non-verbal harassment, humiliation, intimidation, threats of harm or abandonment.
- **Financial or Material** – such as stealing someone's money, denying a person access to their money or misappropriation of money, benefits or possessions.
- **Neglect** – such as careless or deliberate failure to address someone's medical or care needs or withholding food or information.
- **Discriminatory** – such as harassment related to a persons race, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability or illness.

BACT recognises that the welfare of a Vulnerable Adult is paramount and that they have equal rights of protection. BACT has a duty of care when Vulnerable Adults are in our charge and will do everything it can to provide a safe and caring environment. BACT will work with Social Services and the police to try to protect vulnerable adults by seeking to stop abuse happening and dealing with it when it does.

### **Vetting and Training**

- ✓ All BACT staff are interviewed, referenced and undergo criminal record checks to an enhanced level under the Disclosure and Barring Service for roles that come into contact with children and young persons. ✕

Appropriate training is available to staff and volunteers undertaking direct work with children and young people to make them aware of child protection issues and proper reporting procedures. This is reviewed at regular intervals.

### **BACT will:**

- Treat all adults with respect and celebrate their achievements.
- Carefully recruit and select all adults whether paid or voluntary. (See the Disclosure and Barring service, Code of Practice relating to criminal record checks and the Disclosure of information policy).

- Respond to concerns and allegations appropriately.

**When there are concerns about the welfare of an adult, it should be brought to the attention of the designated officer, whose responsibilities are:**

- Monitor and record concerns.
- Make referrals to Adult Social Services or the Police Adult Abuse Investigation Team.
- Liaise with other agencies.
- Arrange training for all staff when necessary.

### **CONFIDENTIALITY:**

If BACT becomes aware of current abuse, the individual will be made aware of our requirements to pass this information on to the relevant care agency.

### **STAFF ALLEGATIONS**

Concerns about the behaviour of adults within BACT will be referred without delay to the adult protection officer who will contact the relevant authority.

### **Contact Names and Numbers:**

#### **Norfolk Residents**

Adult Protection Coordinator  
Norfolk County Council

0344 800 8014

#### **Police Adult Protection Units**

- Norwich 01603 276316
- Swaffham 01760 720207
- Gorleston 01603 275784

Main police switchboard  
or in an emergency ring 999

01953 424242 / 0845 456 4567

Social Services Access Service Teams: 0344 800 8014 (24 hours)

#### **Suffolk Residents**

Customer First

0345 6066 167

Suffolk Adult Safeguarding team

[www.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk)

**Or in an emergency ring**

999

For Non-emergency Police ring

101

**Signed:** *P. E. notched*

**Date:** 05 DEC 2018

**Review Date:** DEC 2021

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