



What is Adult Safeguarding ?

Leicester
Safeguarding
Adults Board

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP
TO KEEP ADULTS SAFE

CONTENTS

- Who are we safeguarding?
- What is abuse?
- Types and indicators of abuse
- Local policies and procedures
- Raising a concern
- Safeguarding Adult Process Overview
- Making Safeguarding Personal
- Safeguarding Adults Competency Framework
- Links to web resources

SAFEGUARDING

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 and 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

CARE ACT 2014: ADULTS AT RISK

Safeguarding adults became a statutory duty under the Care Act 2014

This replaces all previous guidance relating to safeguarding adults

Safeguarding duties apply to an adult (this is someone 18 and over) who meets all of the below:

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.

WHO MIGHT THIS INCLUDE?

People with learning disabilities People with physical disabilities
People with sensory disabilities People with mental ill health
People who are frail due to their age People with dementia
People with drug or alcohol problems People with brain injuries

Who also have Care and Support needs and can't protect themselves

This doesn't include for example: Domestic abuse where the victim has no care and support needs, victims of crime who don't have support needs.

WHAT DO WE MEAN BY CARE AND SUPPORT?

Any of the following:

- Managing and maintaining nutrition
- Maintaining personal hygiene
- Managing toilet needs
- Being appropriately clothed
- Being able to make use of the adult's home safely
- Maintaining a safe and clean home environment
- Developing and maintaining family or other personal relationships
- Accessing and engaging in work, training, education or volunteering
- Making use of necessary facilities or services in the local community including public transport, and recreational facilities or services
- Carrying out any caring responsibilities the adult has for a child

DEFINITION OF ABUSE

The term abuse is defined as:

A violation of an individual's human and civil rights by any other person; or persons which may result in significant harm.

All persons have a right to live their lives free from violence and abuse, this is set out in the Human Rights Act. [Link to information about the Human Rights Act](#)

Abuse may be:

A single act or repeated acts;

an act of neglect or a failure to act;

multiple acts (for example, an adult may be neglected and financially abused).

CONTINUED

Abuse is about the misuse of the power and control that one person has over another.

Where there is dependency, there is a possibility of abuse or neglect unless adequate safeguards are put in place.

It's not necessarily whether a person meant to abuse or harm another person by their act or failure to act it's the impact of harm or risk of harm on the person that matters.

Acts of abuse may constitute a criminal offence

IS ABUSE ALWAYS INTENTIONAL?

- No, it can be the result of negligence or ignorance
- Sometimes it can be the result of well-intentioned ignorance

ABUSE is about the impact of the act on the individual, not the intent

For example the following would be considered under safeguarding adults policies and procedures:

- An adult at risk is injured when being supported to transfer by a carer due to inappropriate moving and handling techniques
- An adult at risk gets pressure sores due to inappropriate levels of care and a lack of pressure relieving equipment

A response to these issues could be educating and training the carers Making Safeguarding Personal will also be applied (what this means is referred to later in the slides)

PHYSICAL ABUSE

Physical mistreatment of one person by another which may or may not result in physical injury, including:

- Assault
- Hitting
- Slapping
- Pushing
- Misuse of medication
- Poor moving and handling
- Restraint or inappropriate physical sanctions

DOMESTIC ABUSE

Incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence, or abuse by someone who is or has been an intimate partner or family member regardless of gender or sexuality, includes:

- Psychological abuse
- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Financial abuse
- Emotional abuse
- So called 'honour' based violence
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Forced marriage

Age range has extended down to 16

SEXUAL ABUSE

The involvement of a person in sexual activities or relationships that either they do not want and have not consented to, or they cannot understand, 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 and sexual assault or sexual acts to which the adult has not consented or was pressured into consenting

PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE

Action or neglect by the carer or any person that while not of a physical nature severely impairs the psychological well-being of the person, including:

- Emotional abuse
- Deprivation of contact
- Blaming
- Intimidation
- Cyber bullying
- Isolation or unreasonable and unjustified withdrawal of services or supportive networks.
- Threats of harm or abandonment
- Humiliation
- Controlling
- Coercion
- Harassment
- Verbal abuse

FINANCIAL OR MATERIAL ABUSE

Misappropriate or misuse of money/assets.

Transactions to which the person could not consent, or which were invalidated by intimidation/deception, 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, or the misuse or misappropriation of property of property, possessions or benefits.

NEGLECT AND ACTS OF OMISSION

Behaviour by carers that results in the persistent or severe failure to meet the physical and/or psychological needs of an individual in their care, including:

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

SELF NEGLECT

This includes a wide range of behaviour - neglecting to care for ones personal hygiene, health or surroundings. This can include:

- Hoarding
- Not looking after personal hygiene
- Failure to tend to own health needs and medical care / seeking advise and treatment as and when required.

DISCRIMINATORY ABUSE

Any form of abuse based on discrimination because of a person's race, culture, belief, age, gender, disability, sexual orientation, etc.

Discrimination may be a motivating factor in other forms of abuse. It includes:

- Forms of harassment, slurs or similar treatment
- Personal discrimination: name calling, isolating, harassing, hate crime.
- Organisational discrimination: withholding services, failing to meet cultural or religion needs.

ORGANISATIONAL ABUSE

Repeated incidents of poor professional practice or neglect. Inflexible services based on the needs of providers rather than the person receiving services, 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 ones own home.
- This may range from one off incidents to ongoing ill treatment.
- It can be through neglect, poor professional practice as a result of the structure, policies, processes and practices within an organisation.

MODERN SLAVERY

Traffickers and slave masters use whatever means they have at their disposal to coerce, deceive and force individuals into a life of abuse, servitude and inhumane treatment including:

- Human trafficking
- Forced labour
- Domestic servitude
- Sexual exploitation

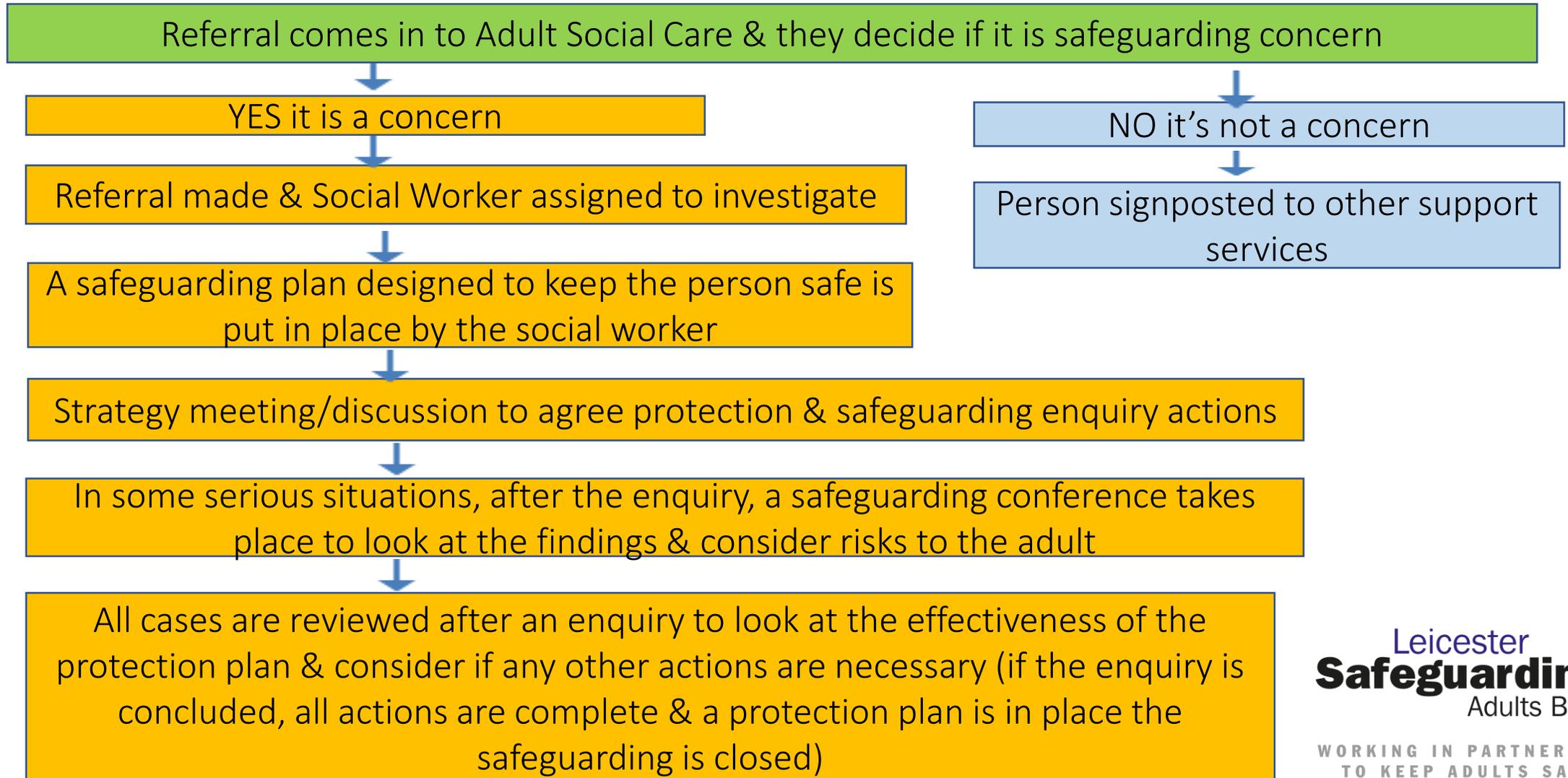
YOUR ROLE IN REPORTING A SAFEGUARDING CONCERN

The safety and welfare of the adult is everyone's main priority.

If you think you or someone you know is being abused tell someone you trust as soon as possible and

- Seek urgent medical attention
- Report the abuse to Adult Social Care, Contact and Response Team on 0116 454 1004 (operational 24 hours a day, 7 days a week)
- Contact the Police 101(non-emergency)/ 999 (emergency)

SAFEGUARDING PROCESS EXPLAINED ONCE A REFERRAL TO ADULT SOCIAL CARE IS MADE



MAKING SAFEGUARDING PERSONAL

Making Safeguarding Personal is an approach at the centre of the safeguarding process in Leicester.

It involves engaging with people who are experiencing abuse and neglect about the outcomes they want and involves six principals which are:

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

The next two slides outline what these principals are.

MAKING SAFEGUARDING PERSONAL

- 1) **Empowerment** - This means people are supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and to give informed consent. **What this means in practice?** The person at risk of abuse or neglect is asked what outcomes from the safeguarding process they want to achieve and this directly informs what happens.
- 2) **Prevention** - It is better to take action before harm occurs. **What this means in practice?** The person at risk of abuse or neglect receives clear and simple information about what abuse is. They know how to recognise the signs, and know what they can do to seek help.
- 3) **Proportionality** - The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented. **What this means in practice?** Professionals will work in the interests of the person at risk and they will only get involved as much as is necessary.

CONTINUED

- 4) **Protection** - Support and representation for those in greatest need. **What this means in practice?** The person at risk gets help and support to report abuse and neglect. They get help so that they are able to take part in the safeguarding process to the extent to which they want.
- 5) **Partnership** - Services offer local solutions through working closely with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse. **What does this mean in practice?** The person at risk knows that staff treat any personal and sensitive information in confidence, only sharing what is helpful and necessary. That professionals will work together and with the person to get the best results for them.
- 6) **Accountability** - Accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding. **What does this mean in practice?** The person at risk understands the role of everyone involved in their life and so do other relevant professionals.

SAFEGUARDING ADULTS COMPETENCY FRAMEWORK

[Link to the Safeguarding Adults Competency Framework](#)

Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland have developed 'the Safeguarding Adults Competency Framework' to support best practice in safeguarding adults at risk of harm, abuse or neglect. Included within the Multi-agency Policies and Procedures is a suite of documents for use by the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Adults Workforce to support individuals and organisations to undertake their safeguarding roles and responsibilities in a confident and competent manner.

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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[Link to the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland multi-agency policies and procedures](#)

The above resource is available to everyone, but is intended for practitioners

[Link to Leicester Safeguarding Adults Board Introductory Guide to Keeping Adults Safe from Abuse and Neglect](#)

[Link to Leicester Safeguarding Adults Board Guide to the Process of Keeping Adults Safe from Abuse and Neglect](#)

For additional resources and information go to
[Leicester Safeguarding Adults Board webpage](#)

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