



## Adult safeguarding Policy

Hawkinge Hurricanes is committed to provide a duty of care, to protect all adults at risk of abuse and safeguard their welfare, irrespective of age, disability, gender, ethnicity, gender identity religion or belief and sexual orientation.

A Shared Responsibility Effective inter-agency working is crucial for the protection of adults from abuse. Effective information sharing, collaboration and understanding between agencies and professionals are key elements in adult protection. Although Social services are the lead agency in working with those who are vulnerable to abuse, protecting adults from harm is not the sole responsibility of any one agency.

Principles of Confidentiality The right to privacy and dignity of any vulnerable adult will be respected at all times and protection of all confidential information is recognised as good practice. In every situation, it will be assumed that a person can make their own decisions unless it is proven that they are unable to do so. Further information on capacity – Mental Capacity Act 2005

- The sharing of information must be strictly on a need to know basis as stipulated in the Data Protection Act (1998).
- Informed consent should be obtained as far as is possible
- No assurances of absolute confidentiality should be given and should not be confused with secrecy as this may hinder the safeguarding objective of making people safe.

## **Abuse**

Abuse is a violation of an individual's human and civil rights by any other person or persons.

A consensus has emerged identifying the following main different forms of abuse:

§ physical abuse, including hitting, slapping, pushing, kicking, misuse of medication, restraint or inappropriate sanctions;

§ sexual abuse, including rape and sexual assault or sexual acts to which the vulnerable adult has not consented, or could not consent or was pressured into consenting;

psychological abuse, including emotional abuse, threats of harm or abandonment, deprivation of contact, humiliation, blaming, controlling, intimidation, coercion, harassment, verbal abuse, isolation or withdrawal from services or supportive networks';

§ financial or material abuse, including theft, fraud, exploitation, pressure in connection with wills, property or inheritance or financial transactions, or the misuse or misappropriation of property, possessions or benefits;

§ neglect and acts of omission including ignoring medical or physical care needs, failure to provide access to appropriate health, social care or educational services, the withholding of the necessities of life, such as medication, adequate nutrition and heating; and

§ discriminatory abuse including racist, sexist, that based on a person's disability, and other forms of harassment, slurs or similar treatment.

## **Alerting Procedure** *(everyone is an alerter)*

This procedure applies to any concern, allegation or disclosure in any setting.

In an emergency, you must dial 999 for either the police or an ambulance

In all cases of concern, allegations or disclosure you should advise and assist the vulnerable adult to contact the Adult Social Care Services for the Local Authority where they live. Social Care services details can be found on your area's County Council website.

**0300 041 6161 or 0300 041 9191**

*If someone makes an allegation or discloses to you:*

**DO**

§ Stay calm and try not to show shock

§ Listen carefully

§ Be sympathetic

§ Tell the person that: They did the right thing in tell you, reassure them that you are treating the information seriously, It was not their fault, You may have to pass the information on to more responsible persons do Inform UKA welfare team and our **Club Welfare Officer**. Write down what the person said to you as soon as possible

**DO NOT**

§ Question the person about the incident *THIS IS THE ROLE OF THE POLICE*

§ Make promises that you cannot keep

§ Contact the alleged abuser

§ Be judgemental

§ Gossip about the incident

When in doubt seek the advice of the Club welfare officer –

David Burton 07795564089

**Legislation and Guidance**

Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006

The Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007

The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups ( Northern Ireland) Order 2007

No Secrets- guidance on developing and implementing policies and procedures to protect vulnerable adults from abuse

The Mental Capacity Act 2005 and Code of Practice