
Hillingdon Brain Tumour Group

SAFEGUARDING ADULTS AT RISK POLICY



First Review:	March 2018
Update By:	March 2020
Approved By Chair:	March 2018

Registered Charity No. 1164538



Hillingdon Brain Tumour Group

SAFEGUARDING ADULTS AT RISK POLICY

1. Aim of Safeguarding Adults Policy:

The aim of this policy is to ensure that all paid staff and volunteers at Hillingdon Brain Tumour Group, contribute to the prevention of abuse of adults at risk through raising awareness and by providing a clear framework for action when abuse is suspected.

Hillingdon Brain Tumour Group recognises that many adults, who rely on carers (our clients), are vulnerable adults and some carers are also adults at risk.

Framework of Safeguarding Adults Policy:

This Policy is informed and underpinned by:
Hillingdon Multi-Agency Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures which is currently being updated in line with the 'New London multi agency Policy 2015'.

[download from www.hillingdon.gov.uk] (see attached)

The lead members of staff at Hillingdon Brain Tumour Group for Safeguarding Adults are: Maria Penicud and Becky Haggar

**The person responsible at Hillingdon Carers for making or authorising a Safeguarding Adults referral to Social Services is:
The Chair or the Vice Chair (in Chair's Absence)**

All Staff:

To follow Safeguarding Adults at Risk Policy & Procedure and Prevent Guidance and report accordingly

2. Definitions:

What is meant by the term 'Vulnerable Person'?

(see Section A in [Hillingdon Multi-Agency Safeguarding Adults Policy](#))

The **No Secrets** Guidance adopts the following definition of a adult at risk as being anyone over 18 who:

“ is or may be in need of Community Care Services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness and is or may be unable to take care of himself or herself or is unable to protect themselves against significant harm or serious exploitation”

from *WHO DECIDES* Lord Chancellor's Office (1997) quoted in *No Secrets Department of Health* (2000)

People who may be included in a definition of a 'Adult at risk':

- People with learning disabilities.
- People with physical disabilities.
- People with Brain tumours and brain injuries and long term effects
- People with sensory impairment.
- People with mental health needs including dementia.
- People who misuse substances or alcohol.
- People who are physically or mentally frail.

Prevent and Safeguarding Adults at Risk

Based on definitions in the Home Office PREVENT and Channel Programme

Prevent aims to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

The Channel Programme works to prevent people being drawn into terrorism and ensure they are given appropriate advice and support. Channel addresses risks from all forms of terrorism by drawing on expertise from the police, local authorities and community organisations.

Certain vulnerabilities may increase the risk of radicalisation:

Mental health issues

Substance misuse (drugs and alcohol)

Unemployment

Links to criminality

Lack of identity or low self-esteem

Feelings of isolation, social exclusion or rejection

Change of personal circumstances (e.g. family breakdown, bereavement)

Lack of religious knowledge

Also:

Feelings of grievance about domestic government policies or international affairs

Group identity and peer pressure

Social media and internet

Exposure to extremist ideology and propaganda

There is no terrorist blueprint in relation to vulnerability factors. It should also be noted that young people and adults may be vulnerable to extreme far right activities and other forms of extremism as well as international terrorist groups

What is meant by the term abuse?

The Council of Europe defines abuse as:

“Any act, or failure to act, which results in a significant breach of a vulnerable person’s human rights, civil liberties, bodily integrity, dignity or general well being; whether intended or inadvertent; including sexual relationships or financial transactions to which a person has not or cannot validly consent, or which are deliberately exploitative.”

*(SAFEGUARDING ADULTS AND CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES AGAINST ABUSE
Council of Europe 2002)*

The *NO SECRETS* Guidance defines abuse as:

“ Abuse is a violation of an individual’s human and civil rights”
NO SECRETS (DoH 2000)

Types of abuse:

NO SECRETS (DoH 2000) has identified the following types of abuse:

- **Physical Abuse** – for example, hitting, pushing, shaking, rough handling or unnecessary physical force (deliberate or unintentional), the covert administration of medication, or otherwise causing physical harm
- **Sexual Abuse** – for example, unwanted touching, kissing or sexual activity, or intimate contact where the vulnerable person cannot or does not give their consent. It could also include to use of sexually explicit language or the exposure to pornographic material.
- **Psychological/Emotional Abuse** - for example, threats of harm or abandonment, deprivation of contact, humiliating, blaming, controlling intimidating, coercing, harassing, isolating or threats to withdraw from services of supportive networks
- **Neglect** – for example, the repeated deprivation of help or care that a vulnerable adult needs which, if withdrawn, will cause him or her to suffer.
- **Discriminatory Abuse** – for example, racist or sexist abuse, or abuse based on a person’s disability and other forms of harassment, slurs or similar treatment
- **Financial Abuse** – for example, the illegal or improper use of a person’s money, property pension, bank account or other belongings
- **Verbal Abuse** – for example, shouting, swearing, threatening, mocking, belittling, making the client an object of ridicule, using words or terms the client may find offensive
- **Institutional Abuse** – for example, abuse, neglect, withdrawal or rights or continually poor care in a care home setting
- **Radicalisation** – for example, undue influence exerted by individuals or groups that may lead to a vulnerable person becoming a terrorist or committing terrorist acts.

It should be noted however that these categories of abuse are not mutually exclusive and many situations will contain a combination of different kinds of abuse.

Places where abuse might take place:

Abuse can take place in a variety of settings. These can include:

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- a person's own home.
 - a relative or friend's home.
 - a day centre or support service.
 - within a supported living scheme.
 - within an adult placement.
 - an educational establishment.
 - a hospital.
 - a care home.

Who might be responsible for the abuse?

- a family member/carer
- paid care staff
- a volunteer
- a support worker
- a friend/neighbour or someone known socially
- someone who deliberately forms a relationship with a vulnerable person to exploit them

Hillingdon Brain Tumour Group carries out its responsibilities in relation to Safeguarding Adults in the following ways:

3. A Duty to Report

- a. All staff and volunteers should take any allegations of abuse seriously**
- b. All staff and volunteers need to be aware of indicators that a vulnerable adult is being or could be abused**

If Abuse is suspected Staff and Volunteers must:

Ensure that no one is in immediate danger: contact emergency services by dialing 999 if this is the case

Clarify information and details without speaking to the alleged perpetrator

Ensure that possible evidence is not destroyed or altered

Explain to alleged victim that you need to inform your manager

Staff and volunteers should report concerns immediately to the Vice Chair or Chair – if neither is available and the matter is urgent, contact Social Services for the appropriate Duty desk on 01895 556633 and report concerns.

Staff/volunteers need to make notes which will be used later in case notes, Hillingdon Brain Tumour Group Incident File if appropriate and to inform any reports to the Local Authority.

Radicalisation:

Where there are clear indications that a vulnerable adult is being radicalised or at risk of radicalisation, details of the subject and circumstances should be submitted by e-mail to London Borough of Hillingdon Prevent Lead: Fiona Gibbs FGibbs@Hillingdon.Gov.uk

Tel 01895 277035 or 07946 714637
Or dial 999

The Home Office PREVENT and Channel Programme

Prevent aims to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

The Channel Programme works to prevent people being drawn into terrorism and ensure they are given appropriate advice and support. Channel addresses risks from all forms of terrorism by drawing on expertise from the police, local authorities and community organisations

Actions to be followed by the Vice Chair or Chair:

- Check that appropriate steps have been taken if the victim is in immediate danger, as outlined above.
- Take any report of alleged abuse of a vulnerable adult seriously.
- Consult the Hillingdon Multi-Agency Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures as soon as practicable and follow actions outlined in Section C.
- Make a report to Hillingdon Social Services Department [do not delay reporting allegations just because the above Policy is not immediately available].
- Ensure details are recorded
- If a Vulnerable Adult refuses to allow intervention by statutory services the Vice Chair/Chair must record the reasons why the allegation has not been reported.
- At the same time consideration must be given as to the capacity of the alleged victim to make a decision regarding reporting the allegation.
- If other vulnerable adults are also considered to be at risk, the allegation must always be reported.
- If an allegation of abuse of a vulnerable adult involves a member of Hillingdon Brain Tumour Group Staff or a Volunteer, the Staff Disciplinary Policy must be followed immediately.

4. A Duty to practise safe recruitment

- It is the responsibility of Hillingdon Brain Tumour Group to practise safe recruitment in checking the suitability of staff/volunteers to work in close contact with vulnerable adults.
- All Staff who are appointed must have an enhanced Disclosure and Barring service (DBS) Check (carried out via The Carers Trust and Volunteers are only excluded if they carry out solely office administration tasks.
- All Staff and Volunteers must have two referees and references must be requested and received.

5. A Duty to ensure staff are trained appropriately

- All Staff who are Support Workers of Adults must attend the ½ day Safeguarding Adults Awareness Training provided by LBH Social Services Training Team (free).
- Support Workers of Adults should repeat the awareness training every three years as a minimum requirement.
- Support Workers of Children should also attend the same awareness training once they have met the requirements to attend Safeguarding Children Training.

6. A Duty to raise awareness

- Hillingdon Brain Tumour Group recognises that it is a part of the local Health and Social Care environment and should therefore play a part in raising awareness of Safeguarding Adults issues.
- Safeguarding Adults leaflets should be taken to all relevant outreach events attended by Hillingdon Brain Tumour Group.
- Safeguarding Adults will be a chosen theme for our Advice Centre window at least once a year.
- Safeguarding Adults will be included as a topic in all relevant training for carers and information sessions for groups.
- We recognise that Safeguarding Adults issues overlap with Safeguarding Children issues and we need to be aware of both when visiting vulnerable families.

Summary of Section C – Hillingdon Multi-Agency SAFEGUARDING ADULTS Policy and Procedures

- All staff and volunteers have a duty to report any allegations or suspicions that a adult at risk is being abused.
- Consideration will need to be given to ensuring the person’s immediate safety and well-being, and the well being of other adults at risk who may be affected.
- The allegation or suspicion should be recorded.
- In the majority of cases a referral should be made to London Borough of Hillingdon Safeguarding Team via Social Care Direct on 01895 556633

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