

Safeguarding Policy



Safeguarding is the responsibility of Everyone

Wivey Cares recognises that the welfare of vulnerable adults is paramount and that they all, regardless of ability or culture, have equal rights of protection. Wivey Cares has a duty of care and will do everything it can to provide a safe, caring, and secure environment for clients, micro providers and volunteers. Wivey Cares ensures that its policy and any associated policies and procedures and training comply with statutory requirements and reflects available guidance on good practice in safeguarding vulnerable adults, and that safeguarding arrangements are proportionate to the risks involved.

Vulnerable Adult: *The definition of vulnerable adult in “Who Decides?” (Lord Chancellor’s Office 1997)” and as used in this document is anyone who is 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.*

Safeguarding Procedure

Recognising Types of Abuse and Neglect

- **Physical:** hitting, slapping, kicking etc. but also any act that may cause physical symptoms, e.g. misuse of medication, inappropriate restraint, poor moving and handling techniques etc.
- **Financial** or material: theft, fraud, internet scamming, mismanagement of a person’s financial affairs.
- **Sexual:** does not have to involve sexual contact – includes displaying pornographic images, forcing a person to witness sexual acts/videos etc. Any sexual act to which an individual has not consented.
- **Discriminatory:** racism, sexism, ageism, homophobia – may include hate crimes.
- **Organisational:** poor care practice e.g. consistently low staffing levels, rigid routines for the benefit of the organisation rather than the individuals.
- **Neglect and acts of omission:** not providing or allowing access to appropriate health, education or social care or treatment. Neglect may be intentional or unintentional.
- **Psychological:** includes threat, harassment, intimidation, cyber bullying.
- **Domestic Violence or Abuse:** is defined as an incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse

between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been intimate partners or are family members.

- **Self-Neglect:** covers a wide range of behaviour, neglecting to care for one's own needs, health or surroundings, and includes hoarding.
- **Modern Slavery:** encompasses forced labour, human trafficking, domestic servitude, forcing individuals into criminal activity.

For more information on the types of abuse and how to spot abuse go to

<https://somensetsafeguardingadults.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Abuse-Types-and-Indicators.pdf>

Reporting Abuse

Wivey Cares designated Safeguarding Officer is David Patterson. He can be contacted on 07816 154309 or email David@wiveycares.net. David is a retired social worker who has undergone full safeguarding training.

If the designated Safeguarding Officer is not available contact Tamzin Jones, our co-ordinator, on 07508 331661 or email co-ordinator@wiveycares.net. She has undergone safeguarding training.

The Safeguarding Officer oversees and ensures that Wivey Care's policy is fully implemented, and that committee members, trustees and volunteers and Micro Providers are fully supported to comply with the Safeguarding Policy. This will include ensuring that volunteers and Micro Providers who have regular contact with vulnerable adults and other senior managers and support staff receive safeguarding training and DBS checks are carried out. The DSL will receive and deal with any complaints made against staff in terms of safeguarding.

Procedure

Where possible support the individual to raise their own concern. Where this is not possible, or the individual does not wish to, seek their consent to raise the concern and explain you are going to report it to the Wivey Cares Safeguarding Officer.

- If the person does not give consent but you are concerned that someone is at immediate risk, it may be necessary to override their wish not to consent. Report the abuse directly to the Somerset Safeguarding team at on 0300 123 2224 (e-mail adults@somerset.gov.uk) during normal working hours. However, if a serious crime has taken place or there is a need for an immediate police response to protect the adult at risk, consider dialling 999.
- Inform the Wivey Cares Safeguarding Officer as soon as is possible.

For more information please refer to

<https://somensetsafeguardingadults.org.uk/information-for-the-public/protecting-adults/>