

Devon Memory Café Consortium (DMCC) Information Leaflet

Safeguarding 'Adults at risk of Abuse' (Care Act 2014) (Part1)

Who is an adult at risk of abuse?

An adult (one who is 18 years of age or over) who; has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs) is experiencing, or is at risk of abuse or neglect. Is a person who, 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.

What is safeguarding?

Safeguarding means protecting people's health, wellbeing, beliefs and human rights, and enabling them to live free from harm, abuse and neglect. It is fundamental to high-quality health and social care. Safeguarding must have a zero tolerance approach.

What might constitute abuse and neglect?

Abuse and neglect can take many forms. Abuse is considered to have taken place whether it consist of a single or repeated acts. It may be physical such as hitting, pushing or a misuse of medication. Abuse may be psychological and may include, a threat of abandonment, coercion, controlling intimidation. It may be an act of financial or material abuse, theft, the misuse or misappropriation of property or possessions. An abuse may occur when an 'adult at risk' is pressured into a sexual act to which he or she has not consented, or cannot consent. This list is extensive and it is recommended, when in doubt, that reference is made to the Elearning course details of which are given below.

The aims of safeguarding for people who use Memory Café services (Care Act 2014)

Safeguarding 'adults at risk' includes:

- Prevention of harm and reduce risk of abuse or neglect to adults with care and support needs.
- Prevent and stop abuse or neglect wherever possible.
- Safeguarding adults in a way that supports them in making choices and having control about how they want to live.
- Promote an approach that concentrates on improving life for the adults concerned.

We help to safeguard people by:

- Using information we receive (particularly when concerns are raised about abuse, harm or neglect) to look at the risks to people who use Memory Café services.
- Working with partners such as Dementia Advisors, local GPs, the police, local councils, health agencies, other regulators and government departments.
- Referring concerns to Dementia Advisers, local GPs, Social Care Services, NHS services, local councils and/or police for further investigation.

If a disclosure of alleged abuse is made to a volunteer it is not their responsibility to investigate the allegation; they should contact the named Lead Person within the memory café who will take the matter forward in line with the Multi-Agency Policy. They will require a certain amount of information from the volunteer which will include details of the person who has disclosed that they have been abused and the person they allege to be the abuser, the type of abuse, where the abuse has taken place and when. DMCC will have a copy of a DVD 'Safeguarding Adults Awareness level 1'. This may be borrowed, free of charge, by arrangement. Please contact via www.dmcc.org.uk for loan details. Should your Café think it advantageous to own a copy, these may be purchased from Devon County Council. At the time of writing these DVDs cost £10.00 each. Other Elearning resources are available at:

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/devonsafeguardinglearning/learner-resources>

Devon Memory Café Consortium (DMCC) Information Leaflet

Safeguarding 'Adults at risk of Abuse' (Care Act 2014) (Part 2)

Useful points of contact.

A link to Adult Safeguarding including the most up to date Policies and Guidance

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/devonsafeguardingadultsboard/>

A link to the Care Act Chapter 14 statutory guidance for safeguarding for your information

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/care-and-support-statutory-guidance/safeguarding>

Complete up to date guidance may be found at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/315993/Care-Act-Guidance.pdf

If needing to have been involved in a safeguarding concern use the Bournemouth 'SAFE' tool at

<https://safe.bournemouth.ac.uk/>

The following is the Professionals line for Safeguarding Adults advice for your area Use this if as a manager you need some clarity with safeguarding concerns.

Tel **01392 381211 Option 5**

For the Quality Assurance and Improvement Team please call 01392 383000 for help or email

qualityimprovement-mailbox@devon.gov.uk

For any information relating to Safeguarding, Mental Capacity Act, Deprivation of Liberties or Prevention of abuse training please use the link below.

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/devonsafeguardinglearning>

For 'Deprivation of Liberty' enquiries please call 01392 381676 or email at:

dols@devon.gov.uk

Please refer to DMCC Safeguarding Adults Policy and Risk Assessment Procedure Template.