

TP Care at Homes Ltd 7, 27 Dean Park Road, Bournemouth, BH1 1JA

1 Purpose

- **1.1** To ensure that this policy includes and refers to Dorset Council policy and procedures and details clearly who is responsible and accountable for managing safeguarding concerns within TP Care at Homes Ltd:
 - Overall accountability for managing safeguarding concerns: Tivadar Polgar
 - Tivadar Polgar is responsible for the governance and authorisation of this policy
 - Safeguarding Lead at TP Care at Homes Ltd: Tivadar Polgar
 - · Local Authority: Dorset Council
 - Local Authority Main Contact Details: 01305 228558
- 1.2 To protect the Client's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect.
- **1.3** To ensure that the Dorset Council Safeguarding Policy and Procedure is understood by all staff at TP Care at Homes Ltd and that the Dorset Council safeguarding procedures dovetail with the service's policy and procedure.
- **1.4** To set out the key arrangements and systems that TP Care at Homes Ltd has in place for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of adults at risk and to ensure compliance with local policies and procedures.

Adults are those aged 18 years and over.

- 1.5 To have a clear, well-publicised policy of zero-tolerance of abuse within TP Care at Homes Ltd.
- **1.6** To meet the legal requirements of the regulated activities that {TP Care at Homes Ltd} is registered to provide:
 - Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 (Disclosure and Barring Service Transfer of Functions) Order 2012
 - Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998
- The Criminal Justice and Courts Act 2015 Section 20-25
- The Modern Slavery Act 2015
- The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Serious Crime Act 2015 Section 76
- FGM Act 2003
- · Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014
- Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004
- The Care Act 2014
- Care Quality Commission (Registration) Regulations 2009
- Equality Act 2010
- The Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Regulated Activities) Regulations 2014
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Mental Capacity Act 2005
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Data Protection Act 2018
- UK GDPR

2 Scope

- 2.1 The following roles may be affected by this policy:
 - All staff
- 2.2 The following Clients may be affected by this policy:
 - Clients
- 2.3 The following stakeholders may be affected by this policy:
 - Family
 - Advocates
 - Representatives
 - Commissioners
 - External health professionals
 - Local Authority

Krisztina Hardman (Nominated Individual)

Tivadar Polgar (Registered Manager)



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NHS

3 Objectives

- **3.1** To ensure that all staff working for, or on behalf of, TP Care at Homes Ltd, understand their responsibilities in relation to safeguarding adults at risk and know who to escalate concerns to within TP Care at Homes Ltd and externally if needed and appropriate to do so.
- **3.2** To manage the safety and wellbeing of adults in line with the six principles of safeguarding.
- 3.3 To identify lessons to be learned from cases where adults have experienced abuse or neglect.
- **3.4** TP Care at Homes Ltd aims to support and empower each adult to make choices, to have control over how they want to live their own lives and to prevent abuse and neglect occurring in the future which is a key underpinning principle of Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP). TP Care at Homes Ltd intends to take this approach with all safeguarding concerns.

4 Policy

4.1 What is Safeguarding

TP Care at Homes Ltd recognises the definition of safeguarding as the actions taken to keep Clients safe from harm and neglect.

TP Care at Homes Ltd and its employees understand the importance of working together in partnership to make sure that individual Clients are safe through its collective and proactive approach to safeguarding.

4.2 What Constitutes Abuse

Employees of TP Care at Homes Ltd understand that the Clients TP Care at Homes Ltd supports can be extremely vulnerable to abuse and neglect, especially if they have care and support needs.

Abuse is a violation of an individual's human or civil right by any other person. It is where someone does something to another person, or to themselves, which puts them at risk of harm and impacts on their health and wellbeing.

Abuse can have a damaging effect on the health and wellbeing of Clients; these effects may be experienced in the short and long term and sometimes can be lifelong.

4.3 The signs of abuse are not always obvious, and a victim of abuse may not tell anyone what is happening to them - sometimes they may not even be aware they are being abused.

The robust governance processes at TP Care at Homes Ltd will make sure that staff working for, and on behalf of, TP Care at Homes Ltd, recognise and respond to the main forms of abuse which are set out in the Care Act 2014 Statutory Guidance Chapter 14, which is not an exhaustive list, but an illustration as to the sort of behaviour that could give rise to a safeguarding concern:

- Physical abuse
- Domestic violence and abuse
- Sexual abuse
- · Psychological abuse
- Financial or material abuse
- · Modern slavery and human trafficking
- · Discriminatory abuse
- Organisational abuse
- · Neglect and acts of omission failure to act
- Self-neglect
- Emotional and psychological abuse
- Cyber bullying
- Mate crime

Common signs and symptoms of abuse include:

- · Unexplained changes in behaviour or personality such as aggression, anger, hostility or hyperactivity
- Becoming withdrawn
- Seeming anxious, depressed or unusual fears, or a sudden loss of self-confidence
- · Withdrawal from friends or usual activities
- · Lacks social skills and has few friends, if any

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Tivadar Polgar (Registered Manager)



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- Poor bond or relationship with close family members
- · Running away or going missing
- · Sleep problems and nightmares

Hidden harms may also include:

- Exploitation
- · County lines
- Forced marriage honour based abuse (HBA)
- Female genital mutilation (FGM)
- PREVENT
- Radicalisation
- Gang violence
- Modern slavery

See also the 'Safeguarding - A Quick Guide for Staff' in the forms section of this policy for detailed types, signs and symptoms.

- **4.4** Everybody has the right to live a life that is free from harm and abuse. TP Care at Homes Ltd recognises that safeguarding adults at risk of abuse or neglect is everybody's business. TP Care at Homes Ltd aims to ensure that all adults at risk of abuse or neglect are enabled to live and work, be cared for and supported in an environment free from abuse, harassment, violence or aggression. The safeguarding policies and procedures of TP Care at Homes Ltd will dovetail with the Dorset Council multi-agency policy and procedures, which we understand take precedence over those of TP Care at Homes Ltd. TP Care at Homes Ltd will ensure that the Dorset Council policies and procedures are reflected within its own policy and procedure, that this is shared with all staff and is accessible and available for staff to follow.
- **4.5** TP Care at Homes Ltd aims to provide services that will be appropriate to the adult at risk and not discriminate because of disability, age, gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, culture, or lifestyle. It will make every effort to enable Clients to express their wishes and make their own decisions to the best of their ability, recognising that such self-determination may well involve risk.
- TP Care at Homes Ltd will work with Clients and others involved in their Care to ensure they receive the support and protection they may require, that they are listened to and treated with respect (including their property, possessions and personal information) and that they are treated with compassion and dignity. A chaperone is always present when a vulnerable adult needs treatment, and missed healthcare appointments must be monitored to consider signs of abuse or neglect. These must be followed up with the healthcare provider and information shared in the best interests and safety of the Client.
- **4.6** TP Care at Homes Ltd will follow the six principles as set out in guidance to the Care Act 2014 and this will inform practice with all Clients:
 - Empowerment People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent
 - Prevention It is better to take action before harm occurs
- Proportionality The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented
- Protection Support and representation for those in greatest need
- **Partnership** Local solutions through services working with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse
- Accountability Accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding
- 4.7 TP Care at Homes Ltd understands the importance of working collaboratively to ensure that:
 - The needs and interests of adults at risk are always respected and upheld
 - The human rights of adults at risk are respected and upheld
 - A proportionate, timely, professional and ethical response is made to any adult at risk who may be experiencing abuse
 - All decisions and actions are taken in line with the Mental Capacity Act 2005
 - Each adult at risk maintains:
 - · Choice and control

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Tivadar Polgar (Registered Manager)

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- Safety
- Health
- · Quality of life
- · Dignity and respect

4.8 TP Care at Homes Ltd is committed to the principles of 'Making Safeguarding Personal' and aims to ensure that safeguarding is person-led and focused on the outcomes that Clients want to achieve. It will engage Clients in a conversation about how best to respond to their safeguarding situation in a timely way that enhances involvement, choice and control as well as improving quality of life, wellbeing and safety.

4.9 The Registered Manager's Responsibilities

- To establish the facts about the circumstances giving rise for concern
- · To identify sources and level of risk
- To ensure that information is recorded and that the Dorset Council Adult Safeguarding Team is contacted to inform them of the concern or harm
- If a Client is at immediate risk of harm, the Registered Manager will contact the Police. The CQC will also be informed
- In all cases of alleged harm, there will be early consultation between Tivadar Polgar, Dorset Council and the Police to determine whether or not a joint investigation is required. TP Care at Homes Ltd understands that it may also be necessary to advise the relevant Power of Attorney, if there is one appointed. In dealing with incidents of potential harm, people have rights which must be respected and which may need to be balanced against each other
- The wishes of the person harmed will be taken into account whenever possible. This may result in no legal action
- Documentation of any incidents of harm in the Client's file and using body maps to record any injuries
- Follow Dorset Council policy guidelines where applicable
- Report any incidents of abuse to the relevant parties
- Work with multi-agencies
- · Advise and support staff
- Ensure staff are trained to enhance knowledge
- Actively promote the "Whistleblowing" policies

4.10 The Care Worker's Responsibilities

- . To be able to recognise and report incidences of harm
- To report concerns of harm or poor practice that may lead to harm
- To remain up to date with training
- To follow the policy and procedures
- To know how and when to use the Whistleblowing procedures
- To understand the Mental Capacity Act and how to apply it in practice

4.11 General Principles

- We will have robust recruiting and safer staffing policies in place to make sure that our staff are fit to work with adults at risk and are compliant with national, safe recruitment and employment practices, including the requirements of the Disclosure and Barring Service
- A named safeguarding lead will be in place who is responsible for embedding safeguarding practices and improving practice in line with national and local developments. At TP Care at Homes Ltd, this person is Tivadar Polgar
- Any staff member who knows or believes that harm is occurring will report it to their line manager as
 quickly as possible, or if they feel they cannot follow the regular reporting procedure, they must use the
 Whistleblowing process
- TP Care at Homes Ltd will work collaboratively with other agencies, including liaison in relation to the investigation of allegations and will ensure its procedures dovetail with the Dorset Council multi-agency procedures
- TP Care at Homes Ltd will use incident reporting, root cause analysis, lessons learned and auditing to Krisztina Hardman (Nominated Individual)

 Tivadar Polgar (Registered Manager)



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determine themes to improve Care practice

- We will have a learning and development strategy which specifically addresses adult safeguarding. We
 will provide training on the identification and reporting of harm, as well as training on the required
 standards in relation to procedures and processes should something need to be reported
- TP Care at Homes Ltd recognises its responsibilities in relation to confidentiality and will share information appropriately
- We will have zero tolerance to harm
- We will work in partnership with other agencies to ensure that concerns or allegations of abuse are appropriately referred for investigation to the most appropriate agency
- We will ensure that any action that is taken is assessed, proportionate and reflective of the risk presented to the people who use the services
- We will report any incidents in line with our regulatory requirements
- TP Care at Homes Ltd will adhere to the Code of Conduct for Care Workers
- There is a clear, well-publicised Whistleblowing Policy and Procedure in place that staff know how to

4.12 Prevention - Providing information to support Clients

- TP Care at Homes Ltd will support Clients by providing accessible, easy to understand information on what abuse is and what signs to look out for. This will include Clients' rights and how to get help and support if they need it through the Care Plan process. We will comply with the Accessible Information Standard
- All Clients will receive a copy of the Service User Guide, have access to the Complaints, Suggestions
 and Compliments Policy and Procedure and be given information on how to escalate any concerns to
 the Commissioner, CQC, advocacy or Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman should they not
 be satisfied with the approach taken by TP Care at Homes Ltd

4.13 Prevention - Raising awareness

- Staff will need to be trained and understand the different patterns and behaviours of abuse as detailed in the Care Act <u>Chapter 14</u> and TP Care at Homes Ltd will ensure that it is able to respond appropriately
- TP Care at Homes Ltd will ensure that all staff are trained on the Raising Concerns, Freedom to Speak Up and Whistleblowing Policy and Procedure
- During induction training, all employees will complete the <u>"Understanding Abuse" workbook,</u> as part of the Care Certificate

5 Procedure

5.1 Responding to Disclosure, Suspicion or Witnessing of Abuse

Where an adult at risk discloses or discusses potential abuse or harm, the staff member must be able to:

- Recognise: Identify that the adult at risk may be describing abuse, even when they may not be explicit
- Respond: Stay calm, listen and show empathy
- **Reassure** them that it will be taken seriously and explain that there is a duty to report the issues internally and what may happen next
- Record: Write up notes of the conversation clearly and factually as soon as possible
- Report in a timely manner to the appropriate people and organisations

5.2 Responding to a Disclosure

Remember you are not investigating. Do:

- Stay calm and try not to show shock
- Listen very carefully
- · Be sympathetic
- Be aware of the possibility that medical evidence might be needed

Tell the person that:

• They did a good/the right thing in telling you

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- · You are treating the information seriously
- · It was not their fault

Some people may simply be telling a story and not realise that they are subject to abuse. It is important for staff to keep this in mind and be thoughtful in their response.

Explain that you must tell your line manager and, with their consent, your manager will contact the Dorset Council Safeguarding Adults Team and/or the Police. Tivadar Polgar must be informed. TP Care at Homes Ltd will, in specific circumstances, need to contact the Dorset Council Adult Safeguarding Team without their consent but their wishes will be made clear throughout.

If a referral is made but the adult at risk is reluctant to continue with an investigation, record this and bring this to the attention of the Dorset Council Safeguarding Adults Team. This will enable a discussion on how best to support and protect the adult at risk. However, a professional case discussion will still need to take place and must be recorded appropriately.

5.3 Responding to Abuse or Neglect - What to do

TP Care at Homes Ltd must ensure that staff:

- · Address any immediate safety and protection needs
- . Assess any risks and take steps to ensure that the adult is in no immediate danger
- Where appropriate, call 999 for the emergency services if there is a medical emergency, other danger to life or risk of imminent injury, or if a crime is in progress. Where a crime is suspected of being committed, leave things as they are wherever possible
- Call for medical assistance from the GP or other primary healthcare service if there is a concern about the adult's need for medical assistance or advice. Care Workers can call the NHS 111 service for medical help or advice when the situation is not life-threatening or is out of hours
- The adult may feel frightened, so the Care Worker must ask whether they want the Care Worker to arrange for someone they feel comfortable with to stay with them
- TP Care at Homes Ltd will consider if there are other adults or children with care and support needs who are at risk of harm and take appropriate steps to protect them
- The Care Worker will support and encourage the adult to contact the Police if a crime has been or may have been committed
- The Care Worker will contact their line manager as soon as possible to inform them of the incident or concern
- Tivadar Polgar will be informed and contacted on 078811172477 as soon as possible

5.4 Decision-Making Pre-referral to the Dorset Council Adult Safeguarding Team

Tivadar Polgar or the Safeguarding Lead will usually lead on decision-making. Where such support is unavailable, consultation with another more senior member of staff will take place.

In the event that these are unavailable, advice must be taken from Dorset Council. Staff must also take action without the immediate authority of a line manager:

- If discussion with the manager would involve delay in an apparently high-risk situation
- If the person has raised concerns with their manager and they have not taken appropriate action (whistleblowing)

TP Care at Homes Ltd will ensure that staff are aware of the Dorset Council reporting procedures and timescales for raising adult safeguarding concerns.

5.5 Referral to the Dorset Council Adult Safeguarding Team

TP Care at Homes Ltd must ensure that the Dorset Council Safeguarding Adult referral process is followed and must collect the following information to assist with the referral. The referral process must be clearly visible with contact numbers, including out-of-hours, where staff can access the information.

The referral information will also be required for some of the CQC notification of abuse documentation. TP Care at Homes Ltd must use any up-to-date Care Plan information where possible and have the following information available where possible:

- . Demographic and contact details for the adult at risk, the person who raised the concern and for any other relevant individual, specifically Care Workers and next of kin
- Basic facts, focusing on whether or not the person has care and support needs including communication and ongoing health needs
- Factual details of what the concern is about; what, when, who, where?

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- · Immediate risks and action taken to address risk
- Preferred method of communication
- If reported as a crime, details of which police station/officer, crime reference number, etc.
- Whether the adult at risk has any cognitive impairment which may impede their ability to protect themselves
- Any information on the person alleged to have caused harm
- · Wishes and views of the adult at risk, in particular, consent
- · Advocacy involvement (includes family/friends)
- Information from other relevant organisations, for example, the CQC
- Any recent history (if known) about previous concerns of a similar nature or concerns raised about the same person, or someone within the same household
- · Names of any staff involved

5.6 Documenting a Disclosure

TP Care at Homes Ltd must ensure that staff:

- . Make a note of what the person actually said, using his or her own words and phrases
- Describe the circumstance in which the disclosure came about
- . Note the setting and anyone else who was there at the time
- When there are cuts, bruises or other marks on the skin, use a body map to indicate their location, noting the colour of any bruising - bruising from abuse is often found on areas of the body such as the torso, ears, neck, eyes, cheeks and buttocks
- Make sure the information the Care Worker writes is factual
- Use a pen with black ink so that the report can be photocopied
- · Try to keep their writing clear
- Sign and date the report, noting the time and location
- Be aware that the report may be needed later as part of a legal action or disciplinary procedure

5.7 Informing the Relevant Inspectorate

- By law, TP Care at Homes Ltd must notify the Care Quality Commission without delay of incidents of abuse and allegations of abuse, as well as any incident which is reported to, or investigated by, the Police
- TP Care at Homes Ltd must notify the CQC about abuse or alleged abuse involving a person(s) using the service, whether the person(s) is/are the victim(s), the abuser(s), or both
- TP Care at Homes Ltd must also alert the relevant local safeguarding authority when notification is made to the CQC about abuse or alleged abuse
- The forms are available on the CQC website
- If a concern is received via the whistleblowing procedure, TP Care at Homes Ltd must inform the Dorset Council Safeguarding Team and the CQC

5.8 Strategy Meeting / Case Conference

- Following the investigation, or at any time during the process, a case conference with all relevant agencies may be called to make decisions about future action to address the needs of the individual
- Any agency involved in the case may ask for a case conference to be held but the final decision to hold a conference is with the Dorset Council Safeguarding Adults Team Manager
- TP Care at Homes Ltd must ensure that it attends this meeting when invited and that all relevant information about the incident is available. A timeline of events is a useful document to prepare in complex cases

5.9 Involve the Client Concerned Throughout the Process

- The process of the enquiry must be explained to the Client in a way they will understand and their consent to proceed with the enquiry obtained, if possible
- Arrangements will be made to have a relative, friend or independent advocate present if the Client so

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Tivadar Polgar (Registered Manager)



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desires. The relative, friend or independent advocate must not be a person suspected of being in any way involved or implicated in the abuse

- A review of the Client's Care Plan must be undertaken to ensure individualised support following the incident
- The Client will be supported by the service to take part in the safeguarding process to the extent to which they wish, or are able to, having regard for their decisions and opinions. They must be kept informed of progress

5.10 Desired Outcomes Identified by the Adult

The desired outcome by the adult at risk must be clarified and confirmed at the end of the conversation(s), to:

- Ensure that the outcome is achievable
- · Manage any expectations that the adult at risk may have
- · Give focus to the enquiry
- Staff will support adults at risk to think in terms of realistic outcomes but must not restrict or unduly
 influence the outcome that the adult would like. Outcomes must make a difference to risk and, at the
 same time, satisfy the person's desire for justice and enhance their wellbeing
- The adult's views, wishes and desired outcomes may change throughout the course of the enquiry process
- There must be an ongoing dialogue and conversation with the adult to ensure that their views and wishes are gained as the process continues and enquiries re-planned if the adult change their views
- The Client will be informed of the outcome of any investigation, but guidance will be sought from the Dorset Council Adult Safeguarding Team before any outcome is shared

5.11 Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Referral

There is a statutory requirement for providers of Care to refer workers to the DBS for inclusion on the DBS Vetting and Barring scheme list if they consider that the person is guilty of misconduct such that a vulnerable adult was harmed or placed at risk of harm. This requirement covers both existing employees and those who leave their employment, and whose conduct comes to light at a later date. Please see the DBS/Disclosure Policy and Procedure for further procedures regarding initial employment and referral.

5.12 Consent

When reporting information that directly concerns the safety of an adult at risk of harm, consent from the Client is not required. However, informing the Client of your concerns and your referral is good practice unless it would put you or your colleagues at risk or it would put the adult at further risk. When reporting to a local authority allegations or concerns about an adult at risk of harm, the Local Authority must be informed whether the Client is aware of the report. In reporting all suspected or confirmed cases of harm, an employee has a responsibility to act in the best interest of the Client but still operate within the relevant legislation and the parameters of the codes and standards of their practice.

5.13 Confidentiality and Information Sharing

In seeking to share information for the purposes of protecting adults at risk, TP Care at Homes Ltd is committed to the following principles:

- Personal information will be shared in a manner that is compliant with the statutory responsibilities
 of TP Care at Homes I td
- Adults at risk will be fully informed about information that is recorded about them and as a general rule, be asked for their permission before information about them is shared with colleagues or another agency. However, there may be justifications to override this principle if the adult or others are at risk
- Staff will receive appropriate training on Client confidentiality and secure data sharing
- The principles of confidentiality designed to protect the management interests of TP Care at Homes Ltd must never be allowed to conflict with those designed to promote the interests of the adult at risk
- Staff will follow the policy of TP Care at Homes Ltd with regard to UK GDPR, Data Protection and Confidentiality and comply with the Caldicott principles

5.14 Pressure Ulcers

TP Care at Homes Ltd must follow local safeguarding reporting requirements with regards to pressure areas. Pressure ulcers are costly in terms of both Client suffering and the use of resources. If the pressure ulcer is believed to have been caused by neglect, it must be reported as an adult safeguarding concern

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Tivadar Polgar (Registered Manager)



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whether the pressure ulcer was acquired in a hospital, care setting or the Client's own home. TP Care at Homes Ltd must ensure that staff read and follow <u>Safeguarding Adults Protocol Pressure Ulcers and the interface with a Safeguarding Enquiry</u>, seeking advice and further guidance where required.

Where Clients are new to the service, any pressure ulcers must be documented on a body map and reported in line with safeguarding procedures. Treatment must also be sought from the GP.

5.15 Medication Errors

TP Care at Homes Ltd must follow local safeguarding reporting procedures for medication errors and ensure that notifications are made to the CQC in line with statutory requirements. TP Care at Homes Ltd will have an open and transparent approach to medication incidents and ensure that staff follow the Medication Errors and Near Misses Policy and Procedure at TP Care at Homes Ltd and understand their Duty of Candour responsibilities.

5.16 Abuse of Trust

- A relationship of trust is one in which one person is in a position of power or influence over the other person because of their work or the nature of their activity
- Where the person who is alleged to have caused the abuse or neglect has a relationship of trust with
 the adult at risk because they are; a member of staff, a paid employee, a paid carer, a volunteer or a
 manager, TP Care at Homes Ltd must invoke disciplinary procedures for employed staff as well as
 taking action in line with this policy
- TP Care at Homes Ltd must ensure that a referral is made to the Disclosure and Barring Service if an employee is found to have caused harm to an individual
- If the person who is alleged to have caused the harm is a member of a recognised professional group,
 TP Care at Homes Ltd must act under the relevant code of conduct for the profession as well as taking action under this policy
- Where the person alleged to have caused the harm or neglect is a volunteer or a member of a community group, TP Care at Homes Ltd must work with adult social services to support any action under this policy
- Where the person alleged to have caused the harm is a neighbour, a member of the public, a stranger or a person who deliberately targets vulnerable people, in many cases the policy and procedures will be used to ensure that the adult at risk receives the services and support that they may need
- In all cases, issues of consent, confidentiality and information sharing must be considered

5.17 Allegations Against People who are Relatives or Friends

There is a clear difference between unintentional harm caused inadvertently by a relative or friend and a deliberate act of either harm or omission, in which case the same principles and responsibilities for reporting to the police apply. In cases where unintentional harm has occurred, this may be due to lack of knowledge or due to the fact that the relative's own physical or mental needs make them unable to care adequately for the adult at risk. The relative may also be an adult at risk. In this situation, the aim is to protect the adult from harm, work to support the relative to provide support and to help make changes in their behaviour in order to decrease the risk of further harm to the person they are caring for. A carer's assessment will take into account a number of factors and a referral to Dorset Council will be made as part of the safeguarding process.

5.18 Whistleblowing

Whistleblowing is an important aspect of the support and protection of adults at risk of harm where staff are encouraged to share genuine concerns about a colleague's behaviour. Their behaviour may not be related to an adult at risk, but they may not be following the code of conduct, could be pushing boundaries beyond normal limits or displaying conduct which is a breach of the law, conduct which compromises health and safety or conduct which falls below established standards of practice with adults at risk.

Tivadar Polgar or the Safeguarding Lead will ensure that staff receive adequate support when dealing with safeguarding adult concerns and appropriate supervision, commensurate with their role.

TP Care at Homes Ltd has clear whistleblowing policies and procedures in place which staff are frequently reminded about and with which they must be familiar. They must also understand how to escalate and report concerns.

Professional disagreements must be resolved by following the local safeguarding escalation procedure. Depending on the nature and severity of the allegation, the senior person informed may escalate this allegation to the NHS England Medical Officer and local safeguarding partners, including the local authority designated officer (LADO)

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5.19 Abuse by Another Adult at Risk

We recognise that we may also have responsibilities towards the person causing the harm, and certainly will have if they are both in a care setting or have contact because they attend the same place (for example, a day centre). The person causing the harm may themselves be eligible to receive an assessment. In this situation, it is important that the needs of the adult at risk who is the alleged victim are addressed separately from the needs of the person causing the harm. It will be necessary to reassess the adult allegedly causing the harm.

5.20 Exploitation by Radicalisers who Promote Violence

Individuals may be susceptible to exploitation into violent extremism by radicalisers. Staff will be expected to follow the Protecting Vulnerable People from Radicalisation Policy and Procedure in place at TP Care at Homes I td.

5.21 Self-Neglect and Refusal of Care

TP Care at Homes Ltd must ensure that staff understand the importance of delivering care as detailed in the Care Plan. Where a Client refuses Care, this must always be documented. Where refusal occurs repeatedly, it must be escalated by TP Care at Homes Ltd as a safeguarding concern and a request for a review of the Client's Care will be instigated.

5.22 Abuse and Sexual Safety

We recognise that culture, environment and processes support a Client's sexuality and keep them and staff safe from sexual harm. As such, TP Care at Homes Ltd will ensure that sexuality is discussed as part of the care planning process and is addressed positively to support people to raise concerns where necessary. The recent CQC publication on sexuality and sexual safety can be referred to for further guidance in this area.

5.23 Mandatory Reporting of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is illegal in England and Wales under the FGM Act 2003 ('the 2003 Act'). TP Care at Homes Ltd has a mandatory duty to report known cases of FGM in under 18-year-olds to the police via the non-emergency number 101. 'Known' means that you have either visually identified that FGM has been carried out, or you have had direct verbal disclosure from the person affected. Other ways to report FGM include:

- The national FGM helpline on 0800 028 3550
- The social care team at your local council
- · Crimestoppers, confidentially and anonymously

5.24 Self-Funding Clients

People who fund their own Care arrangements are legally entitled to receive support if subject to abuse or neglect in exactly the same way as those supported or funded by the Local Authority. They are also entitled to the protections of the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Court of Protection for authorisation of deprivation of liberty for people living in their own homes.

5.25 Risk Assessment and Management

Achieving a balance between the right of the individual to control their Care package and ensuring that adequate protections are in place to safeguard wellbeing is a very challenging task. The assessment of the risk of abuse, neglect and exploitation of Clients will be integral in all assessment and planning processes. Assessment of risk is dynamic and ongoing, especially during the adult safeguarding process, and must be reviewed throughout so that adjustments can be made in response to changes in the levels and nature of risk.

5.26 Audit and Compliance

It is essential that the implementation of this policy and associated procedures is audited to ensure that TP Care at Homes Ltd is doing all it can to safeguard those people receiving its services. The audit of this policy will be completed through a systematic audit of:

- · Recruitment procedures and Disclosure and Barring Checks
- · Audit of incident reporting, frequency and severity
- Audit of training processes, including reviews of uptake of training and evaluations

Safeguarding concerns and incidents will be reviewed by the Senior Management Team as part of a root cause analysis with the following terms of reference:

- · Review incident themes
- Reports from the lead responsible for Safeguarding within TP Care at Homes Ltd
- Look in detail at specific cases to determine learning or organisational learning

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• Ensure implementation of the Safeguarding Policy and Procedure

5.27 Training and Competencies

TP Care at Homes Ltd will ensure that staff receive training in recognising and responding to incidents, allegations or concerns of abuse or harm as part of their induction programme. TP Care at Homes Ltd will benchmark its training and competencies within the service with the framework outlined in Adult Safeguarding: Roles and Competencies for Healthcare Staff which it recognises applies to social care staff also and does not replace any local or contractual requirements but acts as a minimum benchmark. TP Care at Homes Ltd will also refer to the NHS Prevent training and competencies framework for more specific training requirements in relation to the Prevent strategy.

Tivadar Polgar will cascade safeguarding information about vulnerable adults to appropriate staff members. Tivadar Polgar will undertake and provide internal training and attend local safeguarding partnership updates, education and development sessions including regular group-based supervision.

6 Definitions

6.1 Human Rights Protected by the Human Rights Act

• Human rights are the basic rights and freedoms that belong to every person in the world. In the UK, human rights are protected by the Human Rights Act 1998

6.2 Forced Marriage

- The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 protects people from being forced to marry without their free and full consent as well as people who have already been forced to do so
- We will ensure that staff are reminded of the **one chance rule**: i.e. our employees may only have one chance to speak to a potential victim of forced marriage and, therefore, only one chance to save a life
- Forced marriage can involve physical, psychological, emotional, financial and sexual abuse including being held unlawfully captive, assaulted and raped
- Law enforcement agencies will also be able to pursue perpetrators in other countries where a UK national is involved under powers defined in legislation

6.3 Hate Crime

- Hate (Mate) Crime A disability hate crime is: "Any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by a hostility or prejudice based on a person's disability or perceived disability."
- Incidents can include:
 - Physical attacks such as physical assault, damage to property, offensive graffiti and arson
 - Threat of attack including offensive letters, abusive or obscene telephone calls, groups hanging around to intimidate and unfounded, malicious complaints
 - Verbal abuse, insults or harassment taunting, offensive leaflets and posters, abusive gestures, dumping of rubbish outside homes or through letterboxes and bullying at school or in the workplace

6.4 Honour-Based Violence

- The terms 'honour crime', 'honour-based violence', and 'izzat' embrace a variety of crimes of violence (mainly but not exclusively against women), including physical abuse, sexual violence, abduction, forced marriage, imprisonment and murder where the person is being punished by their family or their community
- They are punished for actually, or allegedly, 'undermining' what the family or community believes to be the correct code of behaviour
- In transgressing this, the person shows that they have not been properly controlled to conform by their family and this is to the 'shame' or 'dishonour' of the family
- 'Honour crime' may be considered by the perpetrator(s) as justified to protect or restore the 'honour' of a family

6.5 Enquiry Planning / Strategy Meeting

- Enquiry Planning / Strategy Meeting or discussion is a multi-agency discussion between relevant organisations involved with the adult at risk to agree how to proceed with the referral
- It can be face to face, by telephone or by email

6.6 Significant Harm

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Krisztina Hardman (Nominated Individual)

Tivadar Polgar (Registered Manager)



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• Significant harm is not only ill treatment (including sexual abuse and forms of ill treatment which are not physical), but also the impairment of, or an avoidable deterioration in, physical or mental health, and the impairment of physical, intellectual, emotional, social or behavioural development

6.7 Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking

- Modern Slavery encompasses slavery, human trafficking, forced labour and domestic servitude
- 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

6.8 Making Safeguarding Personal

- It is how professionals are assured by adults at risk that they have made a difference to people by taking action on what matters to people and is personal and meaningful to them
- Making Safeguarding Personal is about person-centred and outcome-focused practice

6.9 Concern

- A concern may be raised by anyone and can be:
 - · A direct or passive disclosure by the adult at risk
 - · A concern raised by staff, volunteers, others using the service, a carer or a member of the public
 - An observation of the behaviour of the adult at risk, of the behaviour of another person(s) towards the adult at risk, or of one Client towards another
 - Patterns of concerns or risks that emerge through reviews, audits and complaints or regulatory inspections or monitoring visits
- A concern may be any worry about an adult who has, or appears to have care and support needs, who
 is subjected to, or may be at risk of abuse or neglect, and who may be unable to protect themselves
 from the abuse or neglect or risk of it

6.10 Independent Mental Capacity Advocate (IMCA)

- An advocate appointed to act on a person's behalf if they lack capacity to make certain decisions
- Refer to the Mental Capacity Act (MCA) 2005 Policy and Procedure

6.11 Adults at Risk

- · The term replaces 'vulnerable adult'
- Adult at risk means adults who need community care services because of mental or other disability, age or illness, and who are, or may be unable to take care of themselves against significant harm or exploitation

6.12 Caldicott Principles

- The Caldicott Principles were developed in 1997 following a review of how patient information is protected and only used when it is appropriate to do so
- Since then, when deciding whether they needed to use information that would identify an individual, an organisation must use the Principles as a test
- The Principles were extended to adult social care records in 2000
- The Principles were revised in 2013

6.13 Multi-agency

- This could include partners of the Local authority such as: Integrated Care Boards (ICBs), NHS trusts
 and NHS foundation trusts, Department for Work and Pensions, the police, prisons, probation services,
 and/or other agencies such as general practitioners, dentists, pharmacists, NHS hospitals, housing,
 health and care providers
- More than one agency coming together to work for a common purpose

6.14 Wellbeing

- The Care Act 2014 defines wellbeing as: 'in relation to an individual, means that individual's wellbeing so far as relating to any of the following':
 - · Personal dignity (including treatment of the individual with respect)
 - Physical and mental health and emotional wellbeing
 - Protection from abuse and neglect
 - Control by the individual over their day-to-day life (including over care and support provided to the individual and the way in which it is provided)

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Tivadar Polgar (Registered Manager)



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- Participation in work, education, training or recreation
- · Social and economic wellbeing
- Domestic, family and personal relationships
- · Suitability of living accommodation
- · The individual's contribution to society

6.15 Referral

- Referral is when information regarding a possible safeguarding incident is passed on to another person for their direction. In the case of this policy, from the Provider to the Adult Social Care Team
- · Sometimes this may be referred to as 'reporting'

6.16 Investigation

- Investigation is a process that focuses on gathering "good evidence" that can be used as a basis for the decision as to whether or not abuse has occurred
- It must be a rigorous process and the evidence must be capable of withstanding close scrutiny, as it may later be required for formal proceedings

6.17 Safeguarding

- Safeguarding means protecting an adult's right to live in safety, without suffering abuse and or neglect
- It is multi-agency in approach to prevent and stop both the risks and experience of abuse or neglect, whilst supporting the adult's wellbeing including their views, wishes, feelings and beliefs on the action to be taken where possible

6.18 A Person with Care and Support Needs

According to the Care Act 2014; an older person, a person with a physical disability, a learning difficulty
or a sensory impairment, someone with mental health needs, including dementia or a personality
disorder, a person with a long-term health condition, someone who misuses substances or alcohol to
the extent that it affects their ability to manage day-to-day living

6.19 Enquiry

- An enquiry is any action that is taken (or instigated) by a local authority, under Section 42 of the Care Act 2014, in response to indications of abuse or neglect in relation to an adult with care and support needs who is at risk and is unable to protect themselves because of those needs
- An enquiry can also refer to similar action but not undertaken under Section 42. It must establish whether any action needs to be taken to prevent or stop abuse or neglect and if so, by whom

6 20 Abuse

- Abuse includes physical, sexual, emotional, psychological, financial, material, neglect, acts of omission, discriminatory and organisational abuse
- The types and behaviours of abuse are documented in the Care Act Statutory Guidance Chapter 14

Key Facts - Professionals

Professionals providing this service should be aware of the following:

- The Client to whom the incident has happened, will be consulted and supported to be involved in the safeguarding process and provided with information they understand throughout
- If the alleged victim requires immediate removal from harm or medical attention, this will be done immediately
- TP Care at Homes Ltd will be led by the Local Authority Adult Safeguarding Team as to 'next steps' such as enquiries
- If it is suspected that a crime has taken place, the reporter of the incident must call the police immediately
- Staff of TP Care at Homes Ltd will report safeguarding concerns to the Registered Manager
- The Registered Manager will refer safeguarding concerns to the Local Authority Safeguarding Adults Team
- TP Care at Homes Ltd is committed to supporting and protecting the wellbeing of Clients through prevention of harm and reporting and dealing with incidents of abuse through a proper process
- Safeguarding is everybody's business. Agencies have a duty to report safeguarding concerns to the Local Safeguarding Adults Team

Krisztina Hardman (Nominated Individual)

Tivadar Polgar (Registered Manager)



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Key Facts - People affected by the service

People affected by this service should be aware of the following:

- TP Care at Homes Ltd has a duty to safeguard the people using its service
- TP Care at Homes Ltd will have reviewed your Care Plan and worked with you to support you through the enquiry process and moving on in the future
- When the facts are brought together and a way forward has been decided with your input if possible, you will be talked through the findings
- TP Care at Homes Ltd will provide information and Care Plans to help you understand safeguarding and what to look out for
- If it seems a crime has taken place, the police will be called immediately
- · Other agencies may be involved in getting to the facts of the incident
- If you need extra support such as an advocate, one will be provided for you
- If something happens that may be a safeguarding incident which involves you, TP Care at Homes Ltd will make sure that you understand your choices and the next steps and that you are included as much as you want and can be

Next Review: 30/08/2026

Krisztina Hardman (Nominated Individual)

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Tivadar Polgar (Registered Manager)



County Lines and Cuckooing

TP Care at Homes Ltd 7, 27 Dean Park Road, Bournemouth, BH1 1JA

Cuckooing and County Lines Fact Sheet

What are County Lines?

County lines is a term used to describe gangs and organised criminal networks involved in exporting illegal drugs into one or more importing areas within the UK, using dedicated mobile phone lines or other form of "deal line". They are likely to exploit children and vulnerable adults to move and store the drugs and money and they will often use coercion, intimidation, violence (including sexual violence) and weapons. County lines activity and the associated violence, drug dealing and exploitation has a devastating impact on young people, vulnerable adults and local communities.

Gangs typically use children and adults at risk of harm to transport and/or deal drugs to customers. These victims are recruited using intimidation, deception, violence, debt bondage or grooming. During this process, the 'victims' are likely to commit criminal offences.

Who does it affect?

The term 'vulnerable adults' is used here in the context of 'vulnerable to harm or abuse'. They do not need to be receiving social care or support to be vulnerable. Some vulnerabilities are outlined in this fact sheet.

County lines exploitation:

- · Can affect any child or young person (male or female) under the age of 18 years
- · Can affect any vulnerable adult over the age of 18 years
- Can still be exploitation even if the activity appears consensual
- Can involve force and/or enticement-based methods of compliance and is often accompanied by violence or threats of violence
- · Can be perpetrated by individuals or groups, males or females, and young people or adults, and
- Is typified by some form of power imbalance in favour of those perpetrating the exploitation. Whilst age may be the most obvious, this power imbalance can also be due to a range of other factors including gender, cognitive ability, physical strength, status, and access to economic or other resources.

One of the key factors found in most cases of county lines exploitation is the presence of some form of exchange (e.g. carrying drugs in return for something). Where it is the victim who is offered, promised or given something they need or want, the exchange can include both tangible (such as money, drugs or clothes) and intangible rewards (such as status, protection or perceived friendship or affection).

Some of the factors that heighten a person's vulnerability include:

- · Having prior experience of neglect, physical and/or sexual abuse
- Lack of a safe/stable home environment, now or in the past (domestic violence or parental substance misuse, mental health issues or criminality, for example)
- · Social isolation or social difficulties
- · Economic vulnerability
- · Homelessness or insecure accommodation status
- · Connections with other people involved in gangs
- Having a physical or learning disability
- · Having mental health or substance misuse issues
- · Being in care (particularly those in residential care and those with interrupted care histories)
- Being excluded from mainstream education, in particular attending a Pupil Referral Unit.

What happens?

- Once in debt to a dealer, they will be encouraged to sell drugs to pay the debt off
- The gang will ensure the debt is never fully paid off and the victim can quickly become trapped in a cycle where their only option is to commit further crime

Krisztina Hardman (Nominated Individual)

Tivadar Polgar (Registered Manager)



County Lines and Cuckooing

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- The more crime they commit, the less likely they are to tell someone what is happening or seek help
- They will be dispatched to travel to other parts of the country where they are not known to police or social services and can essentially fly under the radar
- During this time away from home they are highly at risk of coming to further harm at the hands of people they are dealing to or rival local drug dealers
- Older people may become exploited to also traffic drugs, weapons and cash but additionally their homes might get taken over by gangs needing somewhere to hide drugs or deal from
- Adults with mental or physical disabilities, adults with addictions or adults who are particularly elderly may experience '**cuckooing**' where a gang takes over their home
- Other victims include the relatives of the exploited person who 'lose' their loved one to a criminal gang, and the communities where the drug dealing and associated violence is exported to

What are the signs in adults?

In adults, signs of 'cuckooing' can include:

- · A loved one or neighbour not being seen for some time
- · Unknown visitors and vehicles to their house at unusual times
- · Exchanges of cash or packages outside their home
- · Open drug use in the street; damage and deterioration to the appearance of their home
- · A change in their own personality or behaviour and appearing nervous, worried or intimidated

What should you do?

If you are worried that a person is at immediate risk of harm you should also contact the police, your local safeguarding team or, in the case of a child, your local safeguarding partner (the group of Local Authority, ICB and Police. Refer to 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018' for more information)

References

Serious Violence Strategy April 2018:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/698009/serious-violence-strategy.pdf

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Tivadar Polgar (Registered Manager)

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Safeguarding Adults Statement

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Safeguarding is described as 'protecting an adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect.' Adult Safeguarding is about preventing and responding to concerns of abuse, harm or neglect of adults. Individuals who are vulnerable may be unable to take care of themselves or protect themselves against significant harm or exploitation. This means that they may be at risk of abuse or neglect due to the actions (or lack of action) of another person. In these cases, it is vital that TP Care at Homes Ltd works together to identify people at risk and put steps in place to help prevent abuse or neglect. Safeguarding Adults is a priority for TP Care at Homes Ltd. The activities carried out by TP Care at Homes Ltd mean that there are a range of staff and people working on our behalf who may come into contact with people who are at risk of harm.

What Action Must you Take if you have Concerns?

TP Care at Homes Ltd follows Dorset Council safeguarding procedures and its own policy and procedure details the responsibilities and action required by all staff. If you have any concerns that someone is at risk of harm or abuse, is being harmed or abused, you **must** take action.

- · Ensure your own safety leave the situation if you are at risk of harm
- · Where there is clear evidence of harm or an imminent danger, call the emergency services immediately
- · Treat all allegations of abuse seriously
- · Report concerns to your line manager as soon as possible

Who do you Report your Concerns to?

At TP Care at Homes Ltd the person responsible for safeguarding is:

Tivadar Polgar

They can be contacted on 07881117247 or tee@tpcareathomes.co.uk

Escalating Concerns

We report our concerns to Dorset Council

Dorset Safeguarding Team

01305 228558

Raising a Concern to the CQC

You can also contact the CQC if you feel that you cannot use the Raising Concerns, Freedom to Speak Up and Whistleblowing Policy and Procedure at TP Care at Homes Ltd. The CQC can be contacted by using the following methods:

Phone: 03000 616161

Email: Enquiries@cqc.org.uk

Post: CQC National Correspondence, Citygate, Gallowgate, Newcastle upon Tyne. NE1 4PA

Krisztina Hardman (Nominated Individual)

Tivadar Polgar (Registered Manager)

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Safeguarding Leaflet

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Concerned About Abuse

A Guide to Keeping Safe for People Who Use Our Services

What Can You Do?

- · No one should have to live with abuse
- · By reporting abuse, you can help bring it to an end
- You may feel completely alone but you are not
- · There are people who can help and it is important to get in touch with them
- Abuse can be very confusing especially if you look up to the person hurting you or if they are a friend or a member of your family
- You might not want to talk to someone you know and might prefer to speak or email someone at one of the services in this fact sheet
- These services have people who are trained to help and support you and they will not be shocked or surprised at what you say. They will listen to you and help you decide what to do

Who Can Help:

Safeguarding Team	Police
Tivadar Polgar	
07881117247	In an Emergency: 999
tee@tpcareathomes.co.uk	In a non-emergency: 101
Website: www.tpcareathomes.co.uk	
Care Quality Commission (CQC)	Silverline

Confidential 24-Hour Helpline

Phone: 0800 4 70 80 90

Web: https://www.thesilverline.org.uk

Phone: 03000 61 61 61 Web: <u>www.cqc.org.uk</u>

Krisztina Hardman (Nominated Individual)

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Tivadar Polgar (Registered Manager)

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Adult Abuse

What is Adult Abuse

- Adult abuse is when someone hurts or scares you on purpose
- · They might say, "Don't tell anyone"

Abuse can Happen Anywhere

- · At Home
- · In a Residential or Care Home
- In Hospital
- In a Day Service, Work, School
- · On the Internet or Phone
- Public place/in the community

Adult Abuse is Wrong

- · Adult abuse can happen to anyone
- You need to know what to do if it happens to you or to someone you know

Abuse can be Caused by Anyone

- A partner or relative
- · A friend or neighbour
- Sometimes a person pretends to be your friend so they can abuse you. This is called 'Mate Crime'
- · A paid or volunteer carer
- · Other service users
- · Someone in a position of trust
- A stranger

Some Examples of Abuse

Physical Abuse

• This involves being hit, slapped or kicked, or being hurt in another way

Sexual Abuse

- This is when someone touches your private parts when you don't want them to, or makes you touch them
- It is also when someone talks to you about sex when you don't want them to

Financial or Material Abuse

• This is when someone takes something that belongs to you without asking, or makes you give them things

Modern Slavery

 This is when someone is forced to work with little or no pay, or threatened with violence if they do not work

Domestic Violence and Abuse

 When abuse occurs between partners or family members, it is often called Domestic Violence and Abuse

Neglect

• This is when you do not get the help you need. It might include not getting help with your medication, or your care needs, or not giving you enough food

Discriminatory Abuse

- This is when someone treats you badly because you are different to them. This is sometimes called Hate Crime
- This could be because of your Age or Gender;
 Sexuality or Disability; Race or Religious belief

Organisational Abuse

 If abuse is caused by an organisation, it is often called Organisational Abuse. This is where you are not being cared for properly. It is where your own choices are ignored

Self-neglect

- This is when someone might come to harm because they do not look after themselves
- This might be not eating or taking their medication or looking after their personal hygiene

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Tivadar Polgar (Registered Manager)

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Other notes: N/A

Krisztina Hardman (Nominated Individual)

Tivadar Polgar (Registered Manager)

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