



CITY HEALTH CARE PARTNERSHIP FOUNDATION

SAFEGUARDING VULNERABLE ADULTS STATEMENT OF INTENT

1 INTRODUCTION

Safeguarding is everybody's business and all staff have a duty to contribute to the prevention, detection and reporting of abuse.

Abuse is defined as a violation of an individual's human and civil rights by any other person or persons (*No Secrets* DoH, 2000). Abuse may consist of a single act or repeated acts. It may be physical, verbal or psychological, it may be an act of neglect or an omission to act, or it may occur when a vulnerable person is persuaded to enter into a financial or sexual transaction to which he or she has not consented, or cannot consent. Abuse can occur in any relationship and may result in significant harm to, or exploitation of, the person subjected to it.

The definition of "vulnerable adult" is taken from *No Secrets* (DoH, 2000).

The review of *No Secrets* (DoH 2009) gave strong messages of empowerment; listening to those at risk and supporting their choices about managing their safety.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

City Health Care Partnership Foundation (CHCPF) is committed to preventing and reducing the risk of significant harm and abuse to vulnerable adults, whilst supporting individuals to maintain control over their lives and make informed choices free from coercion.

We continue our culture of prevention; empowering service-users to take a balanced approach to risks and provide care that ensures needs are met, from first contact and throughout care. This is supported through partnerships with other organisations, local communities and service-users.

We will respond to concerns of neglect and abuse using a human-rights based approach, promoting the safeguarding principles of:

- Empowerment
- Protection
- Prevention
- Proportionality
- Partnerships
- Accountability

We will take positive action to contribute to the prevention of abuse and neglect through meeting the needs of service-users. Where neglect and abuse occurs, staff will receive support and supervision to follow local safeguarding procedures and provide appropriate protective care.

We recognise the importance of empowerment and active engagement of service-users and will make reasonable adjustments to empower service-users for full and active involvement.

Empowering approaches will be adopted for service-users views and concerns to be heard and influence change and we recognise that extra steps are needed to communicate effectively with diverse individuals.

We recognise that effective communication is a leveller in equality. People need information in a wide range of formats in order to be able to express themselves and make informed decisions.

We will comply with policy and legislation (such as the Mental Capacity Act). Although we aim for best practice; safeguards against poor practice must be an integral aspect of care delivery and all staff can utilise the 'Whistleblowing' policy.

3 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

City Health Care Partnership Foundation will promote health and wellbeing within its defined area by making grants and donations to organisations whose activities further these aims.

4 APPROVAL

Approval of this statement of intent will be agreed by the Board of Trustees.

5 DISSEMINATION, IMPLEMENTATION AND ACCESS

This statement of intent will be available for members to access on the CHCP Foundation website.

All new members to CHCPF will be advised of relevant policies.

6 REVIEW

This statement will be reviewed within two years of the date of implementation.