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Safeguarding Adults Policy



[RotherhamRise.org.uk](https://www.RotherhamRise.org.uk)

Rotherham Rise is a charity registered in England & Wales: no. 1141699.

2022 Leading Light organisation accredited by SafeLives.

Introduction

This Policy and Guidance has been developed and will be reviewed to take account of updated policies and legislation. It emphasises the fundamental importance of safeguarding adults at risk and reflects Rotherham Rise's (RRise) beliefs that all adults have a right to feel safe, valued, listened to and to always receive a confidential service (within the limits of the confidentiality policy).

This policy applies to all staff, Trustees, volunteers, and contractors working for RRise. It includes those involved in recruiting staff and volunteers. Where the policy, procedures and guidelines refer to staff it should be read as referring to staff, volunteers, and contractors. RRise encourage staff and volunteers to seek clarification (without fear of criticism or judgement) along with opportunities for feedback and discussion regarding any practical/day to day impacts.

When an adult engages with RRise services they are given information about the service, and the policies on safeguarding. Concerns about safeguarding will be discussed with the adult and any actions that may be taken as a result, unless this will result in increased risk.

Our aims in producing this policy are:

The aim of the policy is to provide clear and specific guidelines to enable all RRise staff to respond appropriately and effectively with safeguarding concerns, and to provide those who engage with our services clarification of how we respond to safeguarding issues.

To provide those who engage with our services information on how we respond to safeguarding issues.

All staff should read procedural guidance in conjunction with this policy. The guidance will provide clear and specific guidelines to enable Rotherham Rise Services to deal appropriately and effectively with safeguarding concerns.

The functions of the policy statement are set out briefly below:

Policy Statement

This policy sets out the broad framework of principles within which the area of work will be carried out. It sets out RRise's style and approach to the issue, including any aims and guiding principles.

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Acronyms & Abbreviations

CEO Chief Executive Officer

DBS Disclosure and Barring Service

DSL Designated Safeguarding Lead

DSO Designated Safeguarding Officer

FGM Female Genital Mutilation

FM Forced Marriage

GDPR The General Data Protection Regulation

LGBT+ Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender/Transsexual Plus

NHSR CCG NHS Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group

RDASH Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber

RSAB Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board

RRise Rotherham Rise

VAWG/VAWC Violence against Women and Girls/Violence against Women and Children. The terms are used interchangeably to show that Women's Aid includes children of both sexes.

WAFE Women's Aid Federation of England (Women's Aid)

Policy Statement

Principles

The following principles underpin all adult safeguarding work:

- Empowerment - People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent.
- Prevention - It is better to act 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 safeguarding practice.

Adult At Risk

The term 'adult at risk' replaced 'vulnerable adult' (in The Care Act 2014). The Care Act deals with adult social care for anyone over the age of 18.

The Care Act 2014 came into force on the 1 April 2015 and is the most significant reform to care and support in 60 years. In terms of safeguarding, The Care Act 2014 sets out a clear legal framework for how providers should protect adults at risk of abuse and/or neglect and has a clear emphasis on promoting wellbeing. It now also incorporates three new categories of abuse making 10 categories in total:

- Physical,
- Sexual,
- Psychological,
- Financial or Material, Neglect and Acts of Omission,
- Discriminatory,
- Organisational,
- Domestic Abuse,
- Self-Neglect,
- Modern Slavery.

NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB). The ICB is responsible for commissioning and funding of health and care services in the local area. More information can be found at: southyorkshire.icb.nhs.uk

Healthy Rotherham - Helping you look after your health - information, resources and advice from NHS Rotherham yourhealthrotherham.co.uk

It is important to note that The Children and Families Act 2014 introduces a system of support which extends from birth to 25. This means there will be a group of young people aged 18-25 who will be entitled to support through both pieces of legislation: legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/6/contents/enacted

Definitions

Abuse is a breach of an individual's human rights. This may be a single act or happen repeatedly over a period of time.

This may be because of:

- Physical or mental aggression.
- Neglect.
- Persuading someone to agree to something against their will.
- Taking advantage of someone who is unable to give consent.

Abuse can be the following, but we recognise there are many other types of abuse, and this list is not exhaustive:

- Physical - Including hitting, slapping, pushing, kicking, restraint or inappropriate sanctions.
- Sexual - Including rape and sexual assault or sexual acts to which the adult at risk has not consented, could not consent or was pressured into consenting.
- Psychological - Including and not limited to, emotional abuse, threats of harm or abandonment, controlling behaviour, intimidation, and harassment.
- Coercive & controlling behaviour.
- Female genital mutilation
- Modern slavery
- Financial or material - Including, but not limited to, theft, fraud, exploitation, and the misuse or misappropriation of property, possessions, or benefits.
- Neglect or acts of omission - Including ignoring medical or physical care needs, failure to provide access to appropriate health care, social care, education services or misuse of medication, adequate nutrition, or heating.
- Discriminatory - Including racist, sexist behaviour or harassment based on a person's ethnicity, race, culture, sexual orientation, age or disability, and any other forms of harassment, slurs, or similar treatment.
- Institutional abuse - This can sometimes happen in residential homes, nursing homes or hospitals when people are mistreated because of poor or inadequate care, neglect or poor practice that affects the whole of that service.

RRise recognises that these definitions are not exhaustive or mutually exclusive.

Anti-Discriminatory Practice

RRise is committed to anti-discriminatory practice. Such practice will consider the diverse needs of our client group.

RRise recognises the negative impact of discrimination, based on age, gender, race, culture, ethnicity, religion and belief, sexuality, sexual identity or disability. Every effort will be made to challenge discrimination both externally and within Rotherham Rise's Services. The process of challenging discrimination will involve challenging assumptions and stereotypes, recognising differing needs and attempting to meet these needs as far as is practicable. These principles will underpin any action taken in response to safeguarding.

Legislation

RRise approach to safeguarding and related issues is set within the entire remit of national and international legal frameworks and statutory guidance relating to adults.

Your Role In Safeguarding An Adult

It is important staff are open to the possibility that an adult at risk may have been abused or are continuing to be abused. Staff at Rotherham Rise will come into frequent contact with adults who are distressed and in crisis and are well placed to identify indicators of abuse and neglect.

When an adult engages with RRise services they are given information about the service and the policies on safeguarding.

RRise has a clear structure for decision-making on safeguarding, responsibility for safeguarding adults which will be held with all members of staff – safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility. Staff are to update and discuss any safeguarding concerns with their line manager as soon as possible but this should not hold back on reporting safeguarding concerns to the appropriate service.

The Safeguarding Lead and or officers (hereafter DSL & DSO) can also be contacted to discuss further if needed. The role of the safeguarding Lead and Officers is to ensure RRise’s policies, procedures, guidance, and processes are suitable to ensure safe practice. They can also support and follow up situations where this is felt needed.

Staff are to familiarise themselves with the current named safeguarding lead and officers, this information is also shared in the in-house annual safeguarding briefing.

Procedures and Guidance - in conjunction with this policy a guidance and procedures document relating to Adult Safeguarding is available for staff.

Policy Review

The overall responsibility for this policy lies with the Chief Executive and the Board.

This policy was agreed by RRise Trustees and Chair on: 16/5/22.

Policy author: Sue Wynne, Chief Executive Officer

Date of next review: 16/5/23