

Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Policy Statement

*(to be used in association with Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent Adult Safeguarding
Partnership Board Policies and Procedures)*

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

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1. Policy Statement

- 1.1 This policy demonstrates the Trust's commitment to working with other agencies to ensure that people accessing Trust services are appropriately safeguarded, and is compliant with Regulation 13 CQC Assurance Framework.
- 1.2 To ensure that the safeguarding of adults receive the highest priority within the Trust, the organisation has agreed the following policy statement:

"The Trust has formally adopted the policies and procedures set out by the local Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Adult Safeguarding Partnership Board (SSASP). Through membership of the SSASP and their associated sub-committees, the Trust will ensure compliance with national standards, policy and best practice. All Trust employees have a duty to familiarise themselves with and operate within the policies relating to their area of practice.

2. Scope

- 2.1 This policy statement applies to all employees and volunteers of the Trust including permanent, temporary and bank staff. It is the duty of all employees to be alert for the signs and symptoms of abuse in vulnerable adults.
- 2.2 All staff that come into contact with vulnerable adults and their carers/significant others in the course of their work are covered by this policy statement. Senior Managers have a duty to ensure that all departments and staff are able to work within this policy statement and are aware of the SSASP policies and procedures.

3. Duties

3.1 Organisational Duties

- The 'Trust Board' is responsible for ensuring that the Trust fulfils the requirements of adult protection guidance (Care Act 2014). This is achieved by receiving assurance reports.
- It is the responsibility of the Director of Nursing to ensure effective safeguarding systems are in place across the Trust.
- The Director of Nursing is responsible for ensuring safeguarding vulnerable persons activity and compliance is reported to the Trust Board via relevant committees.

3.2 All Members of Staff

It is the duty of all members of staff to ensure they are familiar with and adhere to SSASP's Policies and Procedures.

3.3 Professional Registered Clinical Staff

Professional registered clinical staff have a responsibility to implement this policy statement.

3.4 Line Managers, Senior Medical Staff, Senior Nursing Staff, Senior Managers

It is the responsibility of senior members of staff to ensure that the policy statement is implemented.

3.5 Other Executive Directors

It is the responsibility of the Executive Directors to ensure that this policy statement is enforced.

4 **Framework**

4.1 Definitions

Adult Safeguarding responsibilities apply to people who meet all three of the criteria:

- Has care and support needs.
- Is either experiencing or is at risk of experiencing abuse.
- As a result of the care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from abuse.

4.2 Safeguarding Adults: General Principles

There are a number of principles that inform the work regarding the safeguarding of adults:

- Empowerment – support individuals to make their own decisions.
- Proportionality – The least restrictive or least intrusive intervention appropriate to the risks prevented.
- Partnership working across services and communities to prevent, detect and report abuse and neglect.
- Prevention – taking action before harm occurs.
- Protection – supporting those in need as a result of abuse or neglect.
- Accountability – enabling service users and leaders to challenge agencies for their responses to those at risk of harm.

4.3. Staff Training and Staff Awareness

All members of staff are required to complete Safeguarding training as part of the mandatory training programme in accordance with the safeguarding training strategy.

4.4 Monitoring of Attendance

Training is recorded and monitored by the training team. Monthly reports detailing which staff are up to date and those who are not, is available on the

Trust Staff Information Desk (SID). Staff and line managers also receive monthly updates of training status. As with all mandatory training it is the role of the line manager to monitor individual staff attendance and compliance.

5. Implementation and Monitoring

- 5.1 A copy of this policy statement is available on the Trust Intranet. Implementation of this policy will be audited via the Trust Safeguarding Team Annual Audit Programme.
- 5.2 Local Safeguarding Adult Policy & Procedures are available via a link on the Safeguarding section of the Trust Intranet.
- 5.3 All members of staff are required to complete Safeguarding training as part of the mandatory training programme.
- 5.4 The Trust has a range of processes in place that continually monitor how safeguarding responsibilities are managed in line with legislation and national guidance. These include:-

- Safeguarding Adult Self-Assessment

These monitor how the Trust fulfils its statutory duty to have arrangements in place to safeguard vulnerable adults. These arrangements require the Trust to have:

- Senior management commitment to the importance of safeguarding adults .
- A clear line of safeguarding accountability within the organisation.
- Service development plans which take account the need to safeguard adults.
- Training on safeguarding for all staff working with, or in contact with, vulnerable adults and their carers/families.
- Safe recruitment procedures in place.
- Effective inter-agency working.
- Effective information sharing.

- Registration Compliance

The Trust is required to maintain ongoing compliance with the Care Quality Commission's Essential Standards of Safety. Safeguarding is one of the key essential standards (Regulation 13) and the Trust has to evidence how it protects service users by following safeguarding legislation and national guidelines within its own activities and in its dealings with other organisations. A robust self assessment and reporting framework is in place to ensure that this is achieved.

6. References

Care Act (2014).

7. Associated Policy and Procedural Documentation

7.1 Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Adult Safeguarding Partnership Board Policies and Procedures. (SSASP Policies and Procedures can be accessed via on SID).

7.2 Trust Policies

Managing Allegations against Healthcare Professionals, Policy Number 1.70
Prevent Policy, Policy Number 4.43
Domestic Abuse, Policy Number 1.75
Listening Responding Improving Policy, Policy Number 4.26
Incident Reporting Policy and Procedure Document, Policy Number 5.01

8. Equality Statement

8.1 The policy statement should be applied equally to all employees ensuring that there is no discrimination on the grounds of age, disability, race, ethnicity, gender, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, religion, belief, offending background, trade union activities, family circumstances or domestic/care arrangements.

Useful Contact Numbers for Safeguarding

Safeguarding Team: 01782 441664

Miss V Baxendale, Safeguarding Lead
Office: 01782 441664
Mobile: 07831 440476

Dr P Clare, Named Doctor for Safeguarding
Office: 0300 790 0234

Safeguarding Children

Staffordshire First Response Team

To make a referral:

Tel: 0800 1313 126

Fax: 01785 854223

Email: first@staffordshire.gov.uk

Emergency Duty Team

0845 6042 886

Stoke-on-Trent Safeguarding Referral Team

To make a referral:

Tel: 01782 235100

Fax: 01782 235457

Email: SRT@stoke.gcsx.gov.uk

Emergency Duty Team

01782 234234

Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire

Police Central Referral Unit – 0300 123 4455

Safeguarding Adults

Staffordshire Contact Centre

To make a referral:

Tel: 0845 604 2719

Fax: 01785 276026

Email:

vastaffordshire@staffordshire.gov.uk

Stoke-on-Trent Contact Centre

To make a referral:

Tel: 0800 561 0015

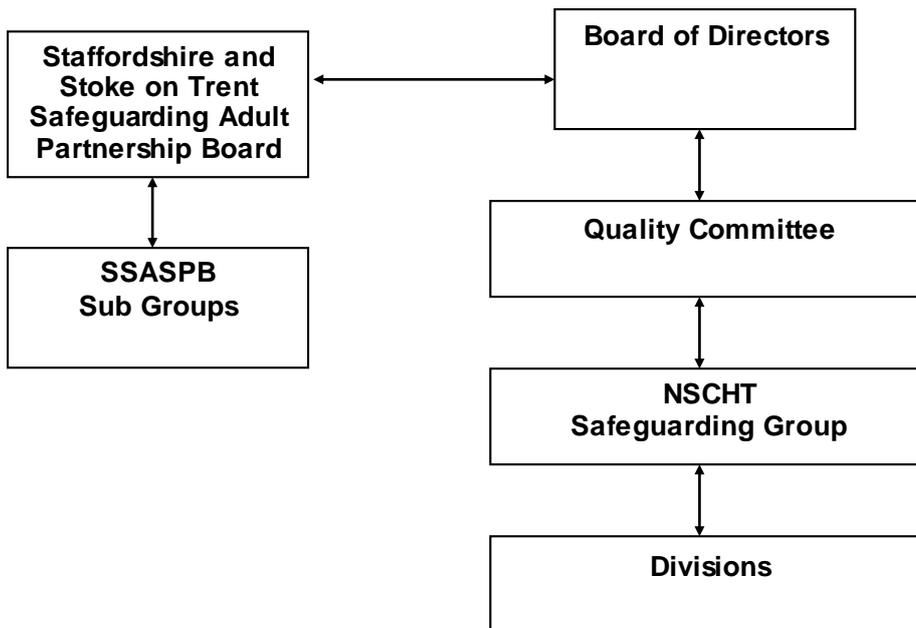
Fax: 01782 235720

Email: Social.Care@stoke.gcsx.gov.uk

Safeguarding advice/supervision can be obtained from:

Vicki Baxendale, Safeguarding Lead, 01782 441664

Accountability Structure



Internal Governance Arrangements

