



Community &  
Voluntary Services  
cheshire east

# Introduction to Safeguarding



# Objectives of the Session

By the end of the session you will be able to:

- Understand your role in recognising and responding to abuse
- Understand what safeguarding means



# What is Safeguarding? Children

Children (0-17 years)

- Protection from harm or neglect
- Caused deliberately or through a failure to protect
- Promoting their welfare and wellbeing

# Safeguarding Legislation - children

- Children Act 1989 (as amended)
- Children Act 2004
- Children and Social Work Act 2017
- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018
- Charity Commission Guidance

# What is Safeguarding? Adults

- Protecting an adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect.
- People and organisations working together to prevent and stop the risks and experience of abuse or neglect
- Promoting wellbeing—living as well as possible, remaining healthy and retaining independence
- In deciding on any action, having regard to an adult's views, wishes, feelings and beliefs where appropriate

# Adults at Risk

An adult at risk is a person who:

- Is aged 18 or over
- Has needs for care and support needs (whether or not the Local Authority is meeting any of those needs)
- Is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect
- As a result of those needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.

# Who might you be working with who might be an adult at risk?

- A older person who is frail due to ill health, physical disability or cognitive impairment
- A person with:
  - Learning disabilities
  - Physical disabilities , sensory impairments, communication difficulties, e.g. autism
  - Mental health needs including dementia
  - Long-term illnesses or conditions
  - Issues with substance or alcohol misuse
  - Lack of capacity to make specified decisions

# Safeguarding Legislation - Adults

- Care Act 2014
- Care and Support Statutory Guidance – Chapter 14 relates to adult safeguarding
- Charity Commission Guidance



# Why is Safeguarding important?

- People have a right to feel safe and protected
- It's everyone's business
- It ensures that the people you support are kept safe and lead fulfilling lives
- Funders expect safeguarding policies and robust safeguarding practices to be in place
- Charity Commission requirements

# Can you recognise these people?



# Types of harm

- Physical (includes Female Genital Mutilation and Honour Based Violence)
- Sexual abuse
- Neglect
- Emotional/psychological abuse
- Domestic violence
- Financial or material abuse
- Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking
- Discriminatory abuse
- Organisational/Institutional abuse
- Neglect & Acts of Omission
- Self-Neglect
- Deprivation Of Liberty

# Other issues you might come across

- Prevent – radicalisation and extremism
- Digital safety – on line abuse
- Child sexual exploitation
- Honour –based violence



# Recognising the signs

- Physical
- Behavioural
- Verbal
- Consider other risk factors
- Is there a typical abuser?
- Every day matters

## Your responsibilities – if you see it, say it

- Know your organisation's policies and procedures
- Know who to go to about your concerns
- Recognise the signs
- Reassure
- Respond – If you see it, say it
- Don't promise confidentiality
- Be open and honest

# Make a record

## What to record:

- The allegation or concerns - include the date and time of the incident
- What was said about the abuse and how it occurred
- The appearance /behaviour of the victim
- Any observed injuries
- Whether any dependants may be at risk
- Use the person's own words

**Record ONLY THE FACTS not your own opinions or thoughts**

# Report

- Do not delay, act immediately
- Report it to your Safeguarding Lead
- If the person is in immediate danger or in need of medical attention, contact the Police on 999 or 101 and then inform your Lead.
- If your Lead or Manager is unavailable, report it directly to Social Services.



# A team member or service user?

If the person is making an allegation against a member of your team or a service user:

- Ensure the person is safe and away from the alleged perpetrator.
- Do NOT discuss the situation with the perpetrator or try to mediate between victim and perpetrator.
- If an allegation is made against your Safeguarding Lead, inform your Deputy Safeguarding Lead or another senior member of staff/trustee

# Who to contact in Cheshire East

## FOR CHILDREN:

- 0300 123 5012 (office hours)
- 0300 123 5022 (all other times)
- Multi Agency Referral Form/Toolkit

## FOR ADULTS:

- 0300 123 5010 (office hours)
- 0300 123 5022 (all other times)
- First Account Report Form

# Safeguarding your organisation

- Regularly review your Safeguarding Policy and Procedure
- Policy to cover both adults and children
- Trained Safeguarding Lead and Deputy
- Include safeguarding in staff and volunteer inductions and have regular refreshers
- Zero tolerance culture
- Board needs to be aware of any safeguarding incidents (without specific details)
- Serious Incidents must be reported to the Charity Commission
- Possible legal challenge

# Questions and discussion

- Evaluation Forms

