

Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures

Adopted by Trustees: 3rd October 2022 Reviewed: 22nd November 2024 Next Review: November 2025

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

If you have concerns about an adult's safety and or wellbeing, you must act on these.

It is not your responsibility to decide whether or not an adult has been abused. It is, however, your responsibility to act on any concerns.

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Introduction

Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support is committed to creating and maintaining a safe and positive environment and accepts our responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all adults involved, in accordance with legislation.

Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support safeguarding adults policy and procedures apply to all individuals involved in Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support

Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support will encourage and support partner organisations, including clubs, counties, suppliers, and sponsors to adopt and demonstrate their commitment to the principles and practice of equality as set out in this safeguarding adults policy and procedures document.

Principles

The guidance given in the policy and procedures is based on the following principles:

All adults, regardless of age, ability or disability, gender, race, religion, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, marital or gender status have the right to be protected from abuse and poor practice and to participate in an enjoyable and safe environment.

Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support will seek to ensure that our organisation is inclusive and make reasonable adjustments for any ability, disability or impairment. We will also commit to continuous development, monitoring and review.

The rights, dignity and worth of all adults will always be respected.

We recognise that ability and disability can change over time, such that some adults may be additionally vulnerable to abuse, in particular those adults with care and support needs.

Safeguarding adults is everyone's responsibility. We all have a shared responsibility to ensure the safety and well-being of all adults and will act appropriately and report concerns whether these concerns arise within Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support or in the wider community.

All allegations will be taken seriously and responded to quickly in line with Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures.

Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support recognises the role and responsibilities of the statutory agencies in safeguarding adults and is committed to complying with local safeguarding procedures.

The six principles of adult safeguarding

The Care Act 2014 sets out the following principles that should underpin safeguarding of adults:

• **Empowerment** - People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent.

"I am asked what I want as the outcomes from the safeguarding process and these directly inform what happens."

- Prevention It is better to take action before harm occurs.
 "I receive clear and simple information about what abuse is, how to recognise the signs and what I can do to seek help."
- **Proportionality** The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented. "I am sure that the professionals will work in my interest, as I see them and they will only get involved as much as needed."
- Protection Support and representation for those in greatest need.
 "I get help and support to report abuse and neglect. I get help so that I am able to take part in the safeguarding process to the extent to which I want."
- **Partnership** Local solutions through services working with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse "I know that staff treat any personal and sensitive information in confidence, only sharing what is helpful and necessary. I am confident that professionals will work together and with me to get the best result for me."
- **Accountability** Accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding. "I understand the role of everyone involved in my life and so do they."

Making Safeguarding Personal

'Making safeguarding personal' means that adult safeguarding should be person led and outcome focussed. It engages the person in a conversation about how best to respond to their safeguarding situation in a way that enhances involvement, choice and control, as well as improving quality of life, well-being and safety.

Wherever possible safeguarding concerns should be discussed with the adult to get their view of what they would like to happen. They should be involved in the safeguarding process, giving their consent to share information outside of the organisation where necessary. See Appendix 2 for more information.

Wellbeing Principle

The concept of 'wellbeing' is threaded throughout English and Welsh legislation and is related to the personal dignity, support and inclusion of all.

The Wellbeing Principles can be found in Appendix 8 at the rear of this document.

Capacity and decision making

Capacity refers to the ability to make a decision at a particular time, for example when under considerable stress. The starting assumption must always be that a person has the capacity to make a decision unless it can be established that they lack capacity.

People should be given information in formats that they understand to be able to make decisions.

See Appendix 3 for more information.

Legislation

The practices and procedures within this policy are based on the principles contained within the UK legislation and Government Guidance and have been developed to complement the Safeguarding Adults Boards policy and procedures. They take the following into consideration (see appendix 5 for more information):

- The Care Act 2014 (England)
- The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims (Amendment) Act 2012
- The Equality Act 2010
- The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- England and Wales Mental Capacity Act 2005
- Sexual Offences Act 1956 & 2003
- The Human Rights Act 1998
- The Data Protection Act 1998
- The General Data Protection Regulation 2016

Adult at risk of abuse or neglect definition

Safeguarding legislation has moved away from the term 'vulnerable adult', instead using the term 'adult at risk'. This term illustrates that it is the circumstances affecting people with care and support needs that causes them to be at risk of abuse or neglect.

The Care Act 2014 Definition

An "adult at risk" is an individual aged 18 years and over who:

(a) has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs)

(b) Is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect

(c) As a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.

Types of Abuse and Neglect

Abuse is a violation of an individual's human and civil rights by another person or persons. For definitions see Appendix 9.

There are different types and patterns of abuse and neglect and different circumstances in which they may take place. The Care Act 2014 defines **categories of adult abuse and harm** as follows:

- Physical
- Sexual

- Emotional/Psychological/Mental
- Neglect and acts of Omission
- Financial or material abuse
- Discriminatory
- Organisational / Institutional
- Self-neglect
- Domestic Abuse (including coercive control)
- Modern slavery

There are additional definitions which, while not included in legislation, are also relevant. These are:

- Cyber Bullying
- Forced Marriage
- Mate Crime
- Radicalisation

For definitions see Appendix 9.

Signs and indicators of abuse and neglect

Abuse can take place in any context and by all manner of perpetrator. Abuse may be inflicted by anyone in the organisation who a participant comes into contact with. Alternatively, other participants, workers or volunteers may suspect that an adult is being abused or neglected outside of the organisation's setting. There are many signs and indicators that may suggest someone is being abused or neglected. These include but are not limited to:

- Unexplained bruises or injuries or lack of medical attention when an injury is present.
- Person has belongings or money going missing.
- Person is not attending / no longer enjoying their sessions. You may notice that a participant in a team has been missing from practice sessions and is not responding to reminders from team members or coaches.
- Someone losing or gaining weight / an unkempt appearance. This could be a player whose appearance becomes unkempt, or does not wear suitable sports kit, and there is a deterioration in hygiene.
- A change in the behaviour or confidence of a person. For example, a participant may be looking quiet and withdrawn when their brother comes to collect them from sessions in contrast to their personal assistant whom they greet with a smile.
- They may self-harm.
- They may have a fear of a particular group of people or individual.
- They may tell you / another person they are being abused i.e. a disclosure.
- Harassment of a participant because they are or are perceived to have protected characteristics.
- Not meeting the needs of the participant. E.g. training without a necessary break.
- A coach intentionally striking an athlete.

- A participant who sends unwanted sexually explicit text messages to an adult with learning disabilities they are training alongside.
- A participant threatening another participant with physical harm and persistently blaming them for poor performance.

What to do if you have a concern or someone raises concerns with you

It is not your responsibility to decide whether an adult has been abused. It is, however, everyone's responsibility to respond to and report concerns.

If you are concerned someone is in immediate danger, contact the police on 999 straight away. Where you suspect that a crime is being committed, you must involve the police.

If you have concerns and or you are told about possible or alleged abuse, poor practice or wider welfare issues you must report this to the Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support Lead Safeguarding or Welfare Officer. If the Lead Safeguarding or Welfare Officer is implicated, then report to the Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support CEO.

When raising your concern with the Welfare Officer or Lead Safeguarding Officer, remember to <u>'make safeguarding personal'</u>. It is good practice to seek the adult's views on what they would like to happen next and to inform the adult of what actions you intend to take.

It is important when considering your concern that you keep the person informed about any decisions and action taken about them, and always consider their needs and wishes.

How to respond to a concern

Make a note of your concerns.

Make a note of what the person has said using his or her own words as soon as practicable. Complete an Incident Form and submit to the Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support Lead Safeguarding Officer.

Remember to make safeguarding personal. Discuss your safeguarding concerns with the adult, obtain their view of what they would like to happen, but inform them it's your duty to pass on your concerns to your lead safeguarding or welfare officer.

Describe the circumstances in which the disclosure came about.

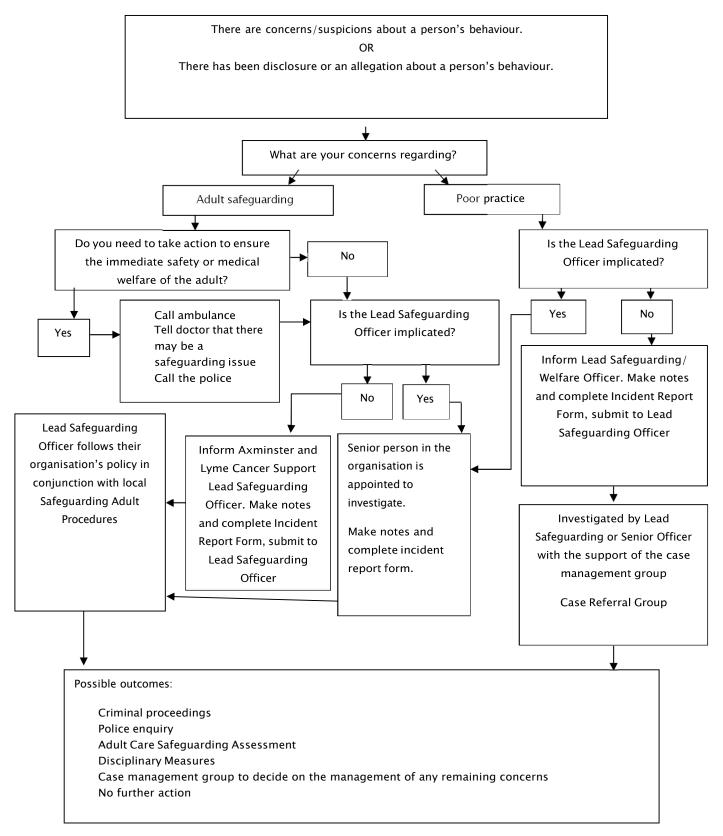
Take care to distinguish between fact, observation, allegation and opinion. It is important that the information you have is accurate.

Be mindful of the need to be confidential at all times. This information must only be shared with your Lead Safeguarding Officer and others on a need-to-know basis.

If the matter is urgent and relates to the immediate safety of an adult at risk, then contact the emergency services immediately.

Safeguarding Adults Flowchart

Dealing with Concerns, Suspicions or Disclosure



Remember to involve the adult at risk throughout the process wherever possible and gain consent for any referrals to social care if the person has capacity

Roles and responsibilities of those within Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support

Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support is committed to having the following in place:

- A Lead Safeguarding Officer to produce and disseminate guidance and resources to support the policy and procedures.
- A clear line of accountability within the organisation for work on promoting the welfare of all adults.
- Procedures for dealing with allegations of abuse or poor practice against members of staff and volunteers.
- A Case Referral Group that effectively deals with issues, manages concerns and refers to a disciplinary panel where necessary i.e. where concerns arise about the behaviour of someone within Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support
- A Disciplinary Panel that is formed as required for a given incident if appropriate and should a threshold be met.
- Arrangements to work effectively with other organisations to safeguard and promote the welfare of adults, including arrangements for sharing information.
- Appropriate whistle blowing procedures and an open and inclusive culture that enables safeguarding and equality and diversity issues to be addressed.
- Clear codes of conduct for Trustees, staff, volunteers and other relevant individuals.

Relevant Policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies

- Whistle Blowing
- · Complaints
- · Disciplinary
- Equality, diversity and inclusion
- Volunteer Handbook Coming Soon

Further Information

Policies, procedures and supporting information are available on the Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support website: www.axminsterandlymecancersupport.co.uk

Lead Safeguarding Officer: Mary Kahn

Review date

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner in the event of legislative changes or revised policies and best practice.

Safeguarding Adults Incident Report Form

To be completed as fully as possible if you have concerns regarding an adult. It is important to inform the adult about your concerns and that you have a duty to pass the information onto the safeguarding officer. The safeguarding officer will then look at the information and start to plan a course of action, in conjunction with yourself, the adult involved, and if necessary, social care or other relevant organisations.

Section 1 - details of adult at ri	sk
Name of adult	
Address	
Date of Birth	
Age (if date of birth not known)	
GP practice (if known)	
Contact number	
Section 2 - your details	
Name	
Contact phone number(s)	
Email address	
Line manager or alternative	
contact	
Name of organisation	
Your Role in organisation	
Section 3 - details of Concern	

Detail what you have seen/been told/other that makes you believe the adult at risk is being abused or is at risk of abuse (include dates/times/evidence from records/photos etc.)

Section 4 - Abuse type if know (leave blank if uncertain)		
Physical	Psychological	Financial
Sexual	Discriminatory	Organisational/ institutional
Neglect	Hate incident/crime	Mate Crime
Internet abuse	Modern slavery	Female genital Mutilation (FGM)
Forced Marriage	Domestic abuse	Radicalisation
Self-Neglect		
Section 5 - Have you discu outcomes have they stated		adult? What are their views? What
Section 5A - Reasons for no	ot discussing with the adult	
Adult lacks capacity	3	
Adult unable to communicate their views		
Discussion would increase the risk		
State why the risks would in	ncrease:	

Section 5B - Have you discussed your concerns with anyone else? E.g. carer/ partner/ spouse/ family member.

What are their views?

Section 6 - What action have you taken /agreed with the adult to reduce the risks?

Information passed to Safeguarding Officer, confirm details:	Referral to Social Care Confirm details:		
Contact with the police Confirm details:	Referral to other agency - please confirm details:		
Other - please specify:			
No action agreed - state why:			
Section 7 - Risk to others			
Are any other adults at risk Yes/No - delete as appropriate			
If yes state why and what actions have been taken to address these?			

Are any children at risk Yes/No Delete as appropriate

If yes state why and what actions have been taken to address these?

Signed:

Date:

OFFICE USE ONLY

Section 8 - sharing the concerns (To be completed by Lead Safeguarding Officer)

Details of your contact with the adult at risk. Have they consented to information being shared outside of (insert name of your organisation)?

Details of contact with the Social Care Team where the adult at risk lives - advice can be still sought without giving personal details if you do not have consent for a referral

Details of any other agencies contacted

Details of the outcome of this concern

Making Safeguarding Personal

There has been a cultural shift towards Making Safeguarding Personal within the safeguarding process. This is a move from prioritising outcomes demanded by bureaucratic systems; the safeguarding process used to involve gathering a detailed account of what happened and determining who did what to whom. Now the outcomes are defined by the person at the centre of the safeguarding process.

The safeguarding process places a stronger emphasis on achieving satisfactory outcomes that take into account the individual choices and requirements of everyone involved.

"What good is it making someone safer if it merely makes them miserable?" - Lord Justice Mundy, "What Price Dignity?" (2010)

What this means in practice is that adults should be more involved in the safeguarding process. Their views, wishes, feelings and beliefs must be taken into account when decisions are made.

We all have different preferences, histories, circumstances and lifestyles so it is unhelpful to prescribe a process that must be followed whenever a concern is raised.

However, there are key issues that should be considered when abuse or neglect are suspected, and there should be clear guidelines regarding this.

Capacity - Guidance on Making Decisions

England and Wales share the Mental Capacity Act of 2005 which applies to people over the age of 16.

The issue of capacity or decision making is a key one in safeguarding adults across all legislature. It is useful for organisations to have an overview of the concept of capacity.

We make many decisions every day, often without realising. We make so many decisions that it's easy to take this ability for granted. But some people are only able to make some decisions, and a small number of people cannot make any decisions. Being unable to make a decision is called "lacking capacity".

To make a decision we need to:

- Understand information
- Remember it for long enough
- Think about the information
- Communicate our decision

The various legislation sets out the principles for working with adults who lack capacity to make decisions. A person's ability to do this may be affected by things like learning disability, dementia, mental health needs, acquired brain injury and physical ill health.

Good practice states that every individual has the right to make their own decisions and legislation provides the framework for this to happen.

The legislation is designed to ensure that people have the support they need to make as many decisions as possible. The legislation also protects people who need family, friends or paid support staff to make decisions for them because they lack capacity to make specific decisions.

Any intervention in the affairs of an adult should:

- benefit the adult
- take account of the adult's wishes, so far as these can be ascertained
- take account of the views of relevant others, as far as it is reasonable and practical to do so
- restrict the adult's freedom as little as possible while still achieving the desired benefit

Our ability to make decisions can change over the course of a day.

Here are some examples that demonstrate how the timing of a question can affect the response:

- A person with epilepsy may not be able to make a decision following a seizure.
- Someone who is anxious may not be able to make a decision at that point.
- A person may not be able to respond as quickly if they have just taken some medication that causes fatigue.

In each of these examples, it may appear as though the person cannot make a decision. But later in the day, presented with the same decision, they may be able to at least be involved or to make an informed and measured decision.

Legislation recognises that capacity is decision-specific, so no one will be labelled as entirely lacking capacity. The legislation also recognises that decisions can be about big life-changing

events, such as where to live, but equally about small events, such as what to wear on a cold day.

To help you to understand better, consider the following five points:

- Assume that people are able to make decisions, unless it is shown that they are not. If you have concerns about a person's level of understanding, you should check this with them, and if applicable, with the people supporting them.
- Give people as much support as they need to make decisions. You may be involved in this you might need to think about the way you communicate or provide information and you may be asked your opinion.
- People have the right to make unwise decisions. The important thing is that they understand the implications. If they understand the implications, consider how risks might be minimised.
- If someone is not able to make a decision, then the person helping them must only make decisions in their "best interests". This means that the decision must be what is best for the person, not for anyone else. If someone was making a decision on your behalf, you would want it to reflect the decision you would make if you were able to.
- Find the least restrictive way of doing what needs to be done.

Remember:

You should not discriminate or make assumptions about someone's ability to make decisions, and you should not pre-empt a best interest's decision merely on the basis of a person's age, appearance, condition or behaviour.

As an organisation, when it comes to decision-making, you could be involved in a minor way, or asked to provide more detail. The way you provide information might influence a person's ultimate decision. A person may be receiving support that is not in line with the principles of the legislation, so you must be prepared to address this.

*PLEASE NOTE: The Mental Capacity Act in England and Wales is currently under review and the legislation and process is likely to change. It is recommended that a review of policy/procedures to take this into account is carried out in 2020.

Consent and Information Sharing

Although we want to make safeguarding personal, there are some circumstances when we may need to take action without an adult's consent.

Sometimes an adult at risk may not want you to act on your concerns or their disclosure.

This may be because they are scared or fearful of the repercussions from you taking action.

It may also be because they are not aware abuse is taking place, or they have not got the mental capacity to make an informed decision and understand that remaining in their current situation is unsafe.

Sharing information with the right people is central to good practice in safeguarding adults.

You should not keep safeguarding concerns about adults at risk to yourself. Explain to the adult that you must pass the concern on to your Safeguarding Lead, as you have a duty of care.

You should reassure the adult that they will be fully included on what happens.

It is appropriate to report concerns without an adult's consent when:

- You have reason to be believe the adults health and or wellbeing will be adversely affected by ongoing harm.
- Other people are, or may be, at risk from the person causing harm, including children.
- It is necessary to prevent a crime, or a serious crime has been committed.
- Sharing the information could prevent a crime and help to stop abuse.
- The adult may be under duress or being coerced.
- The alleged abuser has care and support needs and may also be at risk.

Workers and volunteers within sports and physical activity organisations should always share safeguarding concerns in line with their organisation's policy, usually with their safeguarding lead or welfare officer in the first instance, except in emergency situations. If it does not increase the risk to the individual, the worker or volunteer should explain to them that it is their duty to share their concern with their safeguarding lead or welfare officer.

The safeguarding lead or welfare officer will then consider the situation and plan the actions that need to be taken, in conjunction with the adult at risk and in line with the organisation's policy and procedures and local safeguarding adults board policy and procedures.

To make an adult safeguarding referral you need to call the local safeguarding adults team. This may be part of a MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub). A conversation can be had with the safeguarding adult's team without disclosing the identity of the person in the first instance. If it is thought that a referral needs to be made to the safeguarding adults team, consent should be sought where possible from the adult at risk.

Individuals may not give their consent to the sharing of safeguarding information with the safeguarding adults team for a number of reasons. Reassurance, appropriate support and revisiting the issues at another time may help to change their view on whether it is best to share information.

If they still do not consent, then their wishes should usually be respected. However, there are circumstances where information can be shared without consent. For example, when the adult does not have the capacity to consent, it is in the public interest because it may affect other

people, or a serious crime has been committed. This should always be discussed with your safeguarding lead and the local authority safeguarding adults team.

If someone does not want you to share information outside of the organisation, or you do not have consent to share the information, ask yourself the following questions:

- Is the adult placing themselves at further risk of harm?
- Is someone else likely to get hurt?
- Has a criminal offence occurred? This includes: theft or burglary of items, physical abuse, sexual abuse, forced to give extra money for lessons (financial abuse) or harassment.
- Is there suspicion that a crime has occurred?

If the answer to any of the questions above is 'yes' - then you can share without consent and need to share the information.

When sharing information there are seven Golden Rules that should always be followed.

- Seek advice if in any doubt.
- Be transparent The Data Protection Act (DPA) is not a barrier to sharing information but to ensure that personal information is shared appropriately; except in circumstances where by doing so places the person at significant risk of harm.
- Consider the public interest Base all decisions to share information on the safety and well-being of that person or others who may be affected by their actions.
- Share with consent where appropriate Where possible, respond to the wishes of those who do not consent to share confidential information. You may still share information without consent, if this is in the public interest.
- Keep a record Record your decision and reasons to share or not share information.
- Accurate, necessary, proportionate, relevant and secure Ensure all information shared is accurate, up-to-date, necessary and share with only those who need to have it.

Legislation and Government Initiatives are documented here. Links are provided for ease of access.

England - Care Act 2014 - statutory guidance

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/23/introduction/enacted

The Care Act introduces new responsibilities for local authorities. It also has major implications for adult care and support providers, people who use services, carers and advocates. It replaces No Secrets and puts adult safeguarding on a statutory footing.

Protection of Freedoms Act 2012

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2012/9/contents/enacted

Brought about a wide range of measures, regarding numerous areas of law. Notably changes to the vetting and barring system to create the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims (Amendment) Act 2012

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2012/4/contents/enacted

Creates an offence of causing or allowing the death or serious harm of a child or adult at risk for those within the household.

Equality Act 2010

https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents

The Act legally protects people from discrimination in the workplace and in wider society. It replaced previous anti-discrimination laws with a single Act, making the law easier to understand and strengthening protection in some situations.

England & Wales - Mental Capacity Act 2005

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2005/9/introduction

Its general principle is that everybody has capacity unless it is proved otherwise, that they should be supported to make their own decisions, that anything done for or on behalf of people without capacity must be in their best interests and there should be least restrictive intervention. www.dca.gov.uk

Sexual Offences Act 1956

https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/Eliz2/4-5/69/contents

This Act consolidated the law relating to sexual offences committed between 1957 and 2004. It was mostly repealed by the Sexual Offences Act of 2003 below, but sections 33 to 37 still survive.

Sexual Offences Act 2003

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/42/contents

The Sexual Offences Act introduced a number of new offences concerning adults at risk and children. www.opsi.gov.uk

Human Rights Act 1998

https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1998/42/contents

Designed to incorporate into UK law the rights contained in the European Convention on Human Rights. The Act makes a remedy for breach of a Convention right available in UK courts, without the need to go to the European Court. In particular, the Act makes it unlawful for any public body to act in a way which is incompatible with the Convention, unless the wording of any other primary legislation provides no other choice.

Data Protection Act 2018 (including General Data Protection Regulations)

2018 Act - <u>http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2018/12/contents/enacted</u> GDPR - <u>https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32016R0679&from=EN</u> The original 1998 DPA was superseded in May 2018. The new Act supplements the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which came into effect later the same month. The Act is designed to protect personal data stored on computers or on paper, regulating collection, storage, and use. The Act provides individuals with the legal rights to control information about themselves.

Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/47/contents

Introduced the new Vetting and Barring Scheme and the role of the Independent Safeguarding Authority. The Act places a statutory duty on all those working with vulnerable groups to register and undergo an advanced vetting process with criminal sanctions for non-compliance. www.opsi.gov.uk

Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards

https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/dh-mental-capacity-act-2005-deprivation-ofliberty-safeguards

Introduced into the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and came into force in April 2009. Designed to provide appropriate safeguards for vulnerable people who have a mental disorder and lack the capacity to consent to the arrangements made for their care or treatment, and who may be deprived of their liberty in their best interests in order to protect them from harm.

Disclosure & Barring Service 2013

https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/disclosure-and-barring-service/about

Criminal record checks: guidance for employers - How employers or organisations can request criminal records checks on potential employees from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). www.gov.uk/dbs-update-service

Making Safeguarding Personal Guide 2014

http://www.local.gov.uk/documents/10180/5852661/Making+Safeguarding+Personal+-+Guide+2014/4213d016-2732-40d4-bbc0-d0d8639ef0df

This guide is intended to support councils and their partners to develop outcomes-focused, person-centred safeguarding practice.

Useful contacts

Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support Safeguarding Officer is:

Name:

Telephone:

Email:

Local Authority Safeguarding Lead (if known)

Name:

Email:

Telephone:

Police contact (if known)

Name:

Email:

Telephone:

Principles of Safeguarding Adults.

England (Care Act 2014)

The Act's principles are:

- **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.

Wellbeing Principles

- Personal dignity (including treating 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 and the way they are provided)
- Participation in work, education, training or recreation
- Social and economic wellbeing
- Domestic, family and personal domains
- Suitability of the individual's living accommodation
- The individual's contribution to society.

Categories of abuse/harm

Self-neglect - this covers a wide range of behaviour: neglecting to care for one's personal hygiene, health or surroundings and includes behaviour such as hoarding.

Modern Slavery / Human Trafficking - 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.

Domestic Abuse and Coercive Control - including psychological, physical, sexual, financial and emotional abuse. It also includes so called 'honour' based violence. It can occur between any family members.

Discriminatory - discrimination is abuse which centres on a difference or perceived difference particularly with respect to race, gender or disability or any of the protected characteristics of the Equality Act.

Organisational / Institutional - including neglect and poor care practice within an institution or specific care setting such as a hospital or care home, or in relation to care provided in one's own home. This may range from one-off incidents to on-going ill-treatment. It can be through neglect or poor professional practice as a result of the structure, policies, processes and practices within an organisation.

Physical - including hitting, slapping, pushing, kicking, restraint, inappropriate sanctions, and misuse of medication.

Sexual - including rape, indecent exposure, sexual harassment, inappropriate looking or touching, sexual teasing or innuendo, sexual photography, subjection to pornography or witnessing sexual acts, indecent exposure and sexual assault or sexual acts to which the adult has not consented or was pressured into consenting.

Financial or Material - including theft, fraud, internet scamming, coercion in relation to an adult's financial affairs or arrangements, including in connection with wills, property, inheritance or financial transactions, or the misuse or misappropriation of property, possessions or benefits.

Neglect and acts of omission - including ignoring medical or physical care needs, failure to provide access to appropriate health social care or educational services, the withholding of the necessities of life, such as medication, adequate nutrition and heating.

Emotional or Psychological - this includes threats of harm or abandonment, deprivation of contact, humiliation, blaming, controlling, intimidation, coercion, harassment, verbal abuse, isolation or withdrawal from services or supportive networks.

Exploitation - is the deliberate maltreatment, manipulation or abuse of power and control over another person; to take advantage of another person or situation usually, but not always, for personal gain from using them as a commodity. It may manifest itself in many forms including slavery, servitude, forced or compulsory labour, domestic violence and abuse, sexual violence and abuse, or human trafficking.

Hate crime - is any incident which constitutes a criminal offence perceived by the victim or any other person as being motivated by prejudice, discrimination or hate towards a person's actual

or perceived race, religious belief, sexual orientation, disability, political opinion or gender identity.

There are additional definitions which, whilst not included in legislation, interface with adult safeguarding:

Cyber Bullying - cyber bullying occurs when someone repeatedly makes fun of another person online, or repeatedly picks on another person through emails or text messages, or uses online forums with the intention of harming, damaging, humiliating or isolating another person. It can be used to carry out many different types of bullying (such as racist bullying, homophobic bullying, or bullying related to special educational needs and disabilities) but instead of the perpetrator carrying out the bullying face-to-face, they use technology as a means to do it.

Forced Marriage - forced marriage is a term used to describe a marriage in which one or both of the parties are married without their consent or against their will. A forced marriage differs from an arranged marriage, in which both parties consent to the assistance of a third party in identifying a spouse. The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 makes it a criminal offence to force someone to marry. The forced marriage of adults with learning disabilities occurs when the adult does not have the capacity to consent to the marriage.

Mate Crime - a 'mate crime' as defined by the Safety Net Project is 'when vulnerable people are befriended by members of the community who go on to exploit and take advantage of them.' It may not be an illegal act but still has a negative effect on the individual. Mate Crime is carried out by someone the adult knows and often happens in private. In recent years there have been a number of Serious Case Reviews relating to people with a learning disability who were murdered or seriously harmed by people who purported to be their friend.

Radicalisation - the aim of radicalisation is to attract people to their reasoning, inspire new recruits and embed their extreme views and persuade vulnerable individuals of the legitimacy of their cause. This may be direct through a relationship, or through social media.