

Community@NE66 Charitable Trust  
Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy

**Version 7** 29th September 2021

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**Target audience:** All visitors, staff, volunteers and Trustees.  
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**Policy Objective;**

The objective of this policy is to safeguard the welfare of all children, young people and vulnerable adults from all forms of harm and abuse (as outlined in this policy) and promoting excellence in practice in how we treat and behave with them. Our goal is to create a safe environment in which children and young people can feel confident, listened to, nurtured, protected, respected, comfortable and secure at all times whilst accessing our services.

Community@NE66 works with children, young people and adults, some of whom are considered vulnerable. We recognise that we have a duty of care to all persons who work for, with and access our services.

**Safeguarding is defined as;**

- Protecting children and vulnerable adults from maltreatment,
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development,
- Ensuring that children are grown up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care.
- And undertaking that role so as to enable those children to have optimum life chances and to enter adulthood successfully.

**Children are defined as;**

Any person aged 0 to their 18th birthday.

**Vulnerable adults are defined as;**

A person who is 18 years of age or over, and who is or may be in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness and who is or may be unable to take care of him/herself, or unable to protect him/herself against significant harm or serious exploitation

**Safeguarding specific to children**

**Types of Abuse**

There are 4 different types of abuse and they are defined as: Physical, Emotional, Sexual and Neglect.

**Physical Abuse**

“Physical abuse may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces illness in a child.”

Further information about this form of abuse is set out in the NSCB procedures.

### **Emotional Abuse**

“Emotional abuse is persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to children that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may include not giving the child opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them or 'making fun' of what they say or how they communicate. It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond the child's developmental capability, as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning, or preventing the child participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, though it may occur alone.”

### **Sexual Abuse**

“Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including penetration (for example rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, sexual images, watching sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via the Internet). Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can their children.”

### **Neglect**

“Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health and development. Neglect may occur during pregnancy as a result of maternal substance misuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to:

- Provide adequate food and clothing, shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment)
- protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger
- Ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers)

- Ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment

It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs.”

All definitions taken from Working Together 2015

### **CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION**

“Child sexual exploitation is a form of child abuse (“child” being defined as anyone under 18 years of age). It is complex and can manifest itself in different ways. It involves children and young people receiving something – for example, accommodation, drugs, gifts, or affection – as a result of them performing sexual activities, or having others perform sexual activities on them. It can occur without physical contact, when children are groomed to post sexual images of themselves on the internet. In all cases those exploiting the child or young person have power over them, perhaps by virtue of their age or physical strength. Exploitative relationships are characterised in the main by the child's limited availability of choice, compounding their vulnerability. This inequality can take many forms but the most obvious include fear, deception, coercion and violence.”

Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation, Department of Education, 2014

### **SIGNS OF ABUSE PHYSICAL ABUSE EMOTIONAL ABUSE**

- Bruising/scratching
- Adult bite marks
- Outline bruising e.g. belt, hand
- Bruises to eyes and ears
- Finger marks
- Burns and scalds
- ‘Cigarette’ burns
- Difficulty in moving limbs
- Blood in white of eyes
- Injuries to babies not yet mobile
- Injury to the mouth
- Drowsiness from head injury or poisoning
- Aggressiveness or withdrawal
- Poor concentration
- Self harm

- Developmental delay
- Eating disorders
- Poor self image
- Unwilling to join in
- Fear of failure (lack of confidence)
- Few friends
- Low self esteem
- May bully others
- Difficulty in forming relationships
- Fear of new situations
- Obsessive rocking, thumb-sucking
- Attention seeking behaviour
- Witnessing domestic violence

### **SEXUAL ABUSE**

- Injuries to genital/anal area
- Sexually transmitted diseases
- Unwanted pregnancy
- Bruises, scratches, burns or bites
- Eating disorders
- Self harm
- Bleeding from vagina or anus
- Pain in passing urine or faeces
- Persistent discharge
- Frequent masturbation
- Wetting, soiling, smearing excreta
- Sexual awareness inappropriate to developmental stage
- Acting out sexual activity
- Aggression/withdrawn

### **SIGNS OF NEGLECT**

- Delayed physical &/or cognitive development
- Underweight and small stature
- Overweight (or obese)

- Chronic nappy rash
- Slow growth
- Frequently smelly
- Persistently dirty
- Persistently hungry
- Impairment of health
- Infections slow to clear up
- Persistent head lice
- Low self esteem
- Destructive tendencies
- Stealing/hiding food

### **REPORTING SUSPECTED ABUSE**

Where Practitioners or Volunteers consider they have cause to suspect abuse, including neglect or emotional treatment, they must report their concerns.

This can be done in 3 ways depending on the situation.

1) If the young person attends school and you have links with that school, you can report your concerns to the designated member of staff in the school. This arrangement should be agreed with each school individually in advance of any reporting (usually only applicable to team members delivered in school settings or in partnership with schools). Following this you should inform Community@NE66 Charitable Trusts designated person that you have done so.

2) You should report your concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Person or Assistant Designated Safeguarding Persons.

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3) Where Practitioners or Volunteers feel that emergency action may be needed to safeguard a child and a designated member of staff cannot be contacted, staff should contact the Social Services Duty Team or the Police directly. Record of any action taken must be passed to your designated person as soon as possible.

### **RESPONDING TO A DISCLOSURE**

A young person may choose to confide in or talk to an adult about their experiences of child abuse, this is called a disclosure. The disclosure may take the form of a direct statement or

indirect statement, in writings and drawings, role play or stories, or come from information from a third party.

### **Confidentiality Policy**

Confidentiality is about your privacy, meaning that any information you tell us will be kept between the youth workers and you.

Community@NE66 Charitable Trust provides: information, advice, guidance and support to children, young people and other community members on a wide range of issues. In most cases what we discuss with you is confidential, however in certain situations we need to involve others in order to ensure you are safe from harm. We will try to talk to you first but there may be occasions when we will need to involve others if we are concerned that you or other people may be at risk.

### **Responding**

If a Young Person discloses any information to you, your role is to enable them to freely recall significant events by:

- Receiving the information, by listening carefully to what the young person is saying.
- Reassuring the young person by telling them they have done the right thing by telling you.
- Reacting to the situation by doing something about it and explaining what will happen next.
- Recording what the young person has said as soon as possible, using the young person's exact words,

and making diagrams of any physical marks associated with the allegation.

- Reporting the disclosure using the same process as outlined previously in the reporting suspected abuse section.
- Support the young person by giving them your time and creating a safe place for them to talk, away from others.
- Take care of yourself by talking to someone who can support you in this process. Be careful not to talk to anyone who does not need to know and maintain confidentiality.

### **In the case of a disclosure:**

- Do not: Promise to keep the disclosure a secret – you will have to report it.
- Do not: Rush off to find someone else to listen or to find a pen/paper.

- Do not: Display shock or disapproval, anger or disgust.
- Do not: Ask direct and/or closed questions such as Why? When? Who? Where? How? You may ask the child to repeat a statement or say 'Is there anything else you want to tell me? Or "Would you like to talk about it?'
- Do not: Investigate any allegations as you are not qualified to interview children and may mislead them.
- Do not: Make judgements or say anything about the alleged abuser and;
- Do not: Talk to the parents before discussing it with the designated person.

In the case of an allegation against a member of staff, DO NOT talk to the member of staff before discussing the allegation with the Project Manager.

### **Recording Information**

When there is a concern about a child, the information should be recorded in a way that is:

- Clear – specific about the exact concerns for the child.
- Factual – show clearly what is fact and where there may be opinion expressed.
- Complete – all known, relevant information which is available.
- Unambiguous – not open to interpretation but stated in a clear way.

Appendix 1 contains the Community@NE66's Safeguarding Incident recording form. This form must be given to your designated person. All information is stored securely in an electronic format and with limited access.

The flowchart in Appendix 2 shows what happens after you pass information on to your designated member of staff.

### **PREVENTION**

We recognise that high self-esteem, confidence, supportive friends and good lines of communication with a trusted adult helps prevention.

Community@NE66 aims to provide an environment in which:

- Young People are treated as individuals with particular needs and aspirations
- We aim to develop positive relationships between young people and between young people, youth professionals and volunteers. We seek to achieve an atmosphere of mutual respect.
- Young People are encouraged to have a voice and know they will be listened to.

### **Safe Workforce**



Community@NE66 Charitable Trust has a duty to safeguard and promote the children's welfare when employing or recruiting staff and volunteers. This includes ensuring that safe recruitment and selection procedures are adopted which deter, reject or identify people who might abuse children or are otherwise unsuitable to work with them including the use of Enhanced DBS checks (for residential work workers must have Barring and Vetting checks and their outcomes must meet our recruitment criteria).

### **Partnership Working**

Any organisation involved in delivering a project in partnership with Community@NE66 Charitable Trust or commissioned to provide services to young people must be required to comply with the safe recruitment, selection and supervision procedures set out by NSCB and any service level agreement or contract must contain a safeguarding statement which clarifies the standards expected. This must include a requirement that the organisation must not sub-contract to any personnel who have not been part of a safe recruitment process. If an outside organisation uses Alnwick Community Centre building then they are not necessarily covered by our policies. This should be made clear to all parties including young people. All lettings agreements for organisations working with under 18's should require a Safeguarding Policy being in place.

Where private or voluntary organisations come into contact with or offer services to children otherwise than under contract with a statutory or public body, in recognition of their commitment to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, they should as a matter of good practice take account of this procedure and follow it as far as possible, although not under a statutory obligation to do so.

### **Training**

All community & youth work staff, administration, therapists/counsellors and volunteers must undertake face to face safeguarding training within the first six weeks of employment. Every year all staff who work directly with young people will undertake annual safeguarding training. This will take the form of the online refresher course or a face to face course delivered by NSCB approved trainer.

### **Information Sharing / Confidentiality**

Staff will ensure confidentiality protocols are adhered to and information is shared appropriately. If in any doubts about confidentiality, staff will seek advice from a senior manager or outside agency as required. The designated person will disclose any information about a young person to other members of staff on a need to know basis. All staff must be aware that they have a professional responsibility to share information with other agencies in order to safeguard children.

## **SPECIFIC AND RELATED ISSUES**

### **Forced Marriage**

A forced marriage, one or both spouses do not consent to the arrangement of the marriage and some elements of duress are involved. Duress can include physical, psychological, financial, sexual and emotional pressure. Forced Marriage is an abuse of human rights and, where a child is involved, an abuse of the rights of the child. Forced Marriage is a violation of a person's human rights and cannot be justified on religious or cultural grounds. If you suspect that a forced marriage has or is about to take place go directly to your designated person with the information.

### **Self-Harm**

The phrase 'self-harm' is used to describe a wide range of behaviours. Self-harm is often understood to be a physical response to an emotional pain of some kind and can be very addictive. Some of the things people do are quite well known, such as cutting, burning or pinching. However there are many, many ways to hurt yourself, including abusing drugs and alcohol or having an eating disorder. Self-harm is often seen as fashionable or "faddy" but should always be taken seriously.

### **Fabricated or induced illness**

If there are concerns that illness may be being fabricated or induced in a child or there are concerns that the child's parent or carer may be fabricating or inducing illness in themselves and that this may cause harm to the child. Such concerns may also apply to unborn children. These must be taken directly to your designated person.

### **Indecent Images**

As many professionals working within different organisations have increased access to the Internet or World Wide Web, cameras and phones, therefore the opportunity for misuse also

grows. Upon the receipt of any information concerning a person or persons suspected of this kind of activity, the department head should notify the Police (Child and Public Protection Unit) immediately. No downloading or distribution of any images should be completed, either internally or externally within the organisation, as this will leave the individuals responsible open to criminal investigation. The computer should be left and not used by anyone, allowing this to be seized as evidence for forensic examination by the Police. The details of all persons having access to the computer should be made available to allow a clear evidence trail to be established.

**Relationships under the age of consent** Cases of underage sexual activity which present cause for concern are likely to raise difficult issues and should be handled particularly sensitively. A child under 13 is not legally capable of consenting to sexual activity. Cases involving under 13's should always be discussed with the nominated child protection lead in the organisation.

Sexual activity with a child under 16 is also an offence. Where it is consensual it may be less serious than if the child were under 13, but may nevertheless have serious consequences for the welfare of the young person. Consideration should be given in every case of sexual activity involving a child aged 13-15 as to whether there should be a discussion with other agencies and whether a referral should be made. The professional should make the assessment using the considerations below;

- The age of the child. Sexual activity at a young age can be a very strong indicator that there are risks to the welfare of the child.
- The level of maturity and understanding of the child.
- The child's living circumstances or background.
- Age imbalance, in particular where there is a significant age difference.
- Overt aggression or power imbalance.
- Coercion or bribery.
- Familial child sex offences.
- Behaviour of the child e.g withdrawn, anxious.
- The misuse of substances as a disinhibitor.
- Whether any attempts to secure secrecy have been made by the sexual partner, beyond what would be considered usual in a teenage relationship.
- Whether the methods used are consistent with grooming; and
- Whether the sexual partner/s is known to professional agencies.

“Under 16” Brook Advisory Service

**Sexual activity involving a 16 or 17 year old**, though unlikely to involve an offence, may still involve harm or the risk of harm. Professionals should still bear the factors above in assessing any risk and should share information as appropriate. It is an offence for a person to have a sexual relationship with a 16 or 17 year old if they hold a position of trust or authority in relation to them. It is an offence for a person 18 or over to intentionally engage in sexual touching of a child under 16. A person also commits an offence if the touching involves consensual penetration of the vagina or anus of another person with a part of their body or anything else.

### **Position of Trust Offence**

The Sexual Offences Act 2003 sets out the law on sexual offences committed by those in positions of trust. Although the offences cover all children under 18, they are principally designed to protect young people aged 16 and 17 who, even though they are over the age of consent for sexual activity are considered vulnerable to sexual abuse and exploitation.

Where a child is under 16 and cannot give reasonable consent to sexual activity, the expectation is that any offences committed would be caught by ss. 9-13 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003. Once the person is 18, they cannot only consent but are considered adult – therefore, unless a sexual act has been committed without consent (such as rape or non-consensual sexual touching), then no offence occurs.

The 2003 Act's provision on “abuse of position of trust” provides specific roles and settings where sexual activity between a child and a person in a position of trust, responsibility or authority constitutes a criminal offence.

### **Counter-terrorism local strategy (applicable to children & adults)**

The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 highlights the statutory duty on ‘specified bodies’ including local authorities, schools (academies and independent schools, further and higher education colleges), health, penal bodies and the police to pay due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. This is ‘the prevent duty’, which became law on 1 July 2015.

The Northumberland Counter Terrorism Co-ordinating Group is about stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. If you are concerned about someone being drawn into terrorism contact:

Ian Billham

Strategic Community Safety Manager

Tel: 01670 623731

Email: [Ian.Billham@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Ian.Billham@northumberland.gov.uk)

### Allegations against Workers

Any allegation against a member of staff will be referred to the Northumberland Local Safeguarding Children's Board who will then conduct an investigation. The following protocol will then be followed:

The employer should inform the worker who is subject to the allegation as soon as possible, after consulting the LSCB and reporting to the LADO: [Adam.Hall@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Adam.Hall@northumberland.gov.uk)

The subject of the allegation should be:

- Advised to contact his / her professional association / union / legal adviser
- Treated fairly and honestly
- Offered staff welfare services if available

Decision to suspend or temporarily re-deploy staff is made without prejudice and the decision rests with the employing agency.

Suspension should not be automatic, but it should be considered in any case where:

- Not to suspend may continue or increase the risk of significant harm for any child
- Not to suspend may hamper investigations
- The allegation warrants investigation by the police
- The allegation is so serious that it might be grounds for dismissal

Referral - Allegations should be reported to the project manager in the organisation, unless that person is the subject of the allegation, in which case it should be reported to the Safeguarding Trustee and the LSCB

Professional judgement and common sense will be applied by the Safeguarding Trustee when considering the allegation. If the allegation meets any of the criteria for the Allegations

Management Procedures (LADO will advise), it must be reported to the LSCB/First Contact within 1 working day.

### **Code of conduct**

All staff should be made aware of the Code of Conduct of the organisation and which is given at Induction.

## **Local Safeguarding Children Board**

### **Role and Function**

The overall role of the LSCB is to coordinate local work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and to ensure the effectiveness of what the member organisations do individually and together.

### **Specific objectives of the LSCB are to:**

1. Develop and agree inter-agency policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, consistent with Working Together to Safeguard Children, including:

- i. The action to be taken where there are concerns about a child's safety or welfare, including thresholds for intervention;
- ii. Training of those working with children or in services affecting the safety and welfare of children;
- iii. Recruitment and supervision of persons who work with children;
- iv. Investigation of allegations concerning persons working with children;
- v. The safety and welfare of privately fostered children;
- vi. Cooperation with neighbouring children's social care services authorities and their Board Partners.

- Participate in the planning of services for children in the local authority area;
- Communicate the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of the child;
- Develop procedures to ensure a coordinated response to unexpected child deaths;
- Monitor the effectiveness of what is done to safeguard and promote the welfare of children;
- Undertake reviews of serious cases and ensure lessons are understood and acted upon;
- Collect and analyse information about child deaths.

As part of the Monitoring and Evaluation Function of the LSCB, there is a requirement for the LSCB to ensure appropriate links exist with any secure settings in its area and to be able to scrutinise the use of restraint, and incidences and injuries.

## 2. Scope of the Role

In order to fulfil its statutory functions, an LSCB should use data and, as a minimum, should:

- Assess the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families, including early help;
- Assess whether LSCB partners are fulfilling their statutory obligations;
- Quality assure practice, including through joint audits of case files involving practitioners and identifying lessons to be learned; and
- Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of training, including multi-agency training, to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The Children's Safeguarding Performance Information

Framework provides a mechanism to help do this by setting out some of the questions a LSCB should consider.

The Board can be contacted on: 01670 623979 / 01670 822386 (out of hours)

## **Bullying**

Bullying is defined as “behaviour by an individual or group, usually repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally” (DfE definition). It can be inflicted on a child by another child or an adult. It can take many forms, but the three main types are:

- **Physical** - for example, hitting, kicking, shoving, theft
  - **Verbal** - for example, threats, name calling, racist or homophobic remarks
  - **Emotional** - for example, isolating an individual from activities/games and the social acceptance of their peer group
- Cyber bullying is defined as “the use of Information Communications Technology (ICT), particularly mobile phones and the internet, deliberately to upset someone else” (DfE definition).

Bullying & Harassment often starts with apparently trivial events such as teasing and name calling which nevertheless rely on an abuse of power. Such abuses of power, if left

unchallenged, can lead to more serious forms of abuse, such as domestic violence, racial attacks, sexual offences and self-harm or suicide.

If you have concerns around bullying talk to the Project Manager or Safeguarding Trustee or access our Bullying & Harassment policy in the Team Member Handbook (available on the your drive).

### **E Safety**

As technology develops, the Internet and its range of content services can be accessed through various devices including mobile phones, text messaging and mobile camera phones as well as computers and game consoles. As a consequence the Internet has become a significant tool in the distribution of indecent/pseudo photographs and video clips of children and young people. Internet chat rooms, discussion forums and bulletin boards are used as a means of contacting children with a view to grooming them for inappropriate or abusive relationships, which may include requests to make and transmit pornographic images of themselves or to perform sexual acts live in front of a web cam.

Contacts made initially in a chat room are likely to be carried on via email, instant messaging services, mobile phone and text messaging. There is also a growing cause for concern about the exposure of children to inappropriate material via interactive communication technology e.g. adult pornography and extreme forms of obscene material.

For further reading, go to the Child Exploitation and On-Line Protection Centre (CEOP) which can be found at the CEOP website - [www.CEOP.police.uk](http://www.CEOP.police.uk) The CEOP is a partnership between government, law enforcement, NGO's (including children's charities) and industry, with the common aim of protecting children. It works to protect children, families and society from paedophiles and sex offenders - in particular those who seek to exploit children sexually online.

For more information see Community@NE66 E Safety and Social Media Policies.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

If you are worried about a child or adult's welfare who, lives in Northumberland contact  
One call: 01670 536400



If you know a child already has a social worker the contact them on these numbers;

- Central Locality 01670 536000
- North Locality 01670 629 400
- South East Locality 01670 629 600
- West Locality 01434 611499
- Disablee Children Team: 01671 516131
- 14+ Team 01670622930

### **High School Contacts**

- Berwick Academy 01289 305083
- James Calvert Trust High School Amble 01665 710636
- Duchess's Community High School 01665 602166

Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)

County Hall, Morpeth, NE61 2EF

Tell: 01670 623979

Tell: 0345 600 5252

### **Vulnerable Adults Specific**

Community@NE66 has adopted the following policy context and definitions of abuse from Northumberland Safeguarding Adults Protocol Framework so that we can ensure best practice. As with any concerns regarding vulnerable adults these must be recorded and passed on to the designated person as soon as possible. The recording and reporting procedure is the same for adults as it is for children.

#### **Context to safeguarding adults.**

What do we mean by the terms 'safeguarding' and 'adult at risk'? In practice the term 'safeguarding' is used to mean both specialist responsive services where harm or abuse has or is suspected to have occurred, and other activities designed to promote the wellbeing and safeguard the rights of adults. In its broadest sense it is everybody's business: the public, volunteers and professionals This procedural guide sets out to describe the specific action we need to take to ensure that people who have (or may have) experienced harm or abuse are enabled to protect themselves or are involved in decision making to safeguard them. This will include making

sure that people who lack capacity are supported through advocacy and other measures so that their best interests can be pursued. It also includes ensuring that justice is facilitated where vulnerable adults (adults at risk) are the victims of crime.

Harm and abuse can happen in any setting, and may additionally occur through neglect. People may be harmed at home, in their communities, in a care home, at hospital, in college or at work, at day and community centres or other places where people spend their time or receive services.

People who abuse or harm adults at risk are a very diverse group. They largely fall into four main categories:

- paid staff members or support workers
- unpaid family members, partners or carers (who can sometimes harm unintentionally)
- neighbours and members of the community and
- other adults at risk.

For further information and guidance please contact Northumberland County Council (NCC) Safeguarding Adults Team through OneCall: Tel 01670 536400 who will also:

- Investigate cases involving death or serious injury as a result of abuse/neglect, multiple/institutional abuse, rape, serious financial abuse.
- Act as a single point of contact for Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust inpatient services in Northumberland
- Manage PREVENT referrals
- Provide advice and coordinate research for MAPPA and MARAC meetings
- Liaise with the Coroner's Office about abuse/neglect-related deaths
- Manage Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards procedures

A safeguarding concern can centre on a single act or repeated acts of suspected, disclosed or witnessed abuse or neglect. It may be:

- **physical abuse**, including hitting, slapping, pushing, kicking, misuse of medication, restraint, or inappropriate sanctions;

- **sexual abuse**, including rape and sexual assault or sexual exploitation or acts to which the vulnerable adult has not consented, or could not consent or was pressured into consenting;
- **psychological abuse**, including emotional abuse, threats of harm or abandonment, deprivation of contact, humiliation, blaming, controlling, intimidation, coercion, harassment, verbal abuse, isolation or withdrawal from services or supportive networks
- **financial or material abuse**, including theft, fraud, exploitation, pressure in connection with wills, property or 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;
- **discriminatory abuse**, including forms of harassment, slurs or similar treatment because of race, gender and gender identity, age, disability, sexual orientation or religion Anyone who wishes to raise an alert
- organisational abuse, including everything from individual acts of very poor professional practice to pervasive ill treatment, gross misconduct and systemic failure across a service.
- domestic violence, including psychological, physical, sexual, financial, emotional abuse and “honour” based violence.
- modern slavery, encompasses slavery, human trafficking, forced labour and domestic servitude.
- self-neglect, this covers a wide range of behaviours, including neglecting to care for one’s personal hygiene, health or surroundings and includes behaviours such as hoarding.
- radicalisation, the abusive process whereby adults with care and support needs are radicalised.

Where an ‘adult at risk’ is in immediate danger, steps should be taken to protect their safety, e.g. by calling 999

If you are worried about an adult’s welfare who lives in Northumberland contact;

One call: 01670 536400

Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)

County Hall, Morpeth, NE61 2EF

Tell: 01670 623979

Tell: 0345 600 5252

Client who is an immediate danger to themselves and will remain in the premises (and does not pose a risk to others) the NHS Crisis team will be contacted; 0303 123 1146 if support can not be offered within a responsible time frame (i.e. the amount of time workers are able to stay with the client) an ambulance (999) would be called.

Clients who are an immediate danger to themselves and will NOT remain in the premises contact Northumbria Police (999) and state you have urgent concerns for the clients life. Client who presents a risk whilst on the premises or to staff; Will be asked to leave with an explanation as to why, if violent/ or escalation/ or refuses to leave call Northumbria Police (999)

### **Adoption of Policy by Community@NE66 Charitable Trust Trustees**

Chairperson and designated Safeguarding Trustee

Print name:

Signature:

Date:

Treasurer

Print name:

Signature:

Date:

Secretary

Print name:

Signature:

Date:

Trustee

Print name:

Signature:

Date:

Trustee

Print name:

Signature:

Date: