



Safeguarding and Protection Policy - Adults at Risk

1. General Statement of Intent

1.1 Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility.

1.2 This policy is a statement of Survive’s commitment to safeguarding adults at risk who are referred to us or self-refer into our services or who we come into contact with through our outreach activities.

1.3 The policy is to be operated by staff, volunteers, trustees and others who work for Survive to safeguard clients and potential clients.

1.4 It provides guidance on our individual and collective responsibilities in relation to the safeguarding adults at risk. Safeguarding responsibilities in relation to children and young people (CYP) is dealt with in our Safeguarding and Protection Policy – CYP.

2. Context

2.1 Safeguarding is defined as protecting an adult’s right to live in safety free from abuse and neglect. Adult safeguarding is about preventing and responding to concerns of abuse or harm or neglect of adults. Staff should work together in partnership with adults so that they are:

- Safe and able to protect themselves from abuse and neglect;
- Treated fairly with dignity and respect;
- Protected when they need to be;
- Able easily to get the support, protection and services they need.

2.2 This policy aims to reflect both the six Safeguarding Principles and the concept of Making Safeguarding Personal. The six principles of safeguarding detailed below are stipulated in the Department of Health and Social Care (Care and Support Statutory Guidance, June 2020).

Accountability	Accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding.
Empowerment	People are encouraged to make their own decision.
Prevention	It is better to take action before harm occurs.
Protection	Support and representation for those in greatest need.
Proportionality	The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.
Partnership	Services offer local solutions to working closely with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse.

2.3 Section 42 of the Care Act (2014) requires that each local authority must make enquiries, or cause others to do so, if it believes an adult is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect. An enquiry should establish whether any action needs to be taken to prevent or stop abuse or neglect, and if so, by whom.

2.4 The Care Act guidance supports the need for safeguarding to be person led and outcome focused. This means engaging the person in conversation about how best to respond to their safeguarding situation in a way that embraces choice and control as well as

maintaining a focus on improving their quality of life, wellbeing and safety. The concept of Making Safeguarding Personal is about leadership and creating a culture that places the client at the centre of all interventions and decisions.

2.5 Survive has established the CEO as its designated Safeguarding Concerns Manager (SCM) - all staff have been made aware of this and provided with their contact details. In the case that the safeguarding lead is unavailable a member of the Senior Management Team (SMT), specifically the Counselling Services Manager, Support Services Manager, Clinical Supervisor or nominated trustee, will deputise in their absence and all staff and volunteers will be made aware of who this is and how to contact them.

2.6 Survive recognises that it is the responsibility of each member of staff and volunteers to prevent neglect, physical, sexual and/or emotional abuse of vulnerable adults and to report any abuse disclosed or suspected.

3. Recognising the signs and symptoms of abuse

3.1 When an individual is experiencing abuse, they may display particular signs and symptoms that act as indicators that they may be experiencing abuse. Some of these signs and symptoms include:

Becoming withdrawn	Unusual or erratic behaviour
Withdrawing from friends and family	Running away from home
Losing interest in hobbies, job etc.	Rapid weight loss or gain
Low self-esteem/confidence	Repeated illnesses
Depression	Alcohol misuse
Anxiety	Drug misuse
Self-harm	Sudden changes in behaviour – becoming too withdrawn or erratic
Suicidal thoughts	Evident bruising, scratches, cuts or other marks and injuries
Suicide attempts	
Other mental health issues	
Slower than normal development	

3.2 It is important to remember that this list is not exhaustive but is used to provide indicators to some of the signs that an individual may be experiencing abuse. It is also important to remember that individually these signs may not present a concern but persistence and a combination of a number of the above can offer further indication that abuse may be taking place.

3.3 Staff and volunteers responding to helpline calls or working with clients and service users remotely via telephone must remember that the above signs and symptoms of abuse may not be as evident as when working with clients and service users in a face-to-face setting.

3.4 Across all services at Survive it is important to remember that victims/survivors have the right to share as much or as little information as they wish, so they may choose not to share information which alludes to abuse taking place. Our role is to support the individual and not to intelligence gather.

3.5 The categories and descriptions below are intended to help Survive staff and volunteers be alert to and identify signs of abuse whenever possible.

Neglect	This is the persistent failure to meet an adult's basic needs both physical and or emotional/psychological. It may, for example, involve failure to provide clothes, shelter and food or failure to keep them clean or protect them from physical harm or danger. It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, the person's basic emotional needs and their developmental needs.
Physical abuse	This is causing physical harm to an adult such as by hitting, shaking, pushing, beating, pinching, burning, restraining unnecessarily, or other form of physical harm. Harm can also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates symptoms of ill health or causes actual ill health in a vulnerable adult.
Sexual abuse	This is forcing an adult to engage in sexual activities. These may include rape, sexual assault, prostitution, and may also include non-contact abuse, such as involving the person in creating or looking at pornographic material. Sexual abuse includes activities such as sending inappropriate messages and online or face-to-face grooming. Sexual abuse usually comes to light in a different way from physical abuse or neglect.
Emotional or psychological abuse	This involves a pattern of behaviour where a person consistently rejects, belittles, controls, frightens or deceives another, often within a 'caring' or 'loving' relationship. There can be extra difficulty in identifying an emotionally abusive relationship because emotional or psychological abusers may be unaware of what they are doing. They may believe what they are doing is for the benefit of their victim. Emotional abuse is present in all abuse but can also stand alone.
Financial or material abuse	This is when a person is prevented from accessing their own money, benefits or assets or is subject to undue pressure, duress, threat or undue influence in connection with loans, wills, property inheritance or financial transactions. It may involve exploitation of a person's money or assets or missing personal possessions, an unexplained lack of money or inability to maintain a lifestyle, unexplained withdrawals of money from accounts or involve the person allocated to manage financial affairs being evasive or uncooperative.
Modern slavery	This includes human trafficking, forced labour, domestic servitude, sexual exploitation, such as escort work, prostitution and pornography as well as debt bondage (being forced to work to pay off debts that realistically they will never be able to clear). The person may appear malnourished, unkempt or withdrawn. They may be isolated from the community or present as being under the control of others. There may be an avoidance of eye contact and the person may appear frightened or hesitant to talk to other people.
Self-neglect	This is characterised by poor personal hygiene, unkempt appearance, lack of essential food clothing or shelter, malnutrition, hoarding, non-compliance with health or care services, an inability or unwillingness to take medication or treat illness or injury.
Discriminatory abuse	This may manifest itself as any of the other categories of abuse previously stated. What is distinctive, however, is that discriminatory abuse is motivated by oppressive and discriminatory attitudes towards a person's disability, physical or learning disability, mental ill-health or sensory impairment, race, gender, age, religion, cultural background, sexual orientation, political convictions, appearance or other aspects.

4. Public protection

4.1 Public protection from sexual offences

4.1.1 When an individual tells Survive that they have been sexually assaulted **within the last three months by a complete stranger**, Survive can, with client consent, pass anonymous information to the police which enables them to put measures in place to increase public protection. Such information may include the gender of the survivor and the rough time and location of the sexual assault.

4.2 Public protection from terrorism

4.2.1 **Prevent** is part of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015. This is a measure that aims to reduce the threat of terrorism in the UK. Prevent is everybody's business.

4.2.2. The overall aim of Prevent is to safeguard children, young people and adults from the threat faced by those who pose extremist or radicalised views. The Prevent programme is about protecting vulnerable people from being exploited by extremists. It places a duty on public sector organisations to prevent people from being drawn towards such views and ensures that support is in place for those who are vulnerable.

4.2.3 Definitions

- **Terrorism** - *‘an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/ people or seriously interferes with or disrupts an electronic system. The use or threat must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made from the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideology cause’*
- **Extremism** - *‘vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values of democracy, rule of law, tolerance and individual liberty’.*
- **Radicalisation** - the process in which a person comes to sympathise with and support terrorist or extremist ideologies which can be a short process or can occur gradually over a period of years.

4.2.4 In recent years, the most significant terrorist threats to the UK have been from terrorist organisations in Syria and Iraq, Al-Qaeda associated groups and Far-Right extremist ideologies.

4.2.5 If someone is expressing extreme views of hatred which could lead to them harming themselves or others, you can raise your concerns directly and in confidence by calling the Due Diligence and Counter Extremism Group (DDCEG) on 020 7340 7264

5. Allegations against Survive staff, volunteers or trustees

5.1 Any allegations made against a member of staff or volunteer will be dealt with as a serious matter, following Survive’s disciplinary policy and procedure.

5.2 Any allegations against staff and volunteers should be reported to the SCM or if the concern is with the SCM, to the Chair of trustees who will delegate to an appropriately qualified trustee.

6. Protocol for raising concerns

6.1 The protocol for raising concerns, along with key contact details, is found at Appendix 1.

6.2 All staff and volunteers should retain a copy of this protocol and note key telephone numbers.

6.3 All staff and volunteers involved in raising a safeguarding concern should complete a Safeguarding Record Form stating their own actions in relation to the case.

7. Supervision and de-briefing

7.1 Safeguarding concerns should be raised immediately as stated above, however, staff and volunteers will be given opportunities for wider discussions on any safeguarding concerns:

- With the SCM;
- In clinical supervision;
- In team meetings; or
- With their line manager.

8. Training

8.1 Level 1 safeguarding training will be provided to all new staff, volunteers and trustees unless they can provide evidence of having attended such training in the last two years.

8.2 Level 1 and Level 2 safeguarding training will be provided to the SCM and SMT unless they can provide evidence of having attended such training in the last two years.

8.3 Refresher safeguarding training will be provided to all staff every 2 years. Any significant updates will be communicated to the team in between this time as necessary.

8.4 A record of all staff and volunteers' safeguarding training will be retained in their Training file on Charitylog.

9. Access and review

9.1 Line managers will provide a copy of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Policy to all new staff and volunteers as part of their induction.

9.2 Staff and volunteers receive training on Safeguarding as part of their induction.

9.3 A hard copy of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Policy will be kept in the policy folder in the Survive office and a soft copy will be stored in the policy folder on Sharepoint and on Breathe HR.

9.4 The Board of Trustees will review the Safeguarding and Protection Policy- Adults at Risk every 12 months.

9.5 Staff and volunteers will be informed of any updates via team meetings.

Other linked policies: Disciplinary policy Information sharing policy Confidentiality policy Suicide policy	Recruitment policy DBS policy Record keeping policy Supervision policy Safeguarding and Protection Policy - CYP
--	---

Protocol for SCM or SMT for raising concerns about an adult

The SCM or SMT will decide whether:

- the concerns need to be escalated outside of Survive
- the concerns will be raised with or without the consent of the individual

The SCM or SMT will consider whether:

- the action being taken is proportionate to the risk
- raising the concern is in the public interest (e.g. is there a risk to others)
- raising the concern is in the adult's best interests (i.e. will it prevent harm or distress)