



Easy Read

Safeguarding of Adults



Reviewed February 2023

- This policy has 25 pages
- It is a good idea to read all of this policy if you can
- If you need to you can skip to the part you need most

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	<p>Why do we need this policy?</p>
	<p>Centre 404 supports good practice and wants to stop abuse</p> <p>This policy aims to help there be fewer cases of abuse of adults at risk of abuse</p>
	<p>It makes sure staff know what to do if they are worried</p>
	<p>It tells you what the different types of abuse are and what happens when someone reports abuse</p>



Safeguarding means looking after your right to live safely without abuse

Adult safeguarding tries to stop abuse of adults and do something about it



Everyone who works with adults at risk of abuse must protect their service users

All claims of abuse are serious



This policy is for all

- Staff
- Volunteers
- Service users at Centre 404

Who is an adult at risk of abuse?



An Adult at Risk of Abuse is a person aged 18 and over who

- Has care and support needs
- Cannot protect themselves from being abused because of their needs
- Is being abused or is at risk of it



Adults at risk of abuse might be

- Adults with learning disabilities
- Older people with dementia
- People with mental health problems
- People with long term conditions
- People with physical disabilities
- People who misuse things like alcohol or drugs
- It can include carers like a family member or friend who gives support and care to adults

What is abuse?



Abuse is being treated badly by another person or group of people

It is against your human and civil rights



Abuse can be very different

It does not mean just one thing





Abuse could be something that happens once or that happens a lot

Abuse can happen in any relationship

It can mean major harm to the person suffering it

Types of abuse

 A composite image showing a close-up of a clenched fist on the left and a man in a black t-shirt and jeans grabbing a woman's arm on the right. The woman is wearing a red shirt and blue jeans.	<p>Physical Abuse</p> <p>If someone hurts you</p> <p>Like hitting, slapping, punching, or kicking</p> <p>It can also be things like burns, misuse of medication or restraint</p>
 A composite image showing a man in a blue shirt touching a woman's arm on the top and a woman in a black and white patterned dress with her arms crossed on the bottom.	<p>Sexual Abuse</p> <p>If someone touches you in a way you do not like or understand</p> <p>They might touch parts of your body like your vagina, penis or breasts</p> <p>They might have sex with you when you do not want to</p> <p>This is called rape</p> <p>Sexual abuse can also be</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• trying to rape someone• sexual assault / harassment• being made to watch porn or sex acts



Financial Abuse

If someone steals your money or belongings

It could also be being a victim of frauds or scams



Emotional Abuse

If someone makes you feel bad

They might bully or harass you

They might scare you or try to make you do something you do not want to do

Emotional abuse can also be leaving someone on their own all the time



Modern Slavery

If someone is made to work for no money

Someone might be used as a domestic servant or for sex work



Neglect

Not giving someone enough

- food
- clothes
- heating
- things to do
- personal care

Self Neglect is someone not looking after themselves, like eating properly or keeping yourself and your home clean



Discriminatory Abuse

This could be not including someone or not treating them equally because of their disability, race, gender, age, or some other reason



Domestic Violence

Where someone is threatened, hurt or abused by someone in their family or by someone they are in a relationship with



Organisational Abuse

If someone is being abused or neglected by their care provider, like in a supported living home or day centre



Mate Crime

If a vulnerable person is befriended by someone who wants to take advantage of them



Radicalisation

Radicalisation tries to draw people to extreme beliefs and to recruit them

Vulnerable people are at risk of radicalisation

What are the signs of abuse?



Signs that someone is being abused can be



- Injuries that we cannot explain or lots of visits to the doctor or hospital



- Someone being scared, upset or worried
- If someone hides and will not see their friends or family

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If someone's behaviour changes • Like they are more withdrawn or become more aggressive
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Someone having a sexually transmitted disease, being pregnant or being more sexual in their behaviour
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Someone not having enough money even when they should
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Someone not being looked after properly • The person might smell or always be in the same clothes

Who might abuse someone?



Abuse can come from anyone

It could be a person's

- family member
- their partner
- someone they are in a relationship with



It could be

- professional staff
- paid support workers
- volunteers
- other adults at risk of abuse
- neighbours
- friends
- strangers



There might be times where the person who causes harm might need and get help in their own right

This could be if they are another service user or a carer who is under a lot of stress



The local authority will look at these cases very carefully

They will look at how much the person can understand what they have done and if they might abuse the victim or others again

Where might abuse happen?

Abuse can happen anywhere

This includes



- Where the person lives – either alone or with someone else



- In a nursing, residential or day care setting



College

- In schools and colleges



Hospital

- In hospital



Police Station

- When the person is in custody like being under arrest at a police station



- Where support services are being provided



- In other places you might normally think are safe



- Public places

Safeguarding at Centre 404



Centre 404 will work with adults we support to have more control over their lives

This will help to stop abuse happening and will give people options of dealing with it if it does happen



You should have support to make decisions about your life

This includes taking risks

If you cannot make an informed choice you might need support with this



Support must be person centred

Your views, wishes, feelings and beliefs are the most important thing



If someone cannot make decisions about their safety these will be made in their best interests

This is set out in the Mental Capacity Act



You should be given information, advice and support in a way you can understand

You should be included in any decisions made about your life

'No decision about me without me'



All action taken must be sensitive and take account of your needs

We must always think about your communication needs



We will support people to contact the police, lawyers and other people in the criminal justice system when a crime has been committed



We will work together with other services to share information quickly

We will balance keeping things confidential with needing to share information so we can respond well to abuse

What Centre 404 will do



Centre 404 will make sure our staff know about this policy

We have procedures so staff know what to do if they think someone is being abused

We have a lead person for safeguarding issues



All staff and volunteers have safeguarding training

We make sure our advice and support is up to date



We understand we must share information in cases of abuse

We will report any allegations of abuse to the Care Quality Commission

Reporting Abuse



Abuse is always wrong and should not happen

If it happens to you or someone you know, you should tell someone you trust



This could be a

- support worker or manager
- family or a friend
- a nurse or social worker
- the police
- an advocate



We will take your report seriously and tell you what is happening

We will involve you as much as possible

We will take steps to keep you or anyone at risk of abuse safe



We will talk to you or the person at risk to find out what is happening

You can use an **advocate** if you need to

An advocate can help you speak up for yourself



If staff think someone might be being abused they must speak to their manager as soon as possible



If someone is at risk of immediate harm staff must call 999

If a serious crime has been committed the police should be called and the incident will be referred to the local authority and Inspection Authorities



Staff must explain to the person at risk that they have to share information with their manager

They will not share it with other staff or service users



We should get informed consent whenever possible

If this is not possible and if other people are at risk we might need to report something even without consent




The Care Act means Centre 404 must tell the local authority and partner organisations about safeguarding incidents

This is the law

Sharing information must be done in line with our confidentiality policy and the Data Protection Act

List of Contacts

	<p>Claire Curtis is the Director of Independent Living and Specialist Services at Centre 404</p> <p>She is the Safeguarding Lead responsible for Adult Safeguarding at Centre 404</p>
	<p>Managers at Centre 404 can be contacted at</p> <p>Centre 404 404 Camden Road Islington London N7 0SJ</p> <p>Telephone: 020 76 07 87 62</p>
	<p>Islington Learning Disabilities Partnership</p> <p>52d Drayton Park Islington London N5 1NS</p> <p>Telephone: 020 75 27 66 00</p>



Care Quality Commission

Telephone: 030 00 61 61 61

Email: enquiries@cqc.org.uk

Write to:

Care Quality Commission Citygate
Gallowgate
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4PA



Respond works with people with learning disabilities who have experienced abuse

They have easy read information about what abuse is and what bullying is

Go to their website

www.respond.org.uk and click on 'Easy Read Information here'



all about people

The **British Institute of Learning Disability (BILD)** website has lots of resources about keeping safe

<http://www.bild.org.uk/resources/easy-read-information/keeping-safe-easy-read-information/>



If you feel worried or have any questions, please ask your support worker or housing manager