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## **SAFEGUARDING ADULTS POLICY**

Hoopers Inc(lusive) is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people, and adults at risk. We recognise that safeguarding is a shared responsibility that requires effective collaboration between trainers, students, and other professionals. Our goal is to ensure safe working practices that identify safeguarding concerns, take appropriate action, and protect individuals from harm while respecting their rights, wishes, and feelings.

This policy applies to all trainers, committee members and guest trainers.

Hoopers Inc(lusive) will strive to create a culture of no tolerance of harm to any adults who use our organisation.

Hoopers Inc(lusive) will strive to create a culture of zero tolerance for harm against any individual using our services and to ensure all committee members and trainers are aware of the following:

- The legislation around safeguarding
- The policies and procedures around safeguarding adults
- each individual's roles and responsibilities around safeguarding adults
- What to do and who to refer to should a safeguarding concern be identified or reported.
- As an organisation we have an ethical and legal duty to safeguard adults who are vulnerable.

Safeguarding issues may include:

- Domestic abuse
- Suicidal ideation or high-risk self-harm
- Serious mental ill health for example psychosis
- Adults who disclose or are overheard to say they have harmed, or are at risk of harming, either a child or another adult



- 'Honour'-based abuse or forced marriage
- Any concerns about radicalisation and extremist views or behaviours must also be reported as a safeguarding concern.

This is not an exhaustive list but is intended to provide examples of situations where a member of the team should consider safeguarding issues in relation to an adult.

The Statutory Definition of an Adult at Risk the Safeguarding Adults legislation creates specific responsibilities on Local Authorities, Health Services, and the Police to provide additional protection from abuse and neglect to Adults at Risk.

When a Local Authority has reason to believe there is an adult at risk, they have a responsibility to investigate the situation and consider what actions need to be taken to support the adult.

The actions that need to be taken might be by the Local Authority and/or by other agencies, such as the Police and health services.

The Local Authority role includes having multi-agency procedures which coordinate the actions taken by different organisations. England: Care Act 2014 - An adult at risk is an individual aged 18 years and over who: a) has needs for care and support and; b) is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect, and; 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.

This includes adults with learning difficulties, adults with physical disabilities who depend on another to care for them, or adults with certain mental health diagnoses who lack the capacity to look after themselves.

It is recognised that people in this group are vulnerable to abuse and neglect from carers, family members, and institutions as well as from strangers.

There are different types and patterns of abuse and neglect and different circumstances in which they may take place.

Safeguarding legislation lists categories of abuse to include the following types of abuse:

- Physical
- Sexual
- Psychological
- Neglect
- Financial
- Institutional
- Domestic
- Discriminatory
- Forced Marriage



- Human Trafficking
- Modern Slavery
- Sexual Exploitation
- County Lines
- Radicalisation
- Hate Crime
- Mate Crime
- Cyber bullying

New criminal offences – including post-separation coercive control, non-fatal strangulation, threats to disclose private sexual images Extremism and Prevent Duty

Extremism is defined as the vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. We at Hoopers Inc(lusive) also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) – FGM, a collective term for a range of procedures which involve partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genitals, for non-medical reasons. It is sometimes referred to as female circumcision, or female genital cutting.

Forced marriage - where, one or both spouses do not, or cannot, consent to the marriage and pressure or abuse is used to force them into the marriage. The pressure put on people to marry against their will could include; threats or physical/sexual violence and/or emotional or psychological abuse for example making someone feel they are bringing shame on their family.

Organisational Abuse – The term ‘organisational abuse’ refers to neglect and poor care practice within a specific care setting, not only a hospital or a care home, but also the care a person receives in their own home. The abuse can either be a one-off incident or an ongoing culture of ill-treatment. The abuse can take many forms, including neglect, and poor professional practices as a result of the structure, policies, processes and practices in an organisation.

Honour Based abuse – honour-based abuse is any incident or crime involving violence, threats of violence, intimidation, coercion or abuse, this may include psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional abuse, which has or may have been committed to protect or defend the honour of an individual, family and/or community for alleged or perceived breaches of the family and/or community’s code of behaviour.

Self-harm - Self-harm describes a variety of behaviours that lead to physical harm. These may include cutting or scratching the skin, burning/branding with cigarettes/lighters, scalding, overdose of tablets or other toxins, tying ligatures around the neck, punching oneself or other surfaces, banging limbs/head and hair pulling. It may also include risk taking behaviours where someone is careless for their own safety and there is a risk of physical harm.



Suicide and or suicidal Ideation – suicide, means an act that is intended to end one’s life. Suicidal ideation, describes an individual’s contemplations, wishes, and preoccupations with death and suicide, these may be coupled with intent and plan.

Self-Neglect - an extreme lack of self-care, can be associated with hoarding behaviours and addictions. examples of self-neglect may include a lack of self-care that threatens personal health and safety, neglecting to care for personal hygiene, health or surroundings.

The Principle of Adult Safeguarding

The Care Act 2014 principles are:

- Empowerment – being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent.
- Prevention – taking 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.

Hoopers Inc(lusive) committee members and trainers must undertake the following steps in relation to safeguarding concern:

- document their concerns using the Safeguarding Form immediately after the incident or disclosure (form to be created)
- immediately inform the Hoopers Inc(lusive) safeguarding lead
- the safeguarding lead will inform both the Deputy safeguarding lead and the chairman
- collectively the lead, deputy and chair will agree a course of action.

This may include the following:

- referral to GP if known
- referral to Community Mental Health Team
- referral to Police
- referral to Adult Social Care
- referral to any other relevant agencies

If there is uncertainty about which agency to refer to, the team must try to resolve this as soon as possible.



It may be appropriate to seek guidance from a local gateway service, such as adult social care on 0345 155107 out of hours 0345 6000388

The safeguarding lead should, if possible, feed back to the adult about which referrals have been made.

The safeguarding lead must ensure the concern is recorded and reviewed, updated with actions taken.

If a concern is raised or disclosed about a specific vulnerable adult being subject to abuse or neglect, the safeguarding lead will make a referral to the local Adults Social Care department.

Hoopers Inc(lusive) will report this according to the Local Safeguarding Adults board's procedure.

Hoopers Inc(lusive) will explain to adults at the outset of any work that it may be necessary to share information where there are serious concerns about their safety or welfare

Within Hoopers Inc(lusive), the designated lead for Safeguarding is Liz Spain, who reports directly to Hoopers Inc(lusive)'s Chair and director. Hoopers Inc(lusive)'s Safeguarding Team are available to all trainers and committee members for advice and guidance.