



U3A Training Conference  
Leeds  
February 2018  
Safeguarding Training



**acute**  
TRAINING SOLUTIONS LTD

# Safeguarding Adults

Trainers Name

# Introduction

## Learning Outcomes

### By the end of the module, you will:

- Understand what is meant by the term 'safeguarding'
- Understand the responsibilities of U3A committee members
- Recognise the different types of abuse and their signs, symptoms, indicators and behaviours that may indicate a person is being abused or is at risk of harm
- Understand what to do if you are concerned about a person at risk
- Understand your own and others' duty to report a concern or incident that you are aware of

# Why do I need to know about Safeguarding?

- Safeguarding is everybody's business
- U3As have a duty of care to their membership
- We all have a duty to safeguard people at risk
- There is a duty to recognise abuse, and a need to know what to do if we have a concern
- We need to be aware of the law and guidance for safeguarding of those at risk of abuse

# Legislation

- Human Rights Act 1998
- MCA 2005
- DoLS 2007
- Equality Act 2010
- Care Act 2014
- The Counter – Terrorism and Security Act 2015



Department  
of Health

The Care Act 2014  
*Personalising care and*

21 July 2014

## **Guidance given**

**At point of registration the Charity Commission enquires as to whether the charity has a safeguarding policy in place.**

**It is advised that U3As adopt a policy.**

***See template***

# Adult at risk

**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.**

No Secrets – Department of Health

# Abuse might be...

**“Adult safeguarding is a complex issue to deal with as adults have the right to self determination as well as the ‘right to a private and family life’”.**

(Human Rights Act).

We also have to consider an individual's mental capacity to make "informed choices". Does the person adequately understand the situation they are in and are they aware of the potential consequences to their own wellbeing. Also considered is the person under "undue influence".



# Elder abuse

**"a single, or repeated act, or lack of appropriate action, occurring within any relationship where there is an expectation of trust which causes harm or distress to an older person".**

(World Health Organisation).

Elder abuse can take various forms such as physical, psychological or emotional, sexual and financial abuse. It can also be the result of intentional or unintentional neglect.

65 years of age is taken as the point beyond which abuse may be considered to be elder abuse.

# Issues

**Within your U3A  
what are the main  
safeguarding  
issues that you  
have encountered?**



# Abuse might be...

- A single act or multiple/repeated acts
- A failure to act appropriately
- Something that occurs as a result of deliberate intent, negligence or ignorance
- An act of neglect or omission
- An individual being coerced into a financial or sexual arrangement which they did not or could not have consented to
- A situation which is an abuse of trust, including failure to meeting a duty of care

# Types of abuse

<b>Neglect</b>	<b>Sexual abuse</b>
<b>Physical abuse</b>	<b>Financial abuse</b>
<b>Emotional abuse (Psychological abuse)</b>	
<b>Discrimination</b>	<b>Institutional</b>

# Causes for concern

What signs might give you cause for concern about one of your members?



# Causes for concern

## The individual...

- becomes withdrawn and uncommunicative
- is tearful and/or distressed
- is inadequately dressed for weather conditions, and/or has dirty unkempt clothing
- appears to have little or no food/heating at home
- has signs of injury or is complaining of pain but is reluctant to say what has happened

# Other causes for concern

- General neglect in appearance/poor hygiene
- Being humiliated or bullied by someone
- The member is unnaturally quiet or withdrawn
- The member starts to become forgetful where s/he wasn't previously

# Abuse, neglect and harm

## The Care Act 2014 definition of abuse & neglect

Abuse may be physical, psychological, emotional, sexual or financial (and includes abuse taking place in any setting whether a private dwelling, an institution or any other place).

## The Dept of Health definition of abuse & neglect

- Abuse is a violation of an individual's human and civil rights by any other person or persons
- Abuse may be perpetrated as the result of deliberate intent, negligence or ignorance



# Abuse, neglect and harm

## Neglect

The failure to meet a person's basic physical, emotional, social or psychological needs which is likely to result in an impairment of the person's wellbeing (e.g.; an impairment of the person's health).

## Harm

The abuse or the impairment of:

- Physical or mental health
- Intellectual, emotional, social or behavioural development

# Responding to concerns

## What action would you take?

- If the safeguarding was due to an internal issue  
ie. member to member conflict?
- If the safeguarding was due to an external issue  
ie. you thought that a member was showing  
signs of early onset dementia?

# Barriers

**Not knowing procedure and who to go to with the concern**

**Fear of getting it wrong or making it worse for victim or themselves**

**Lack of confidence or training**

**Bad experience in the past when raising concerns**

**Think that someone else will raise the concern instead**

# Disclosure

**From time to time a person may disclose information that is in relation to abuse.**

- This is not always the easiest of experiences to handle even if you are experienced
- The first step to undertaking a disclosure is to remain calm and listen carefully

# Disclosure guidance

Stop and listen carefully

Watch your own body language

Take them seriously

Do not ask any probing questions

Do not promise to keep it secret

Do not prejudge or assume

Record accurately information

Report promptly

# Next steps

**Make sure the individual is safe**

**Preserve any evidence**

**Explain who you will tell**

**Explain what will happen next**

**If you consider it an emergency, report concerns to authorities**

**If additional support is required, contact national office**

**Do not breach data protection**

**Keep a record of actions taken**

# Local details

The best location to obtain your regional contact details is the local safeguarding adults website.

**This can usually be found via the council website or your policies and procedures.**

**They will advise on the appropriate action.**



and...

**always do something**  
never do nothing



# Safeguarding responsibilities

- We all have a legal duty to report any concerns we may have about an adult at risk (Social Care Act 2014)
- If you do nothing, someone may continue to be harmed. Do not assume that someone else has already reported the matter
- If you feel uneasy about a situation, seek advice
- Where you feel an individual is at risk of immediate harm, you must report to the police immediately (call 999), followed by an appropriate referral to the Local Authority

# Organisations that help

There are a considerable number of organisations that may give advice and/or support, here are just a few

Organisation	Telephone	Web
Age UK	0800 055 6112	<a href="http://www.ageuk.org.uk">www.ageuk.org.uk</a>
Alzheimer's Society	0300 222 1122	<a href="http://www.alzheimers.org.uk">www.alzheimers.org.uk</a>
Action on Elder Abuse	0808 808141	<a href="http://www.elderabuse.org.uk">www.elderabuse.org.uk</a>
Mind	0300 1233 393	<a href="http://www.mind.org.uk">www.mind.org.uk</a>
Mencap	08088 081 111	<a href="http://www.mencap.org.uk">www.mencap.org.uk</a>

**Finally remember...**

**Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. U3A members need us to act appropriately in order to safeguard their welfare and ensure their wellbeing.**



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