

Hospital Rooms

Safeguarding Policy

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Hospital Rooms is a charitable incorporated organisation (reg 1168101) that commissions world class artists to work with mental health patients and staff to radically transform mental health units with museum quality and compliant art. We do this by programming series of tailored workshops through which artists and unit communities can collaborate. We make challenging clinical environments imaginative, thoughtful and rejuvenate.

Safeguarding is a means of protecting a person's right to live safely, free from neglect and abuse. Local authorities have duties under law to those experiencing neglect and abuse. The Care Act 2014 replaces the 'No Secrets' Guidance published by the Department of Health in 2000. The Care Act 2014 has set out a legal framework for safeguarding adults and how Local Authorities and other parts of the health and care system should safeguard adults with care and support needs who are at risk of or experiencing abuse and or neglect and unable to protect themselves as a result of those care and support needs. Local Authorities are the lead agency for Safeguarding. Safeguarding is everyone's business and working with all relevant organisations is essential in safeguarding adults.

The Care Act (2014) states Local Authorities must:

- Set up Safeguarding Adult Boards (SAB) to include the NHS and the Police to meet regularly to discuss and act upon local safeguarding issues. They will develop, implement and share their safeguarding strategy.
- Make enquiries or cause others to make them. When they think an adult with care and support needs may be at risk of abuse or neglect. They may request Mental Health trusts to conduct enquiries for adults with care and supports needs who are currently receiving care and treatment or had been within six months of their discharge from the service and where Mental Health is indicated as a need within the safeguarding concern.
- Carry out Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SAR) when there is a failure in safeguarding and the results are either severe or tragic.
- Arrange for an Independent Advocate. To represent and support the person who is the subject of a Safeguarding Enquiry or a Safeguarding Adult Review who requires help to understand and or express their views, wishes or feelings.

(DH 2014 Care and Support Statutory Guidance under the Care Act 2014)

Safeguarding practice involves the protection and promotion of wellbeing, to prevent and reduce the risk of harm, abuse or neglect and to support the adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect.

Wellbeing is described in the Care Act 2014 CH.1 as relating to:

- Personal dignity (including treatment of the individual with respect)
- Physical, mental health and emotional wellbeing
- Protection from abuse and neglect
- Control by the individual over their day-to-day life (including over care and support provided and the way they are provided)
- Participation in work, education, training or recreation
- Social and economic wellbeing
- Domestic, family and personal domains
- Suitability of the individual's living accommodation
- The individual's contribution to society

(DH 2014 Care and support Statutory Guidance under the Care Act 2014)

There are six guiding principles which underpin the approach to safeguarding:

1. Empowerment –
People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and provided with support and information. "I am asked what I want as the outcomes from the safeguarding process and these directly inform what happens."
2. Prevention –
It is better to take action before harm occurs. "I receive clear and simple information about what abuse is, how to recognise the signs and what I can do to seek help."
3. Proportionality –
The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented. "I am sure that the professionals will work in my interest, as I see them and they will only get involved as much as needed."
4. Protection –
Support and representation for those in greatest need. "I get help and support to report abuse and neglect. I get help so that I am able to take part in the safeguarding process to the extent to which I want."
5. Partnership –
Local solutions through services working together within their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse. "I know that staff treat any personal and sensitive information in confidence, only sharing what is helpful and necessary. I am confident that professionals will work together and with me to get the best result for me."
6. Accountability –
Accountability and transparency in delivering a safeguarding response. "I understand the role of everyone involved in my life and so do they."

Safeguarding must be personal to the individual and is service user led and outcome focused. This is the foundation of 'Making Safeguarding Personal' and directs safeguarding practice to include the adult with care and support needs throughout the process.

The London Multi-Agency Safeguarding Policy and Procedures (2015) aims to better safeguard adults at risk of abuse throughout London. The procedure aims to empower staff to work together in partnership with adults with care and support needs so they are:

- Safe and able to protect themselves from abuse and neglect;
- Treated fairly and with dignity and respect;
- Protected when they need to be;
- Able easily to get the support, protection and services that they need; and
- Promote an approach that concentrates on improving the life for the adults concerned.

Duties

The Hospital Rooms Board of Trustees is responsible for ensuring that Hospital Rooms has policies in place and complies with its legal and regulatory obligations. It is also responsible for ensuring policies are communicated to those working with Hospital Rooms, they are also responsible for monitoring safeguarding reporting.

The aims of this policy are:

- To give clear instructions to people working with service users through Hospital Rooms projects on their duties associated with safeguarding adults.
- To clarify expectations in relation to the reporting of safeguarding concerns and processes that follow after a concern has been raised.
- To clarify the expectations in relation to training.
- To outline the process in which Hospital Rooms monitors the effectiveness of the Safeguarding Adults policies and procedures.

This policy applies to all artists working on a Hospital Rooms project.

What is Safeguarding?

Harm or abuse can take place in a wide range of settings such as work, within peoples' own homes, hospitals, nursing homes, on the street, on the internet and phone.

The cause of harm and abuse may similarly be wide ranging e.g. harm caused unintentionally by an unsupported carer; neglect caused by staff or a service or abuse which is caused through recklessness or is intentional.

Many service users are able to safeguard their own interests and protect themselves from neglect, harm or abuse. However, some service users who may be in vulnerable situations, (i.e. homeless, isolated or experiencing poverty, please note this is not an exhaustive list) and as a result are less able to protect themselves or make decisions about their safety.

Persons who may cause harm may present in a variety of situations including as staff or professionals working with service users, carers, other service users, partners, spouses, children, social media or other members of the public/strangers.

Potential indicators of abuse might include: unexplained injuries, service user appears frightened or distressed, evidence of neglect such as undernourished or unwashed, repeated STI's or unwanted pregnancies.

Timely assessment will identify service users in the most vulnerable circumstances and embracing the principle of Making Safeguarding Personal – being person centred and outcome focused to reduce the risk of neglect, harm and abuse.

Safeguarding duty

This duty applies to an adult (person aged 18 or over) who:

- Has care and support needs;
- Are experiencing, or at risk of, abuse and neglect; and
- 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.

Procedure

1. Prior to starting a Hospital Rooms project with a trust, Hospital Rooms will ensure the trust safeguarding lead has been identified and that there is a named contact in the trust for artists on a project to raise concerns to.
2. All artists will be asked to read Safeguarding leaflets provided by the trust and confirm they have done so.
3. All artists will be expected to comply with trust policy and procedures around health and safety, safeguarding and risk.
4. Hospital Rooms will provide artists with induction information around safeguarding and health and safety.
5. We need to clarify the training requirements for charities and if we can access the e- learning provided by trusts.
6. Artists will require a DBS check before working with service users, if they fail a DBS check they will be unable to take part in the project.
7. The Hospital Rooms leads will meet with the artists and named trust safeguarding contacts at the end of each project to confirm if any safeguarding concerns have been raised

Any safeguarding concerns raised by Hospital Rooms project members will be reported to the Board of Trustees on a quarterly basis including numbers and types of incidents. Any learning will be disseminated to trustees and project members.

This document will be reviewed by the board of Hospital Rooms trustees in March 2021.

Name:

Position held:

Signed:

Date: