

Developing Links between Advocacy and Safeguarding

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Safeguarding Context

- No Secrets
- Mental Capacity Act
- Forced Marriages
- Domestic Abuse
- Safeguarding Children
- Links to Other Policies
 - Recruitment, Disciplinary procedures,
- Regulatory framework CSCI, Contracts and commissioning

No Secrets

- Clearer definition of abuse
- Identifying responsibility
- Ensuring co-ordination
- Whistle Blowing

Definition – Abuse

- ✚ Violation of an individual's human and civil rights by another person/s
- ✚ Can come in many forms
- ✚ Single or repeated act
- ✚ **May** result in physical injury or illness
- ✚ Failure to act to protect
- ✚ Importance of capacity and consent

Safeguarding Adults

- Abuse has a major impact on health well being and independence.
- Response to abuse is a key social and health care task.
- Response should be consistent, speedy and appropriate.
- Response should focus on positive outcomes for victims of abuse.

Whistle Blowing

- All staff in Manchester who work with vulnerable adults have a duty to report concerns or allegations of abuse.
- Any concerns must be reported even if a colleague or staff from another organisation may be involved.
- Draw attention to any practice in the workplace which may be abusive or neglectful. Do not not assume that someone else has already reported it.
- Report your concerns to your manager and not to your immediate colleague.

Signs of Abuse

If you sense something is wrong:

REPORT IT

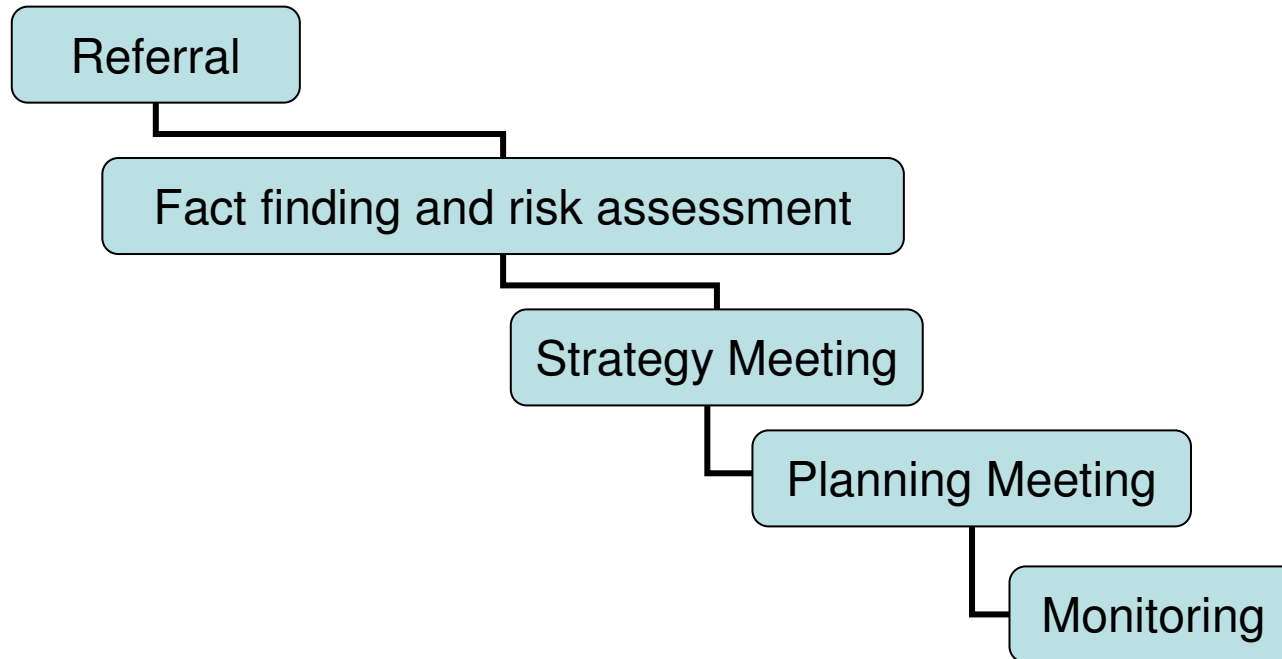
- To your manager
- Contact Centre: 0161 255 8250
- To the Safeguarding Adult Coordinator , Nigel Hunt: 0161 273 2016
- To the police: 999



First Decisions

- First decisions should always focus on any immediate safety concerns.
- Where there is any indication of a crime police consultation should take place.
- Consideration should also be given to preservation of evidence. Where sexual or physical assault is suspected the person should be discouraged from washing, bathing, eating or drinking.
- Service users and where appropriate their families should be central to any safeguarding measures.
- Where the vulnerable adult has capacity they should be the first person spoken to (This may depend on advice from police and any danger of contaminating evidence) Be mindful of the need to plan information gathering and so reduce the need of repeating the same questions to service users.

The Process of Investigation



What customers want

- + Take me seriously
- + Remain calm
- + Give practical assistance

Worries

- + Going to be in trouble/victimised
- + Sent into a home

CSCI Recommended

- In addition to that provided by IMCA for people lacking capacity, the council should ensure that people can be properly supported by independent advocates, especially during investigations

ASC Response

- Audit of available services
- Definition of roles of advocates
- Training of advocates
- Clarification of referral criteria.
- Proposals for action

Additional Factors

- Personalisation agenda – Individual budgets etc.
- Deregulated workforce
- Emphasis on prevention
- Recognising strengths and challenges of diverse community
- Resources – accessing CRB/capacity in advocacy groups

Advocacy

- Advocacy can be defined as “taking action to help people say what they want, secure their rights, represent their interests and obtain services they need”.
- Advocacy offers the opportunity for people to express their views and aspirations, it aims to empower and involve people in shaping the services they receive and ensures that their voice is heard.
- Essentially, the advocate represents and supports the person so that the person may participate as far as possible in any relevant decision or action to be taken.

Contact

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