

## Safeguarding Adults Practice Guidance

### Out of authority concerns

The practice guidance explains what should happen should a safeguarding adults concern be raised about a person who usually lives out of area or where the abuse happens out of area.

The Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) have produced [guidance](#) on when abuse or neglect occurs in a different local authority area. The guidance clarifies both strategic and operational responsibilities and actions to be taken by host authorities and placing authorities with respect to people who live in one area, but for whom commissioning responsibility remains with the area from which they originated.

**Host Authority:** The Local Authority or NHS Body in the area where the abuse occurred.

**Placing Authority:** The Local Authority or NHS Body that has commissioned the service for an individual involved in a safeguarding adults allegation.

#### Principles

The following principles underpin the guidance:

- The host authority will have overall responsibility for co-ordinating the safeguarding adults investigation and for ensuring clear communication with all placing authorities and other stakeholders, especially with regards to the scheduling of meetings and the planning of the investigation.
- The placing authority will have a continuing duty of care to the vulnerable adult or adult at risk of harm that they have placed.
- The placing authority will contribute to the investigation as required, and maintain overall responsibility for the individual they have placed.
- The placing authority should ensure, through contracting arrangements and in service specifications, that the provider has arrangements in place for protecting vulnerable adults or adults at risk of harm and for managing concerns, which in turn link with local

(host authority) multi-agency safeguarding adults policy and procedures. This includes the requirement to inform the host authority of both individuals and placing authorities affected by the safeguarding concerns.

- Authorities may negotiate flexible arrangements, for example relating to another authority undertaking assessments, reviews, investigative activities or other supportive activities on behalf of a placing authority. In such cases, the placing authority would maintain overall responsibility for the person they have placed, and reimbursement would be required and agreed as part of such negotiations.
- Providers of care and support services have rights and responsibilities, and may be required to undertake their own investigations. The host authority must ensure effective and timely communication with the provider of care throughout the investigation.