SAFEGUARDING ADULTS TEAM TALK

Safeguarding Adults Decision Support Guidance

INTRODUCTION

- The new Safeguarding Adults Decision Support Guidance is intended to strengthen, not replace, professional judgement. It encourages us to think critically about risk, proportionality and the adult's desired outcomes while ensuring concerns receive the right response at the right time.
- The guidance replaces the previous Risk Threshold Tool, reflecting current safeguarding legislation, practice guidance and Making Safeguarding Personal principles. The new guidance recognises that safeguarding decisions are rarely straightforward and should not be viewed as a simple pass/fail threshold test.
- Alternative pathways are suggested where safeguarding adults criteria are not met, for example where there are concerns about a person's health and wellbeing but no concerns about abuse or neglect.
- The guidance has expanded to include more categories of risk, including sections on: medication incidents; pressure ulcers; fire; abuse between adults with care and support needs and exploitation.
- The guidance should be used routinely whenever safeguarding concerns arise and should support reflective, defensible decision making.

TEAM TALK REFLECTIVE QUESTIONS

1. How might moving away from the term threshold change the way we think about safeguarding adult concerns?
2. Can you think of a recent situation where a concern may not have met safeguarding adult concern criteria but still required a significant multi-agency response?
3. What factors should we consider before deciding whether to raise a safeguarding adult concern?
4. When we decide not to raise a safeguarding adult concern, how can we be assured that risk has still been addressed and documented appropriately?
5. Which part of the new Safeguarding Adults Decision Support Guidance do you find most helpful and how will it help you in practice?
6. Final reflection – how will discussions today impact upon the things you do to keep adults at risk safe?

FURTHER RESOURCES AND TRAINING

- Safeguarding Adults Decision Support Guidance
- LGA Quick Guide to understanding what constitutes a safeguarding concern

HOW TO USE THE SAFEGUARDING ADULTS TEAM TALK



- The Newcastle Safeguarding Adults Board is exploring different ways that key messages can be cascaded to front-line staff. Although formal training can be an important aspect of learning, we are trying to encourage creative ways of learning - in diverse, flexible, and innovative ways. The Team Talk training tool is intended to be used in a Team Meeting but could equally be used in a supervision scenario.
- The tool is divided up into three sections:

INTRODUCTION

Details any relevant legislation or learning from Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs). This information could be used to provide an introduction to the topic – why it is being discussed.

TEAM TALK REFLECTIVE QUESTIONS

Suggested questions which should prompt discussion around a particular topic area. Is it not intended that there are right and wrong answers to these questions, hopefully they will facilitate discussion around the topic and give the opportunity for practitioners to share experiences and knowledge that are relevant to their role/p rofession/ service. Try to take an appreciative approach (see below).

FURTHER RESOURCES/TRAINING

Includes a variety of resources, some of which could potentially be used within the team meeting e.g. showing a video/animation or are there for team members to access at a later date.

The Manager of the Team could send out the information in advance to allow team members to consider the topic and questions that are posed. Using the Team Meeting Training Tool could be used to evidence Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for those professions who are required to evidence this.

TAKING AN APPRECIATIVE APPROACH

Focus on Strengths and Positive Outcomes:

·What went well? Celebrating successful safeguarding interventions and good practice.

·Encouraging staff and volunteers to recognise and build on strengths within their teams and cases.

Solution-Focused Reflection:

·“What solutions can we implement to improve this situation?”

·Focus on next steps and positive change.

Collaborative and Open Discussion:

·Foster an open dialogue where everyone feels heard and valued.

·Share ideas and experiences to promote mutual learning and team building

We'd like to know more about the use of the Team Talks, please complete this short survey to help us understand their use and improve them for the future.