

## **SAFEGUARDING POLICY**

### **Korus Health Ltd**

The aim of this **Policy** is to make sure we (Korus Health) report **safeguarding** concerns about children, young people, adults and vulnerable adults at risk to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).

This policy is designed to support staff in raising any concerns with the DSL.

It is our Policy to ensure all staff are trained to Level 1 Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults and Children with the DSL being trained to Level 3.

We follow a safe recruitment practice by ensuring that an Enhanced DBS check is completed.

**Any concerns with a patient (directly or indirectly) should be raised with the DSL in writing or via a phone call. It is the responsibility of the DSL to record the next steps. DSL to contact MARU or MASH with any concerns (all concerns must be recorded).**

*'Say something if you see something'* -It is **everyone's** responsibility to report any concerns.

#### ***What is Safeguarding?***

The term safeguarding is used to define actions taken to protect vulnerable groups from harm. This harm might come from adults or other children and, as someone working closely with vulnerable groups, it's important you understand what safeguarding is and why it's important.

#### ***Definitions***

A **vulnerable adult** is defined as a person who, for any reason, may be unable to take care of themselves or protect themselves against significant harm or exploitation. Safeguarding vulnerable adults involves reducing or preventing the risk of significant harm from neglect or abuse.

**This does not only refer to adults who lack capacity. Adults with full capacity can still be considered vulnerable if they are unable to take care of themselves or protect themselves from significant harm.**

#### **When safeguarding a vulnerable adult you:**

- Ensure they can live in safety, free from abuse and neglect.
- Empower them by encouraging them to make their own decisions and provide informed consent.
- Prevent the risk of abuse or neglect, and stop it from occurring.
- Promote their well-being and take their views, wishes, feelings and beliefs into account.

#### **Safeguarding Children**

Legally, a child is defined as anyone under the age of 18. Therefore, safeguarding children is about protecting all those under 18 from harm.

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**When safeguarding a child you:**

- Protect them from abuse, maltreatment and exploitation.
- Prevent anything from harming their health or development.
- Ensure they can grow up under safe and effective care.
- Take action to ensure they have the best outcomes in life.

Part of the safeguarding process is identifying and protecting children suffering from, or likely to suffer from, significant harm.

**All children are covered by child protection and safeguarding guidance and legislation.**

***Why is Safeguarding Important?***

Working with vulnerable groups is very rewarding, but it comes with many responsibilities. Everyone has a right to live their lives free from fear, abuse and neglect and, if you work with or around vulnerable groups, you have a responsibility to protect their safety and basic human rights.

Missing warning signs could have serious consequences and leave vulnerable individuals open to abuse, neglect and exploitation. Poor safeguarding or a lack of safeguarding within your organisation could result in:

- Cases of abuse and neglect being missed.
- An increase in the cases or severity of abuse and neglect if they go unnoticed.
- Vulnerable adults and children being treated with a lack of compassion or empathy.
- Increased confusion and distress for individuals who are suffering but do not know who to talk to. This could adversely impact their behaviour, so you might notice more outbursts.
- Loss of dignity and liberty for vulnerable adults.

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## PREVENT Policy

Terrorist-related activity is not a subject normally associated with the health service; however, the health sector is in a key position to support susceptible individuals. The Department of Health recognises the NHS nationally has more person to person contact than any other agency in the whole of the UK. We all have a role in ensuring our communities remain safe.

Radicalisation is a new category of adult abuse and sits in Safeguarding for both Adults and Children

The Prevent strategy focuses on three broad objectives:

- Objective 1: respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it.
- Objective 2: prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support.
- Objective 3: work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation which we need to address.

There is less of a threat in Cornwall from Islamist extremist ideology than in other parts of the UK, but this still remains a possibility. Locally we need to be alert to the increase in extreme right wing groups / ideology currently.

What forms can extremist activity take?

Extremist activity is a sign someone is likely to have been radicalised (or is in the process of being radicalised), and so is at risk of engaging in or supporting terrorism.

Examples of extremist activity can include:

- Giving out leaflets or displaying posters with violent extremist messages.
- Looking at violent extremist forums or websites on the intranet or internet.
- Engaging with violent extremist groups on social media.
- Attending meetings in private homes or community centres.
- Watching terrorist or violent extremist promotional videos.
- Taking part in demonstrations or giving speeches.
- Downloading terrorist manuals for example, on making explosive devices.
- Fundraising for extremist groups.
- Online posting which promote extremist messages, or glorify violence or acts of terrorism.
- Engaging in training, or travelling to conflict zones to take part in, or support guerrilla / military activity or to join groups such as ISIS – or making plans for travel.

Where healthcare workers encounter someone who may be in the process of being radicalised towards terrorism, it is vital that the individual is appropriately supported.

Prevent operates in a pre-criminal space, before any criminal activity has taken place. Prevent is about supporting and protecting those people that might be susceptible to radicalisation, ensuring that individuals are diverted away before the crime is committed.

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Contact Information

What to do if you have concerns:

Korus Health staff has a responsibility to recognise and report possible concerns about radicalisation. This responsibility extends to reporting concerns about staff members as well.

Please contact your Safeguarding and PREVENT Lead, Michaela Ettinger.

To report concerns to the Police, call 101. If there is an emergency, call 999 or the Anti-Terrorism Hotline on 0800 789 321.

Seek advice or make a Prevent referral if

- You believe that someone may be at risk of radicalisation (either directly or online)
- You suspect someone is trying to radicalise a vulnerable person

If the Prevent Lead is unavailable or it is out of hours and you assess the concern cannot delay, please consider contacting the police and completing the Prevent National Referral Form. Send the completed form to: [Prevent.referrals@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Prevent.referrals@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk) with a copy to: [michaela.ettinger@nhs.net](mailto:michaela.ettinger@nhs.net) (who will need to know of any referrals staff are making).

Consent for referral is always preferred, but if you have any concerns about discussing with the person or their parent / carer, or referral increasing any risks please do not let this deter you from referring. You can discuss these concerns with your line manager and / or the Safeguarding/Prevent Lead/Police. Consent is not required at the point of referral if you deem this will increase risk. Please make the referral and the Safeguarding Team or Police will advise regarding consent once the initial information gathering by the Police has taken place and any risks have been assessed.

**Michaela Ettinger, Operations Manager is Korus Health’s Safeguarding and Prevent Lead.**

**Email:** [michaela.ettinger@nhs.net](mailto:michaela.ettinger@nhs.net)

**Contact:** 01872 555755 or Operations Manager’s mobile

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**SAFEGUARDING**

**USEFUL CONTACTS**

**Safeguarding Designated Lead: Michaela Ettinger**  
**Safeguarding Designated Deputy: Leigh-Ann Tyler**  
**Office: 01872 555755**  
**Mobile: Operations Manager's Mobile Number**  
**Human Resources' Manager's Mobile Number**  
**Email: michaela.ettinger@nhs.net**

**Key Contacts**

**RCHT Safeguarding Team (adult, children and maternity)**  
**Telephone: 01872 254551**

**MARU: Multi Agency Referral Unit (Cornwall)**  
**Telephone: 0300 123 1116**  
**E.mail: [MultiAgencyReferralUnit@cornwall.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:MultiAgencyReferralUnit@cornwall.gcsx.gov.uk)**

**MASH: Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (Devon)**  
**Telephone: 0345 155 1071**

**Police (non Emergency):**  
**Telephone: 101**

**Police (Emergency): 999**  
**Telephone: 999**

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