

Adult Protection Framework – Staff Information Sheet

What is the Adult Protection Framework?

Cheshire Ireland is currently implementing our Adult Protection Framework in all Cheshire services.

The Adult Protection Framework covers three areas:

1. How we are working to make sure people are safe and protected from possible abuse (The **Adult Protection Framework** document)
2. The definition of a 'right relationship', the definition of abusive behaviours and your responsibility to report allegations or concerns around abuse (the **Adult Protection Policy**)
3. How allegations of abuse are managed and investigated (**The Abuse Reporting and Investigation Procedures**)

1. Safety and Protection

The Adult Protection Framework document outlines how we are working to ensure people receiving a Cheshire service:

- Are safe and protected from possible abuse
- Have their rights protected and promoted
- Have their well being and personal development promoted.

People using a Cheshire service have a right to be free from all forms of abuse and neglect.

All staff are responsible for treating people using Cheshire services with dignity and respect and for ensuring that the Charter of Rights is lived up to every day.

2. The Adult Protection Policy

A policy is a rule – it tells people what is okay and not okay to do.

The Adult Protection policy outlines the right relationship that should exist between residents and staff in all Cheshire services.

The policy defines the various types of abuse which include:

- Physical
- Emotional & psychological
- Financial
- Institutional
- Sexual
- Neglect
- Bullying
- Harassment

The policy outlines the responsibility of all staff in Cheshire to report concerns they have about abuse, neglect or mistreatment. These concerns can be reported without fear of reprisal.

3. Abuse Reporting and Investigation Procedures

These procedures provide information on how concerns or allegations of abuse are reported and investigated.

The steps in the procedure include:



What is my responsibility around this policy?

- To engage with people in the 'right relationship' (mutual respect, humanness, honesty, openness, trust)
- To recognise the signs of abuse, mistreatment and neglect.
- To understand your duty to report any concerns you have about abuse, neglect or mistreatment of people using a Cheshire service
- To cooperate as requested with an investigation process

What should I do if I have a concern about the abuse or neglect of a person using a Cheshire Service?

- Report the concern to your Service Manager
- Complete the Abuse Report Form
- Read the Abuse Reporting and Investigation procedures for further information on the investigations process

What Happens When I Raise A Concern?

Your concern will be listened to and acted on. You may be asked to make a written report on the facts and you will be kept informed of the progress of the investigation.

What happens if a person using a Cheshire Service is abusive towards me?

The matter will be investigated as outlined in the procedures. However, the living and personal circumstance of the person and the complex environment in which we work, must always be taken into consideration.

Remember...

The main focus of the Adult Protection Framework is about ensuring people using Cheshire Services are safe, protected and free from abuse and neglect. This is something to which we are all committed to.

For staff working in Cheshire services, there are also a number of documents which provide guidance about protecting staff welfare and rights. These include:

- The Trust In Care Policy
- The Dignity at Work Policy for the Health Services

Visit www.cheshire.ie for further information on the Adult Protection Framework