



Vulnerable Adults Protection Policy

Bury Defence Academy is committed to ensuring that vulnerable people who use our services are not abused and that working practices minimise the risk of such abuse. The Management Committee of Bury Defence Academy, have a duty to identify abuse and report it.

Definition

Vulnerable adults are people who are over 18 years of age and are getting or may need help and services to live in the community. Vulnerable adults may be unable to take care of themselves and unable to protect themselves from harm or exploitation by other people.

Abuse can include:

- physical,
- financial,
- material,
- sexual,
- psychological,
- discriminatory,
- emotional abuse
- neglect.

Abuse can take place in any setting, public or private, and can be perpetuated by anyone.

Rights & Responsibilities

Responsibilities of the management committee:

- To ensure volunteers are aware of vulnerable adult's need for protection
- To notify the appropriate agencies if abuse is identified or suspected
- To support and where possible secure the safety of individuals and ensure that all referrals to services have full information in relation to identified risk and vulnerability
- To Criminal Records Board (CRB) check volunteers that have access to or work with Vulnerable Adults

Responsibilities of the management committee

- To be familiar with the vulnerable adult protection policy
- To take appropriate action in line with the policy of the management committee.
- To declare any existing or subsequent convictions.

Shizada Javid will be the designated vulnerable adults' officer, and if anything is suspected all Volunteers will contact this officer. Their contact details are 07427660941.

If the suspected abuse involves the vulnerable adults' officer, Fawad Sabir, will contact the current Chairperson Iftikhar Ahmed

Support for those who report abuse



All those making a complaint or allegation or expressing concern, whether they are volunteers, users or members of the general public should be reassured that:

- They will be taken seriously
- Their comments will usually be treated confidentially, but their concerns may be shared with the appropriate authorities if they or others are at significant risk

The Vulnerable Adult has the right:

- To be made aware of this policy
- To have alleged incidents recognised and taken seriously
- To receive fair and respectful treatment throughout
- To be involved in any process as appropriate
- To receive information about the outcome

We are also committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

Definitions

Abuse can be defined as any behaviour towards a person that deliberately or unknowingly causes them harm or endangers their life or violates their rights.

Types of Abuse are (but not limited to):

- **Physical** – hitting, slapping, pushing, kicking, misuse of medication, inappropriate use of restraint, burning/scalding, cutting/wounding
- **Sexual** – including any sexual acts to which the person at risk has not consented or is not able to consent to or is undertaken in the context of exploitative relationships e.g. Child Sexual Exploitation, forced age, inappropriate access to images (whether moving or still) depicting acts from the span of sexual behaviour)
- **Psychological/Emotional** (for example being repeatedly made to feel unhappy, humiliated, afraid or devalued by others) – threats of harm or abandonment, isolation or withdrawal from support networks, withdrawal of affection, love and care and supporting a child's proper emotional development
- **Financial or material** (stealing from or denying access to money or possessions) – fraud, exploitation, coercion into lending money, misuse or misappropriation of property
- **Neglect and acts of omission** – ignoring medical or physical care needs, access to social care or education, withholding the necessities of life, medication, nutrition food and heating
- **Discriminatory abuse** - usually motivated by discriminatory and oppressive attitudes towards race gender, culture background, religion physical and/ or sensory impairment, sexual orientation and age
- **Domestic violence** - all forms of abuse can be experienced in a family setting by a partner, family member, or with someone with whom there is a relationship
- **Institutional abuse** - mistreatment of people brought about by poor or inadequate care or support, or systematic poor practice that affects the whole care setting. It occurs when the individual's wishes and needs are sacrificed for the smooth running of a group, service or organisation i.e. in supported/sheltered accommodation
- **Organisational abuse** - including neglect and poor care practice within an institution or specific care setting such as a hospital or care home, for example, or in relation to care



provided in one's own home. This may range from one off incidents to on-going ill-treatment. It can be through neglect or poor professional practice as a result of the structure, policies, processes and practices within an organisation.

- **Modern slavery** - encompasses slavery, human trafficking, and forced labour and domestic servitude. Traffickers and slave masters use whatever means they have at their disposal to coerce, deceive and force individuals into a life of abuse, servitude and inhumane treatment.

| Dates | Name | Signed |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 01/06/2022 | Ifti Ahmed (Chairman) | <i>Ifti Ahmed</i> |
| Reviewed 01/06/2023 | Ifti Ahmed (Chairman) | <i>Ifti Ahmed</i> |