

Warrington Safeguarding Adults Procedures – Section 1: Introduction

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1 Introduction

1.1 The Care Act 2014

This multi-agency procedure has been revised in line with the Care Act (2014), Regulations and Statutory Guidance, which sets out the new statutory framework for adult safeguarding and replaces the previous 'No Secrets' guidance.

The provisions of the Care Act are intended to promote and secure wellbeing. The definition of wellbeing within the Care Act is clear that protection from abuse and neglect is a fundamental part of an adult's wellbeing. Identification and management of risk is an essential part of the assessment process; the risk to an adult of abuse or neglect should be considered at this point.

The Care Act sets out a range of requirements for local authorities, the police and the NHS, as statutory partners of Safeguarding Adults Boards (SAB), with implications for a much broader range of organisations and individuals in a framework which emphasises cooperation and multi-agency working.

For more information see [The Care Act Statutory Guidance](#).

1.2 The new legislation requires local authorities to:

- Make enquiries (or cause others to do so) when it has reasonable cause to suspect that an adult in its area is experiencing, or is at risk of abuse or neglect (Section 42). An enquiry should establish whether any action needs to be taken to prevent or stop abuse or neglect, and if so, by whom. The local authority, in its role as lead and coordinator should assure itself that any enquiry under section 42 satisfies its duties under the Act
- Establish a Safeguarding Adult's Board (Section 43)
- Have arrangements in place to conduct a Safeguarding Adults Review (replacing serious case reviews) where an adult dies or where there is concern about how a member organisation of the board conducted itself (Section 44)
- Arrange for an independent advocate to represent and support an adult who is the subject of a safeguarding enquiry or safeguarding adult review where the adult has 'substantial difficulty' in being involved in the process and has no one else to support them (section 68)
- Co-operate with each of its relevant partners in order to protect the adult. In their turn each relevant partner must also co-operate with the local authority

1.3 Making Safeguarding Personal

The Care Act Statutory Guidance puts the adult at risk at the centre of safeguarding and encourages the development of personalised responses to safeguarding situations. This is in response to messages from research that people using safeguarding services want more involvement in safeguarding situations, having more choice and control to achieve

the outcomes they want.

These procedures support the principle of promoting wellbeing which underpins the Care Act. They are reliant on partnership working and good communication between all individuals and agencies involved in safeguarding situations.

1.4 Review of these Procedures

These multi-agency procedures are overseen by Warrington Safeguarding Adults Board and will be reviewed and updated in the light of developments in law, guidance, research, lessons learnt and best practice. All organisations must have safeguarding policies and procedures which are consistent with the multi-agency policy and procedures.

In order to respond appropriately where abuse or neglect may be taking place, anyone in contact with the adult at risk must understand their own role and obligations within these procedures.