

The Foundation for Psychotherapy and Counselling

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Registered in England and Wales Company Number 3610301

Safeguarding Policy

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility: Safeguarding vulnerable adults is a part of the wider role of safeguarding and promoting welfare. This refers to the activity which is undertaken to protect specific vulnerable adults who are suffering or are at risk of suffering significant harm. Everyone has a responsibility to safeguard vulnerable adults and promote their welfare.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of vulnerable adults – and in particular protecting them from significant harm - depends upon effective joint working between agencies and professionals which have different roles and expertise. Some of the most vulnerable adults and those at greatest risk of social exclusion, will need co-ordinated help from health, education, social care, the voluntary sector and other agencies, including justice services.

For those vulnerable adults who are suffering, or at risk of suffering significant harm, joint working is essential, to safeguard and promote their welfare and, where necessary, to help bring to justice the perpetrators of crimes against them. All agencies and professionals should:

- be alert to and understand potential indicators of physical, emotional and sexual abuse or neglect;
- be alert to and understand the risks which individual abusers, or potential abusers, may pose to vulnerable adults;
- share and help to analyse information so that an assessment can be made of the individual's needs and circumstances;
- contribute to whatever actions are needed to safeguard and promote the individual's welfare;
- take part in regularly reviewing the outcomes for the individual against specific plans; and
- work co-operatively with parents and/or other carers unless this is inconsistent with ensuring the individual's safety.

FPC takes seriously the welfare of all vulnerable adults and aims to ensure they are welcomed into a safe and caring environment.

FPC recognises it is the responsibility of each one of its workforce, paid and unpaid, and members to prevent the neglect, physical, sexual or emotional abuse of vulnerable adults and to report any form of abuse discovered or suspected.

FPC recognises its responsibility to implement, maintain and regularly review procedures, which are designed to prevent and to be alert to such abuse. FPC is committed to maintaining good links with the statutory social services authorities.

For consistency and practicality, FPC's procedures for safeguarding children and young people will be the same as those for safeguarding vulnerable adults except where the law, or the specific circumstances of an individual's need require otherwise.

Note: This is an organisational policy. Individual members of FPC, when working with clients, should be guided by the Safeguarding requirements and guidance of the Professional Standards Authority Register held by BPC, UKCP and BACP with which they are registered.

Approved by the FPC Board of Directors on 2nd November 2020