

**KPC YOUTH**  
**PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE ADULTS POLICY**  
**REVIEWED OCTOBER 2011**

KPC Youth, works with all young people aged 8 - 25 years, and aims to safeguard the welfare of vulnerable adults (those who are 18+) by protecting them from physical, sexual and psychological harm, in accordance with the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006. This policy will run alongside our existing Child Protection Policy, Confidentiality Policy and Equal Opportunities Policy.

**Definition:**

- Vulnerable Adult:

*A person who is 18 years of age or over and who is or may be in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age, or illness and who may be unable to take care of him/herself, or unable to protect him/herself against significant harm or serious exploitation.*

- Abuse:

*Abuse is the violation of an individual's human and civil rights by any other person or persons*

It is very important that all staff and volunteers of KPC Youth should be alert to the possible indicators of abuse. Anyone who knows or is concerned about or suspects that a vulnerable adult is being harmed or at risk from being harmed **MUST** pass on those concerns.

**Categories of Abuse include:**

- Physical:

*This includes hitting, slapping, pushing, kicking, misuse of medication, undue restraint or inappropriate sanctions*

- Sexual:

*This includes rape and sexual assault or sexual acts to which the vulnerable adult has not or could not consent and/or was pressurized into consent*

- Psychological:

*This includes threats of harm or abandonment, humiliation, verbal or racial abuse, isolation or withdrawal from services or supportive networks.*

- Financial:

*This includes material abuse and refers to theft, fraud, pressure around wills, property or inheritance, misuse and misappropriation of benefits.*

### **Signs to Look for include:**

- Frequent or repeated injuries
- Very low self-esteem
- Fearful and withdrawn behaviour
- Failure to thrive & meet developmental milestone

### **Procedures for the Protection of Vulnerable Adults**

Any staff member or volunteer who sees a person who is being abused or in need of immediate medical assistance must:

1. Seek medical assistance for the injured person
2. Ensure that an abused person found alone is placed with an appropriate individual
3. Advise the Senior Youth Worker, Project Coordinator or Chair of the KPC Youth Management Committee who will contact Social Services Duty Desk on 01656 642320
4. In an extreme emergency, dial 999 and alert Social Services
5. Wherever appropriate enlist the co-operation of an appropriate individual, eg: another youth worker, volunteer on duty

*It is essential to be sensitive, particularly in cases of possible sexual abuse or situations where there is a danger of exposing the person to further immediate risk of abuse or injury.*

**If the incident does not appear to require emergency procedure or there is insubstantial evidence of abuse or neglect:**

- Staff/Volunteers should be sensitive to the individuals cultural, racial and other factors affecting the individual
- Staff observing any indicators of abuse should initially and sensitively seek an explanation
- If the individual is un-cooperative then the Chairperson is to be informed, and the individual/individual's carer will be advised that the condition may be discussed with other professionals for the best interests of the individual - the individual's consent must be sought before this is done. If the individual is considered to not have the capacity to be aware of the course of action being taken, this must be agreed with his carer/guardian before proceeding further (unless the individual is considered at risk of harm)
- Concerns/incidents must be logged with date/time and nature
- If the individual begins to disclose information about abuse, staff should explain the limitations imposed on them under our Confidentiality Policy, and a record of the information given recorded as soon as possible in a simple & factual way, and then held securely.
- If the Chairperson finds cause for concern, then he/she will contact the appropriate officer at Social Services, the GP or the police as necessary
- Should staff need to attend reviews, case conferences or court proceedings they should be accompanied by the Senior Youth Worker or another appropriate Senior Member of staff.

**KPC Youth will ensure that the following is undertaken to avoid the occurrence of adult abuse:**

- Ensure all staff and volunteers have CRB Checks
- Each member of staff or volunteer will have a job description and sign as having read this policy
- Regular supervision will be given for staff and volunteers
- Training opportunities will be made on Child & Adult Protection procedures
- Ensure that the vulnerable adult knows how to voice their comments or complain if there is anything they are unhappy with

**If the behaviour of one of your colleagues towards a vulnerable adult causes you concern:**

- Do not dismiss your concerns
- Do not confront the person about whom you have concerns
- Contact the Chair of our Management Committee

**Contacts:**

Chair of KPC Youth Management Committee: Tel: 01656 815130

Social Services:

Protection of Vulnerable Adults (POVA) Team:

Adult Protection Coordinator	Leigh Thorne	642476
Adult Protection Officers	Russ Warwick	642482
	Kenn Collier	642478
Adult Protection Support	Delyth Olphert	642477
Older People's Designed Lead Managers:	Terri Warrilow	763120
	Celia Ware	642274
	Adrian Bradshaw	642261

Adult Protection Designated Lead Managers

Mental Health Services	Ashley Griffiths	763058
Learning Disability Services	Lesley Acton	815353
Physical Disability	Amanda Aldridge	815486
First Contact Team	Sue Smith	642363

Duty Social Worker 01656 642320

Emergency Duty Team 01443 206553  
After Hours 01443 204010

Police:

Senior Co-ordinating Officer	01656 869420
Divisional Police	01656 655555 ext 21/400
PPU Unit	651660

Health:

Bro Morgannwg Trust Moyra Griffiths 01792 487483

Bridgend Local Health Board 01656 754400