



**Aldgate  
Freedom  
Foundation**

## **Adult Safeguarding Policy**

### Aim of this policy

This policy sets out the key elements and overarching principles of Aldgate Freedom Foundation's commitment to safeguarding. Safeguarding is a term used to describe a range of activity aimed at ensuring that children and adults who need care and support are not abused. This policy is specifically aimed at safeguarding adults.

The Charity Commission asserts that safeguarding policy and procedures are vital for the effective operation of any charity that works with vulnerable groups.

### Policy Statement

Aldgate Freedom Foundation is committed to creating and maintaining a safe and positive environment for all. It accepts its responsibility to assist in the welfare of all people and to safeguard them from poor practice, abuse and bullying. All individuals within the organisation - trustees/beneficiaries/staff - have a role and responsibility to help ensure the safety and welfare of adults.

Aldgate Freedom Foundation accepts that we are required to fulfil our duty of care, which means that we must do everything that can be reasonably expected of us to help safeguard and protect people from harm, and to act when we suspect that someone is being harmed or is at risk of harm.

### Designated Person

The person designated within Aldgate Freedom Foundation to whom concerns should be reported is Pauline Seymour.

### What is Adult Safeguarding?

The official definition of "Adult safeguarding" is working with adults with care and support needs to keep them safe from abuse or neglect. It is an important part of what many public services do, and a key responsibility of local authorities (Care Act 2014).

The safeguarding duties apply to an adult who:

- has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs)
- is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect
- is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of, abuse or neglect, as a result of those care and support needs

Adults who fulfil these criteria are 'adults at risk'.

People can have a need for care and support for a variety of reasons – for example they may have a learning disability, a physical disability, a chronic health condition or have a mental health issue.

Such conditions may bring with them additional vulnerabilities, however having care and support needs does not mean that people are automatically adults at risk and need safeguarding.

Safeguarding adults is underpinned by:

- The Care Act 2014
- Mental Capacity Act (MCA) 2005

Types of abuse suffered by adults identified in the Care Act 2014 are:

- Physical
- Sexual
- Psychological/Emotional/Mental
- Financial and material
- Neglect and act of omission
- Discriminatory
- Organisational
- Modern Day Slavery
- Domestic Violence
- Self Neglect – including hoarding

Other types of harm that adults may experience include:

- Cyber Bullying
- Forced Marriage
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Mate Crime
- Radicalisation

### Communication

Aldgate Freedom Foundation will make available its Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures to all beneficiaries and partner organisations.

### What to do if you have concerns about an adult beneficiary

Trustees, beneficiaries and staff are not expected to be experts in recognition of a safeguarding concern; however, all adults working and/or participating have a duty of care to be vigilant and respond appropriately to suspicions of poor practice, abuse or bullying. They should also respond to any indication of abuse that may be occurring outside of the Foundation's setting.

This does not mean that it is your responsibility to decide if a situation is poor practice, abuse or bullying, but it is your responsibility to report your concerns to the Designated Person.

If you cannot contact the Designated Person or feel that your concerns are not being dealt with properly you can contact the Local Authority Adult Social Care Team (details below).

## What to do if you have a concern about an adult

