



Safeguarding adults at risk policy

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to define how Make 2nds Count operates to safeguard adults at risk of harm in order to;

- protect them from harm.
- provide staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding.

We recognise we have a duty of care and we are committed to the protection and safety of everyone who comes into contact with our organisation; including adults at risk involved as participants in all of our activities. We also have a duty to safeguard and support our staff and volunteers.

This policy is a fundamental part of our governance responsibilities and priorities. Trustees responsibilities include ensuring that the organisation provides a safe environment and protects staff, volunteers, and anyone who comes into contact with it from abuse or maltreatment of any kind.

We are committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects our legal responsibilities and government guidance requirements. The organisation recognises that it has responsibilities for the safety and care of children under the Children Act 1989 and 2004 and Working Together 2023. The organisation will act in accordance with all relevant legislation including the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, the Terrorism Act (2000) and the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

We recognize that we are likely to have contact with children and vulnerable adults and may become aware of situations where we believe that an individual may be at risk. In such circumstances, we will exercise our responsibility to safeguard and protect in accordance with the legislation. Where necessary, this duty to safeguard will supersede an expected right to confidentiality on the part of the individual concerned.

This policy needs to be read in conjunction with the safeguarding procedures and the wider policies and procedures for the organisation which when combined develop a comprehensive and more robust framework for safeguarding including: Code of Conduct and the following policies and procedures; Safeguarding Incident Plan, Crisis Intervention Policy, privacy policy, volunteer policy, Whistleblowing, Complaints, Health and Safety, Finance, and communications.

Definitions

- **Adult at risk of abuse or neglect** defined by the Care Act 2014 as;
someone over 18 years old who,
 - has care and support needs

- is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect
- as a result of their care and support needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.

If someone has care and support needs but is not currently receiving care or support from a health or care service they may still be an adult at risk

Persons affected

This policy applies to everyone working/ volunteering on behalf of Make 2nds Count, including the board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers, contractors and agency staff.

Safeguarding policy

- We believe everyone has a responsibility to promote the welfare of all adults as at risk of harm, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them.
- We recognise that while it is the responsibility of the relevant statutory agencies to determine whether or not abuse has taken place it is everyone's responsibility to report any concerns and all staff, volunteers, trustees and contractors will know how to recognise and report safeguarding concerns.
- We have a zero tolerance approach to abuse. There are no excuses for not taking all reasonable actions to protect adults at risk of abuse, exploitation, radicalisation and mistreatment.
- We recognise that everyone whatever their age, ability, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious belief and/or sexual identity have equal rights to protection from abuse.
- Adults will be included in swift and personalised safeguarding responses, in line with the Six principles of safeguarding for adults and Making Safeguarding Personal.
- We are committed to inter agency collaboration and information sharing to safeguard adults at risk of harm.
- We recognise the need to protect adults at risk of harm from harm both in person and/or from cyber/ virtual risks.
- We ensure all of the organisation's operations and activities are designed and delivered with effective safeguarding in mind to protect adults from abuse.

Intervention Principles

The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 provides the legal context upon which Make 2nds Count bases its assessment and measurement of the level of service or intervention provided, whilst principally seeking to uphold the individual's human rights and empowering them to have responsibility for their own lives.

The general principle on intervention in an adult's affairs is that a person may intervene, or authorize an intervention, only if satisfied that the intervention:

(a) Will provide benefit to the adult that could not reasonably be provided without intervening in the adult's affairs, and

(b) Is, of the range of options likely to fulfill the object of the intervention, the least restrictive to the adult's freedom.

An adult may be considered to be at risk if they:

(a) are unable to safeguard their own well-being, property, rights or other interests,

(b) are affected by disability, mental disorder, illness or physical or mental infirmity and are more vulnerable to being harmed than adults who are not so affected,

(c) if another person's conduct is causing (or is likely to cause) the adult to be harmed, or

(d) the adult is engaging (or is likely to engage) in conduct which causes (or is likely to cause) self-harm.

We will keep Adults safe by;

- Valuing, listening to and respecting them
- Recognising;
 - The welfare of the adult at risk is paramount
 - All adults at risk have the right to protection from abuse
 - Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility
 - Professional Curiosity is important in recognising and responding to safeguarding concerns
 - The importance of following information sharing procedures in safeguarding
- Providing effective management, induction training, regular refresher training and support for all staff, volunteers and trustees to know about and follow our safeguarding policy and procedures for safeguarding adults at risk.
- Using our safeguarding policies and procedures to share and report all safeguarding concerns to the relevant internal staff and external authorities swiftly and appropriately.
- Managing the risk of extremist or terrorist abuse: no supporting or enabling terrorism or other illegal conduct, such as hatred on the grounds of race, religion or sexual orientation.
- Acting in an appropriate professional behaviour as set out in our Code of Conduct. Failure to maintain standards may be dealt with using our Disciplinary Procedures.
- Recording, storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance and our IT policies and procedures.
- Having a culture that enables issues about safeguarding and promoting welfare to be addressed, and for staff/volunteers and trustees to feel able to raise concerns and feel supported in fulfilling their safeguarding role.
- Implementing effective safeguarding systems where;
 - The adults at risk of harm's needs are paramount: and staff, volunteers and trustees use their professional judgement to put the person's needs at the

heart of the safeguarding system so that the right solution can be found for each individual.

- Safeguarding for adults is person-led and outcome focused, engaging the adults at risk in a conversation about how best to respond to their safeguarding.
- Practising Professional Curiosity, understanding what life is like for the individual and being alert to the needs of adults at risk and any risks of harm that individual abusers, or potential abusers, may pose.
- Ensuring a senior board trustee lead takes leadership responsibility for the organisation's safeguarding arrangements, contact details in the accompanying procedures.
- A Designated Safeguarding Lead and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead for the organisation.
- Making our safeguarding adults at risk policy and procedures available on our website, and or on demand, for anyone using our services to know what to do if they have a concern. Also, Ensuring all staff, volunteers have read and understood the safeguarding policy and procedures
- Ensuring that we have effective complaints, grievances and whistleblowing policies and procedures.

Reporting and Responding to Concerns

Any concerns about the welfare of an adult at risk should be reported immediately to the designated safeguarding lead.

Where action needs to be taken, there should be no delay in reporting a concern about an adult at risk who is in immediate danger. In cases where an individual is in immediate danger, emergency services should be contacted without delay. Access Make 2nds [Crisis Intervention Policy](#) and Incident Reporting Form for guidance.

In all other circumstances, the decision to breach a client's confidentiality for the purposes of support and protection must be made by the Designated Safeguarding Lead or the CEO and, where possible (avoiding any unnecessary delay), with the informed consent of the Designated Safeguarding Trustee.

Safeguarding lead at Make 2nds Count

If you are concerned about anything you see or hear relating to a child, young people or vulnerable adult you must contact the charity's Deputy CEO:

Name: Emma Hall

Email: emma.hall@make2ndscount.co.uk

Mobile: 07527199448

Agreement to follow this policy

The adult safeguarding policy is fully supported by the Board of Trustees and management team.

Document version control

Version number	Change or update	Author or owner	Date
2.0	Policy updated	Emma Hall	July 2025
	Board approval	Board of Trustees	5 September
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