

Norwich and Norfolk OCD Voluntary Support Group

Charity Registration No: 1176907

Safeguarding and Vulnerable Persons Policy

This policy is designed to give guidance to the Chairperson, Trustees and Volunteers within the Norwich and Norfolk OCD Voluntary Support Group, a UK Registered Charity. The Chairperson, Trustees and Volunteers will be informed on the expected standards of behaviour when working with vulnerable adults and our responsibilities and processes in reporting any concerns.

‘A vulnerable adult is any person aged 18 years or over who is, or may be, unable to take care of or who is unable to protect themselves against significant harm or exploitation. This may be because they have a mental health problem, disability, a sensory impairment, are old and frail, or have some form of illness. Because of their vulnerability, the individual may be in receipt of a care service in their own home, in the community or be a resident in a residential care home, nursing home or other institutional setting’.

- All individuals have the right to live their lives free from violence, coercion, intimidation, fear, neglect, oppression and physical, sexual, emotional or mental harm;
- All Individuals have a right to confidentiality in respect of personal information insofar as this does not infringe the rights of other people;
- All individuals have the right to receive full and comprehensive information to enable them to make informed choices about their own circumstances;
- All individuals have the right to the protection of the law and access to the judicial process;
- All individuals have a right to express their views and have these views taken into account.

Confidentiality: all vulnerable adults will know that information about them is managed appropriately and there is a clear understanding of confidentiality and its limits amongst Trustees and volunteers;

Dignity and Respect: all vulnerable adults will be accorded the same respect and dignity as any other adults, by recognising their uniqueness and personal needs;

Equality and Diversity: all vulnerable adults will be treated equally and their background and culture will be valued and respected;

Fulfilment: all vulnerable adults will be invited to engage in activities and offered services that enable them to fulfil their ability and potential;

Privacy: all vulnerable adults will be free from unnecessary intrusion into their affairs and there will be a balance between the individual’s own safety and the safety of others;

Support: all vulnerable adults will be supported to report any form of abuse and to receive appropriate support following abuse for as long as may be required.

We also recognise that there are instances whereby the Volunteers may want to speak in confidence or seek a second opinion if signs of abuse are noted; in circumstances such as these they should be addressed to the Chairperson or a Trustee. Any areas of concern will be taken up with the relevant establishments with the permission of the individual. If this is refused, the Chairperson or Trustee will seek the advice of the Executive Advisor or BABCP Supervisor.