



The
Case Management
Community

Raising a Safeguarding Alert - Top Tips

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NB: 3HUB has a Highly Supportive Specialist Safeguarding Supervision Process please see members area: <https://members.threehub.co.uk/beingahubber/safeguarding-support/> (the link will work if you are already logged into the members area.)y

It's also essential to review your own company Safeguarding Policy Documents prior to raising a safeguarding.

CHILDREN:

1 Ensure you discuss, collate and report your safeguarding concerns under the Statutory Definitions.

Need to be familiar with the relevant legislation / guidance:

Working Together to Safeguard Children (2023)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2>

Defines safeguarding Children as follows:

- protecting children from maltreatment, whether the risk of harm comes from within the child's family and/or outside (from the wider community), including online.
- preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development.
- ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care.
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

Other useful links: <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/>

2 Label the abuse you are discussing / reporting under all the relevant statutory categories.

Categories of Abuse - Working Together to Safeguard Children (2023)

1. Physical
2. Emotional
3. Sexual
4. Neglect

ADULTS:

1 Ensure you discuss, collate, and report your safeguarding concerns under the Statutory Definitions

Relevant Legislation:

The Care Act 2014 <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/23/contents/enacted>

Write to Section 42 i.e. Local Authority duty to make safeguarding enquiries which apply if the person:

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

2 Label the abuse you are discussing / reporting under all the relevant statutory categories

Care Act 2014

1. Physical
2. Emotional
3. Sexual
4. Neglect
5. Domestic Abuse
6. Self-Neglect
7. Neglect
8. Organisational Abuse
9. Modern Slavery
10. Financial and Material Abuse

Use of Timelines

These are so useful and work well in referrals (and even before that, when collating concerns and raising with MDT) to outline significant events and all actions you and

the team have taken – 3rd column makes sure the client does not get lost in the process:

Date	Event	Effect (actual or possible) on client
	Keep this brief – couple of sentences at most	Call it out again briefly – risk of injury, pain, emotional distress.

Consent – Care Act 2014

Adult referrals will always ask if you have consent to make a referral – if you do not believe the client has capacity in this area – explain in detail.

If the client is thought to have capacity but refuses to give consent, you should override if you believe the following might apply – be clear in your referral (and notes) about this:

- their 'vital interests' need to be protected - this means it is a matter of life and death.
- another known vulnerable person is at risk.
- there could be significant wider public interest.
- a serious crime has been or may be committed.
- the alleged abuser has care and support needs
- staff are implicated.
- coercion or duress is suspected.
- the risk is high enough to warrant a referral to a Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC).
- another legal authority has requested the information.

Thresholds

All authorities both those working with Children and Adults have safeguarding thresholds – these are often available on the Internet and can be found on the local authority's overarching safeguarding boards / partnerships website – not necessarily that of the County Council or Social Care but sometimes you find the link. They are given various names but try googling. To add to the confusion some unitary authorities work under combined boards / partnerships.

Search suggestions – please search your local area for the correct Partnership or Board.

For Children:

- Norfolk Children Safeguarding Partnership, Norfolk Children's Safeguarding Boards.
- West Sussex Safeguarding Children Partnership <https://www.westsussexscp.org.uk/>
- East Sussex Safeguarding Children Partnership <https://www.esscp.org.uk/>

For adults:

- Norfolk Adult Safeguarding Board
- Some authorities have combined ones:
 - Norfolk Safeguarding Partnership
- West Sussex Adult Safeguarding Board <https://www.westsussexsab.org.uk/>
- East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board <https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/social-care/worried/sab>

Escalation

If you really believe that social care are failing in their safeguarding duties, and you have persevered you can consider escalating to the Board / Partnership (see above). Most have an Escalation Policy – try the search function on the website – we would suggest this is not done without discussion with 3HUB Safeguarding Lead viv@threehub.co.uk and/or Consultant. Linda@threehub.co.uk