

1. Background

The Care Act 2014 and Care and Support Guidance established the statutory requirement that all Safeguarding Adults Boards partners should have policies and procedures in place for responding to allegations against any person who works with adults, in either paid or unpaid capacity, in a position of trust.

A 'position of trust' is where someone is likely to have contact with adults at risk as part of their employment or voluntary work. In addition, that person's role carries an expectation of trust and they are in position to exercise authority, power or control over an adult at risk.

There should be a clear distinction between:

- An allegation
- A concern about the quality of care or practice
- Or a complaint

2. Why it matters

Dealing with such situations can be complex due to the competing requirements of balancing individual rights to confidentiality against obligations to disclose information in order to safeguard adults at risk.

Partner agencies and the service providers they commission are individually responsible for ensuring that information relating to adult Position of Trust concerns are shared and escalated outside of their organisation where this is required and appropriate.

Each case must be dealt with on its own facts and with reference to relevant legislation and Information Sharing Protocols particularly, in order to demonstrate justification and proportionality. Legal advice may be sought due to the legal complexities involved and to ensure an organisation is acting in accordance with the law.

3. Information

Examples of concerns includes a person who has behaved in a way that has harmed or may harm an adult at risk, possibly committed a criminal offence against/related to an adult at risk and/or behaved in such a way that indicates they may pose a risk to an adult at risk

- The LSAB requires its partner agencies to be individually responsible for ensuring they adopt the principles of the PiPoT protocol and maintain clear organisational procedures for dealing with PiPoT concerns.
- Partner agencies, and the service providers they commission, are individually responsible for ensuring that information relating to PiPoT concerns are shared and escalated outside of their organisation in circumstances where this is required, proportionately and appropriately. They are responsible for making the judgment that this is the case in each instance where they are the information/data owner.
- Non partner organisations should report their PiPoT concerns to their line manager in the first instance who should then contact the PiPoT Lead in the Local Authority
- Concerns regarding behaviour against children should also be reported to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)

Blackburn with Darwen



People in a Position of Trust (PiPoT)

4. What do you need to do?

Ensure you know where to access your agency's PiPoT Policy.

Do you know who your PiPoT Lead is?

If you attended the PiPoT briefing have you disseminated that information amongst colleagues?

Safeguarding an adult at risk in PiPoT cases remains imperative and a referral must be made to the Safeguarding Adults Team:

01254 585949

01254 587547 (Out of hours)