

TYNE AND WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE (TWFRS)	
SAFEGUARDING ADULTS POLICY	
Community Safety Policy Officer	May 2015
Admin Procedure 21.18	

Safeguarding Adults Policy

1. Purpose of the Policy

- 1.1** Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority (TWFRS) is committed to safeguarding the community in accordance with our vision of 'Creating the Safest Community'.
- 1.2** Living a life that is free from neglect and abuse is a fundamental right for every person. The Care Act 2014 ensures that the most vulnerable members of society are afforded appropriate support and protection.
- 1.3** This policy and the associated procedure establishes responsibilities and ensures that TWFRS promote good practice and work in a way that can prevent harm and abuse and ensure that allegations or suspicions of abuse are dealt with appropriately.

2. Policy Statement

- 2.1** TWFRS recognises that the need to safeguard adults in our community is everyone's responsibility.
- 2.2** TWFRS has a responsibility to take action in relation to adults at risk with consideration given to the six key principles:
- Empowerment – People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent.
 - Prevention – it is better to take action before harm occurs.
 - Proportionality – the least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.
 - Protection – support and representation for those in greatest need.
 - Partnership – local solutions through services working with their communities.
 - Accountability – accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding.
- 2.3** In addition, the Care Act 2014 imposes a duty on all public organisations to co-operate.
- 2.4** Adults at risk are defined as individuals aged over 18 who:
- Have needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs) and
 - Is experiencing, or 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.*1

3. Responsibility for this Policy

- 3.1** Authority for ensuring implementation and compliance with this policy rests with the Assistant Chief Officer, Community Safety (ACO, CS); the Area Manager, Community Safety (AM, CS) will ensure that this policy is complied with.
- 3.2** The AM, CS is also responsible for regularly reviewing this policy to ensure its currency and issuing updates.

4. Contacts

- 4.1** The Community Safety Policy Officer will act as TWFRS Safeguarding Adult advisor and as such can be contacted by personnel for advice and information on Safeguarding Adult issues.

5. Related Information

- TWFRS Safeguarding Adults Procedures (Admin 21.19).
- TWFRS Safeguarding Adults Guidance (Admin 21.20).
- The Care act 2014

6. Review date

- 6.1** This document reflects current legislation and will be reviewed and/or revised on an annual basis or as and when appropriate.

1 Care Act 2014