



Safeguarding in Adult Settings Newsletter - Spring 2020



Welcome to the first Safeguarding newsletter of 2020. Wigan Safeguarding Partnership (WSP) have been busy developing the training and improving the support which we can offer to you and your staff. We hope you find this newsletter useful and we welcome any feedback which you can send us via email **WSAB@wigan.gov.uk**

FREE Safer Recruitment Training from Wigan Safeguarding Partnership



WSP are delighted to be able to offer to you **FREE** Safer Recruitment Training. This 1 day training course will help you to:

- Review your policies and procedures.
- Deter unsuitable people from being employed in your organisation.
- Be familiar with best practice regarding recruitment.
- Ensure that families and service users know that safeguarding is a priority in your organisation.

The training is accredited by the Safer Recruitment Consortium and you will receive a Certificate of completion. The training is being held on: 30th April & the 14th September 2020; from 10am to 3.30pm; at Wigan Life Centre South. You can book your place by emailing: wscbtraining@wigan.gov.uk.

Advice about safe staffing levels for your service



Skills for care have put together some tips to help you decide on safe staffing levels for your service. Deciding on safe staffing levels may depend on your service and the people you support. Staff should also have the right values and skills to help deliver high quality care and support. You can find further information [here](#).

COVID-19 and the elderly's mental health

Mental Health charity Mind has put together some tips for those who may be alone, have restricted visitors or be worried about the COVID-19 virus. The advice states that the elderly should be encouraged to:

- Put extra photographs up of loved ones and finding alternative ways to keep in touch with family friends, such as through social media, skype or by making additional phone calls.
- Limit the amount of time that the news is played.
- Stay active by cleaning, dancing or doing [seated exercises](#).
- Get as much sun light and fresh air as possible.
- Join an online support community such a [Elefriends](#).

You can find further advice from Mind [here](#).

Public Health England have also published guidance for residential care provisions regarding COVID-19. This can be accessed [here](#).

You may also wish to have a look at this quick guide for registered managers of care homes, which is designed to help you promote positive mental health, you can access it [here](#)



Local networks for managers

Did you know that there are many local networks across England, which give care home managers the opportunity to get together and access peer support. At each network managers can: share knowledge, hear from guest speakers, develop a better understanding of legislation and policy and feel better prepared for their CQC inspection. The networks meet about 3 times a year and those who attend report feeling less isolated and better supported.

To find out more about the Wigan network please follow the link [here](#).



Training and Competencies when administering medication

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) have developed some guidance regarding training and competency levels for staff when administering medication, with the view that appropriate training, support and competency makes care safe, high quality and consistent. You can access the advice [here](#).

Safety and Safeguarding in your care home



The Social Care Institute of Excellence (SCIE) have written a really useful article which looks at the main elements of safety and safeguarding in a care home. These include:

- Risk assessments to protect care workers and residents.
 - Care providers must have clear policies and procedures which are based on national and local guidance and all staff should be familiar with these.
 - Staff should be familiar with Making Safeguarding Personal and they must work with residents to get the balance right between choice, and control and safety.
- All care home managers and staff should be trained in their responsibilities for reporting and recording concerns about abuse or neglect. Staff should also be aware of their organisations whistleblowing policy.
 - Managers should ensure that data sharing agreements comply with the Data Protection Act 1998. You can access the article [here](#).

Improving person centred care in your home

SCIE have created a FREE care home action planning tool, which will help you to identify and plan practical improvements to make your home more personalised and help you to build a shared understanding with staff of what person centred care means within your home. You can access the action plan [here](#).



CQC to temporarily stop all routine inspections

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) has stopped all routine inspections of care homes in England from the 16th March, this is in response to the Covid-19 outbreak. In a letter sent to care providers the CQC stated that its top priority is to 'support you to keep people safe during a period of unprecedented pressure on the health and care system'. Inspections would still take place where 'there is clear evidence of harm'. Further information can be found [here](#).