



Milton Keynes Safeguarding Adults Guidance on involving Thames Valley Police V1 Dec 2017

Purpose: To clarify the system for involving Thames Valley Police in the Safeguarding Adults process in Milton Keynes.

This guidance must be read and implemented in conjunction with:

- Safeguarding Adults Multi Agency Policy & Procedures
- Safeguarding Adults Practice Guide
- Serious Case Review Policy
- Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Policy and Practice Guidance

Approved by	
Safeguarding Adults Board	19 th July 2017
Safeguarding Adults Board Agencies represented:	Milton Keynes Council – Adult Social Care Services Milton Keynes Clinical Commissioning Group Milton Keynes Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, CNWL-MK (Central & North West London Foundation Trust – Milton Keynes) Thames Valley Police Thames Valley Probation Service, NHS England

Effective from:	1 st Dec 2017
Next Review Date:	No more than 3 years from approval date
Document Owner/Author:	Milton Keynes Safeguarding Adults Board
For use in (service area)	Adult Social Care and Health Services
For use by	Members of the public and all staff who work with vulnerable people including Private and Voluntary Sector Providers
Distribution:	- This policy will be made generally available via Milton Keynes Council website - Board Members are responsible for ensuring that information regarding this guidance is circulated within their agency.



Milton Keynes Clinical Commissioning Group



Milton Keynes Community Health Services

Contacting Thames Valley Police

- Dial 999 to get an immediate response from uniformed officers
- If you are unsure call Thames Valley Police on 01865 542210 and ask to speak to one of the Sergeants for advice
- Dial 101 to contact the Police for any other response.

The Police's message is, if in doubt call. The earlier the police are informed the better.

When to call?

If a member of staff harms a service user always call 101. If you need the Police immediately, for example an assault is taking place and you need assistance to stop it, call 999.

We would encourage the member of staff to make the report.

Examples of when to call

- 1) If something has happened where a service user has been harmed in any way by a member of staff the Police need to be informed
- 2) Where the service user does not have capacity it is the care workers responsibility to make a best interests decision in relation to calling the Police, on their behalf
- 3) Where there is an injury call the Police on 101, serious injury call 999
- 4) Any apparent, or allegation of sexual assault you must inform the Police
- 5) Thefts and frauds, once you have established a crime appears to have occurred, call the Police (or if in doubt call the Police)
- 6) Exploitation: are you providing care for someone who could be vulnerable to exploitation (for example sexual, financial) and you suspect that this may be taking place call the Police in the first instance

Safeguarding alerts

If you have called the Police and it is a safeguarding matter, you **must** also make a safeguarding alert (the Police will not do this).

If you believe your colleagues are not providing the right care, make a safeguarding alert.

Guidance for the Safeguarding and Access Team

- Each time you review an alert question whether the Police need to be involved? If so call the Police Sergeant for advice (01865 542210), or report through 101. If the Police are aware of a potential joint investigation from the outset, they are able to collect evidence, complete a more thorough investigation to safeguard and bring people to justice.
- In the course of your single agency enquiry, continue to ask 'with the new information I have do the Police need to be informed?' The joint investigation can instigated be at any point. If in doubt ask.
- Consider new legislation in relation to **Ill-treatment or wilful neglect by a care worker or care provider** (PTO).

Ill-treatment or wilful neglect offences

The Criminal Justice and Courts Act 2015 provides two new *offences*;

- ill-treatment or wilful neglect committed by an individual care worker
- ill-treatment or wilful neglect committed by care provider organisations

Care worker

It is an offence for an individual to ill-treat or wilfully neglect another individual for whom they are providing the care by virtue of being a care worker.

A “care worker” is defined as anyone who, as paid work, provides social care for adults or health care for children or adults.

The ‘wilful’ element of the neglect offence implies that the perpetrator has acted deliberately or recklessly.

Similarly, ‘ill-treatment’ is a deliberate act, where the individual recognised that he was inexcusably ill-treating a person, or else was being reckless as to whether he was doing so.

Genuine errors or accidents by an individual would therefore not come within the scope of this offence.

Care provider

If you suspect this is happening, the Police must immediately be informed and a safeguarding alert made. A strategy meeting with all partners needs to be considered at the earliest opportunity to safeguard all others receiving care by the provider

A care provider may be guilty of an offence if:

1. Someone who is part of the care provider’s arrangements for the provision of care ill-treats or wilfully neglects an individual under the care provider’s care;
2. The way in which the care provider manages or organises its activities amounts to a gross breach of a relevant duty of care owed by it to the victim; and
3. If that breach had not occurred the ill-treatment or wilful neglect would not have occurred or would have been less likely to occur.

A ‘care provider’ is defined as a body corporate or unincorporated association which provides or arranges for the provision of health care or adult social care.

A ‘care provider’ can also include an individual who provides these services and employs/makes arrangements for other people to assist in providing that care. The care provider offence can therefore be committed by both provider organisation such as hospitals and by partnerships or individuals providing care, for example GP practices.

The offences can be committed on or after 13 April 2015.

Source CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND COURTS ACT 2015 CIRCULAR 2015/01, Ministry of Justice, 2015

