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NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING OFFICE

Newsletter



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HSE ADULT SAFEGUARDING DRAFT POLICY (2019)

The HSE Adult Safeguarding Policy Review Development Group concluded their work on devising a revised Draft HSE Adult Safeguarding Policy in recent months. The final draft of the revised Adult Safeguarding Policy was endorsed by HSE Leadership in early June. The National Safeguarding Office and the Review Chair, Martina Queally, Chief Officer, Community Healthcare East would like to thank all those who contributed in any way to this revised policy.

The revised policy aims to enhance and improve how the HSE and HSE funded agencies ensure the safety of our service users and respond to adult safeguarding concerns.

Key themes in this document:

- Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility
- Will and preference of the adult is central
- Person centered pathway is crucial
- Singular operational process essential
- Alignment with other policies is necessary

The document also has updates in areas such as definitions, principles, scope, pathway, roles and HSE oversight.

The revised policy remains final draft until it is presented to the Policy and Procedures Committee of the National Joint Council (NJC) with the health sector trade unions on July 23rd. The HSE will set out finalised implementation plans and timelines. In the interim the current Safeguarding Vulnerable Persons at Risk of Abuse, Policy and Procedures (2014) remains in place.

There will be ongoing communication in relation to implementation plans including information on updated training and education programmes. The Adult Safeguarding IT project will also support the roll out of the revised HSE policy. You can view the [document here](#)

ADULT SAFEGUARDING IT PROJECT



The Adult Safeguarding IT Project Team in conjunction with the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OoCIO) will shortly release the bid for tender for an adult safeguarding IT system which will be published by Health Business Services (HBS). This will form part of a wider programme of work to strengthen our support systems with the implementation of the revised Adult Safeguarding Policy 2019. Expression of interest have been sought from the Chief Officers in Community Healthcare Areas in relation to identification of a pilot site.



WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY

THE UNITED NATIONS DESIGNATED
JUNE 15 AS WORLD ELDER ABUSE
AWARENESS DAY

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day represents the one day in the year when the whole world voices its opposition to the abuse and suffering inflicted to some of our older generations.

Virtually all countries are expected to see substantial growth in the number of older persons between now and 2030, and that growth will be faster in developing regions. Because the numbers of older persons are growing, the amount of elder abuse can be expected to grow with it.

Elder abuse is a global social issue which affects the health and human rights of millions of older persons around the world.

There were a number of events organised to mark World Elder Abuse Awareness Day in Ireland this year which included:

- Tree Planting
- Information sessions and events for older people
- Information events in Hospitals and Health Centres
- National and local radio interviews aimed at informing older people of services available
- Tea dances

The National Safeguarding Office would like to thank everyone for all of their efforts to mark the occasion and we encourage you to send in your photos of the event for inclusion in the HSE National Safeguarding Office Report for 2019.



National Safeguarding Office