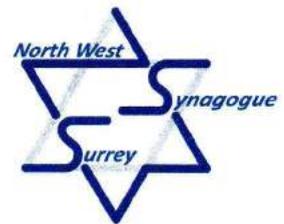


# Protecting Vulnerable Adults Policy

May 2019 (Last reviewed)



## POLICY H02

<b>Committee Responsible:</b>	Council
<b>Status:</b>	Statutory
<b>Review Period</b>	Annual
<b>Next review date:</b>	May 2020

North West Surrey Synagogue council is committed to ensuring that vulnerable people who are members of North West Surrey Synagogue are not abused and that practices minimise the risk of such abuse. Anyone acting on behalf of North West Surrey Synagogue has a duty to identify abuse and report it.

**The email address to contact us on regarding any safeguarding issue is:**  
[safeguarding@nwss.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@nwss.org.uk)

### Definition:

Vulnerable adults are people who are over 18 years of age and are getting or may need help and services to live in the community. Vulnerable adults may be unable to take care of themselves and unable to protect themselves from harm or exploitation by other people.

### Abuse can include:

- physical,
- financial,
- material,
- sexual,
- psychological,
- discriminatory,
- emotional
- neglect.

Abuse can take place in any setting, public or private, and can be perpetrated by anyone.

### Rights & Responsibilities

#### Responsibilities of the Council of North West Surrey Synagogue:

- To ensure volunteers are aware of vulnerable adults' need for protection
- To notify the Designated Safeguarding Lead if abuse is identified or suspected
- To support and where possible secure the safety of individuals and ensure that all referrals to services have full information in relation to identified risk and vulnerability
- To check volunteers via the DBS (Disclosure Barring Service), that have access to or work with Vulnerable Adults on a frequent or very regular basis.

#### Responsibilities of North West Surrey Synagogue Volunteers:

- To be familiar with the vulnerable adult protection policy (this document)
- To take appropriate action in line with the policy of North West Surrey Synagogue
- To declare any existing or subsequent convictions through a DBS check.

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**Support for those who report abuse:**

All those making a complaint or allegation or expressing concern, whether they are staff &/or volunteers &/or service users &/or carers &/or members of the general public should be reassured that:

- They will be taken seriously
- Their comments will usually be treated confidentially, but their concerns may be shared with the appropriate authorities if they or others are at significant risk

**The Vulnerable Adult has the right:**

- To be made aware of this policy
- To have alleged incidents recognised and taken seriously
- To receive fair and respectful treatment throughout
- To be involved in any process as appropriate
- To receive information about the outcome

All those who have contact with vulnerable adults in a paid or voluntary capacity and have contact on a weekly basis or more frequently will have a DBS check and this will be renewed every 3 years

We are also committed to reviewing our policy and procedure annually.

**Chair:**

Signed: Liz Sawyer Date: 14/6/19  
Name: Liz Sawyer Position: Chair

**Rabbi:**

Signed: R. Vardi Date: 5/7/19  
Name: KATH VARDI Position: Rabbi

**Designated Safeguarding Lead:**

Signed: [Signature] Date: 16-07-19  
Name: ANSON BENSAHAN Position: DSL



**Appendix A** (much of the information below applies equally to vulnerable adults)

### **What is Abuse and Neglect?**

Abuse and neglect are forms of maltreatment of a child. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm, or by failing to act to prevent harm. Children may be abused in a family or in a school environment, at an organised group or community setting, by those known to them or by a stranger. Abuse can occur in person or via the internet (including social media). They may be abused by an adult or adults, or another child or children.

### **Physical abuse**

Physical abuse may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating, or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces, illness in a child. Symptoms that indicate physical abuse include: bruising, scars of different ages and lengths from untreated wounds, fractures, and marks that repeat.

### **Emotional abuse**

Emotional abuse is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to children that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may include not giving the child opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them or 'making fun' of what they say or how they communicate. It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond the child's developmental capability, as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning, or preventing the child participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying (including cyberbullying), causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, though it may occur alone.

Symptoms may include, but are not limited to: excessive clingy or attention seeking behaviour; low self-esteem; fearfulness; despondency; constantly seeking to please; lack of appropriate boundaries; anxiety; depression, eating disorders, self-harming or other mental health problems

### **Sexual abuse**

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example, rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching inside or outside of clothing. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, sexual images, watching sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via the internet). Sexual abuse also includes Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), where children are sexually exploited for money, drugs, power or status. Children or young people may be tricked into believing they're in a loving, consensual relationship. Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children. Symptoms of sexual abuse may include, but are not limited to genital soreness or discomfort; sexually transmitted diseases, sexualised play or behaviour; a child who is sexually provocative; a child talking inappropriately (for their age) about sexual issues; nightmares; going missing from



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school and home; drug and or alcohol abuse; depression, eating disorders, self-harm or other mental health problems.

### **Neglect**

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect may occur during pregnancy, for example, as a result of maternal substance abuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to:

- provide adequate food, clothing and shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment);
- protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger
- ensure adequate supervision, including the use of inadequate care-givers
- ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment.

It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs

Symptoms may include inadequate supervision, being left alone for long periods; lack of stimulation, social contact or education; inadequate nutrition; a child who is constantly hungry, stealing or gorging food; failure to provide adequate standards of hygiene, clothing, and comfort in the home; failure to seek or follow medical advice so that a child's life or development is endangered

### **Radicalisation**

Radicalisation is defined by the UK Government as "the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups

However, as research has shown many terrorists are not radicals and most radicals are not terrorists.

### **Sharing of Sexual Images**

The sharing of sexual images of children, whether it be electronically or hard copies is an offence and an abuse of children