Devon Safeguarding Adults Partnership

Safeguarding Adults Advice for Coronavirus Volunteers

Thank you for volunteering and offering fantastic support for our local community.
We want to raise your awareness of safeguarding adults. The message is simple:
"IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING"

Safeguarding adults is about protecting adults with care and support needs from abuse and neglect. This might be physical, emotional, sexual, financial abuse. At this time, it is even harder for adults at risk to tell anyone about what is happening to them.

We know that other Countries in 'lockdown' have reported increases in:

- Domestic abuse
- Self-neglect
- Alcohol and drug use
- Scams



As a volunteer you also now have a role in safeguarding:

- Be curious
- Be the eyes and ears
- Come back and tell your coordinator if you see anything that concerns you
- Safeguarding professionals can take things from there; so do not investigate yourself.

Pay attention to how people look or behave:

- If a person tells you that someone is offering help for money, but no real help is being provided (e.g. scamsters), then say something.
- If on the phone or in person, someone appears scared or fearful of someone else in the same household, then say something.
- If you see a volunteer being given money or inappropriate gifts, or crossing boundaries, then say something.

So, if you see something, say something!

For your own safety – if a resident is offensive or abusive, to you or another volunteer, then say something. Talk to your coordinator if you are worried about anyone or want to check out something you have seen or heard. If you cannot speak to your coordinator you can also informing Devon County Council directly via Care Direct on **0345 1551 007**

Remember, safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.
You have the opportunity to 'do your bit' to support Devon's NHS and social care keep local people safe from abuse in this very difficult time.

Please watch this 3 minute video - Safeguarding Awareness for Volunteers video produced by Waltham Forest Council for basic information on safeguarding adults. In an emergency always call 999. If you think that someone is being abused or neglected within Devon you can raise a safeguarding concern by calling Care Direct on 0345 1551 007 or emailing csc.caredirect@devon.gov.uk