**Vulnerable Adults Protection Policy**

Our Place CIC is committed to ensuring that vulnerable people who use our services are not abused and that working practices minimise the risk of such abuse. The Directors of Our Place CIC have a duty to identify abuse and report it.

**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 abuse
* neglect.

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

**Rights & Responsibilities**

**Responsibilities of Our Place CIC:**

* To ensure volunteers are aware of vulnerable adult’s need for protection
* To notify the appropriate agencies if abuse is identified or suspected
* To support and where possible secure the safety of individuals
* To undertake DBS checks on volunteers when delivering direct services to vulnerable adults

**Responsibilities of Our Place CIC’s directors and/or volunteers:**

* To be familiar with the vulnerable adult protection policy
* To take appropriate action in line with the policy of Our Place
* To declare any existing or subsequent convictions if delivering direct services to vulnerable adults.

**Support for those who report abuse:**

Anyone making a complaint or allegation or expressing concern, whether they are volunteers and/or service users and/or carers and/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

We are also committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

Date: 13/4/2017\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: ** Chair Our Place Wye CIC**

Review date: 13/4/2021

**Please note:** If a volunteer has any concern about a vulnerable adult contact 07547 321046 email admin@ourplacewye.org.uk