

## PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL

### **KEEPING CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND VULNERABLE ADULTS SAFE**

Plymouth City Council has a corporate responsibility to keep a focus on safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults in the city. People who work for the council need to become familiar with the duties of safeguarding and corporate parenting within Plymouth City Council, and new employees need to understand their working responsibilities to take appropriate and relevant action in keeping children, young people and vulnerable adults safe.

**There are a number of national policies and legislation such as the Children Act 1989; the Human Rights Act 1998; Every Child Matters; Children Act 2004; Working Together to Safeguard Children and Young People and other multi agency child protection procedures which inform our work to keep children and young people safe.**

There is also a multi agency child protection procedures website which provides further advice, guidance and operating procedures to ensure that children and young people remain safe from harm.

<http://www.swcpp.org.uk/>

Or

<http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/homepage/socialcareandhealth/childrensocialcare/reportingabuseandneglect/localsafeguardingchildrenboard.htm>

**For the protection of vulnerable adults at risk of abuse there are multi-agency procedures and guidance; written from 'No Secrets' Section 7 Guidance of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970; Mental Capacity Act 2005 relating to issues of mental capacity.**

But chiefly we would like to think that Plymouth City Council's corporate values and responsibilities in promoting community safety will guide you in your understanding of the significance of your work. Your manager also has responsibilities and will explain these to you.

Here are some useful CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

### **CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

Social Care Advice and Assessment Service	01752 308600
Social Care Out of Hours Service	01752 346984
Police Child Abuse Investigation Unit	01752 284522
Local Authority Designated Officer *	01752 307144

### **VULNERABLE ADULTS**

Contact for all referrals (excluding Adult social Care Staff)  
01752 668000

### **WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT A CHILD, YOUNG PERSON OR VULNERABLE ADULT BEING AT RISK OR BEING HARMED**

#### **DO NOT**

- RUSH INTO ACTION THAT MAY BE INAPPROPRIATE.
- INTERVIEW.
- CONTACT THE ALLEGED ABUSER.
- MAKE PROMISES THAT YOU CANNOT KEEP.
- TAKE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY.
- KEEP IT A SECRET.
- FAIL TO TAKE ACTION AND PASS ON YOUR CONCERNS.

#### **DO**

- LISTEN, OBSERVE.
- LISTEN AND TELL THE VULNERABLE ADULT/CHILD THAT YOU ARE TREATING THE INFORMATION SERIOUSLY.
- CLARIFY AND RECORD YOUR THOUGHTS.
- STAY CALM.
- TELL YOUR RELEVANT MANAGER.

\* For advice and guidance around allegations made against adults who work with children and young people.