

1. Introduction

The purpose of this policy is to outline the way in which Leicestershire Police deals with 'Adults at Risk'.

The procedure to this policy is a separate document which provides detailed guidance. The procedure needs to be read in conjunction with this policy.

The intention of the policy and procedure will be to set out the way we work as an organisation and with our multi agency partners to:-

- Reduce the risk of harm to individuals.
- Protect the community from harm.
- Enhance safety
- Promote and increase community confidence in the criminal justice system and the police service.
- Bring offenders to justice appropriately.

2. Scope

This policy will outline the Leicestershire Police's response to a wide range of incidents and concerns based on our "At Risk" definition and our tiered approach.

An adult is 'at risk' if, because of their situation and/or circumstances, they are unable to take care of or protect themselves or others from harm, abuse or exploitation.

3. Aims of the Policy

The aims of the policy are to:-

- Ensure members of Leicestershire Police recognise record and deal with incidents of 'Adults at risk' in a consistent manner.
- Ensure appropriate referrals are made to other agencies in an effective manner.
- Ensure Safeguarding investigations are carried out in accordance with the locally agreed Multi Agency Safeguarding – Policy and procedures.
- Ensure effective action is taken against offenders so that they are held accountable and brought to justice appropriately.
- To establish Safeguarding 'Adults at Risk' as a mainstream policing activity.

4. Legal Basis

This policy and supporting procedure take account of requirements under: ECHR 1951, The Human Rights Act 1998, Equal Opportunities legislation, The Health and Safety Act 1974, and Data Protection Act 1998; Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 and other relevant criminal legislation. It has also considered the Care Act 2014.

5. Monitoring

This policy and associated procedure will be monitored through the Force Compliance Unit and will be reviewed on an annual basis.