

APPENDIX 12 NOTES ON REFERRAL DISCUSSION WITH POLICE

1. Person Responsible – Team Manager, Community Care Services

1.1 Action to be taken

- Where a criminal offence may have been or is believed to have been committed, referral must be made to the police. This is likely to take the form of a telephone discussion.
- Where the adult at risk of harm does not wish to make a complaint to the police this telephone discussion with the police will assist in deciding on the most appropriate action, balancing the interests of the adult at risk against those of public safety.
- If attendance of police is required contact should be made to the Public Protection Team in the first instance. If in an emergency assistance is required immediately contact should be made with Force control.

2. The telephone referral discussion will

- Assess the level of apparent risk and therefore the need for immediate action.
- Require the sharing of all available information between agencies to assist in the planning of any investigation.
- Address the possible need to use the Appropriate Adult Scheme for interviewing adults at risk, witnesses or suspected persons.
- Examine the current available evidence, how best to obtain further evidence and the possible need for any medical/forensic examinations.
- Determine the manner of the investigation, the process and the agencies that need to be involved.
- Determine the need for an initial referral meeting
- Agree on personnel to be involved from the appropriate agencies and the level of communication to monitor the progress of the enquiry.
- Assess risk of further harm, mistreatment or neglect to the adult at risk and community safety issues.
- Agree a media strategy if deemed necessary.

Details of initial telephone discussions should be recorded and attributed.

The consultation and information sharing process should be ongoing and will involve agencies sharing, reviewing and evaluating information as it comes to light.