

## **Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) Adult Safeguarding Statement**

Our Adult Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with the Criminal Justice Act 2012.

### **Our services**

HIQA is an independent statutory authority established to promote safety and quality in the provision of health and social care services. It regulates residential services for older people, children and adults with disabilities and children in special care units. It also monitors health services in Ireland's public hospitals and the community and a range of children's services. It develops standards, carries out projects and provides guidance for the health and social care sector. It may also meet with adults in focus groups or during investigations. It carries out health technology assessments and makes recommendations to policy-makers. This means that HIQA staff come in to contact with adults in a range of health and social care settings. Information of concern received by HIQA is reviewed by our information handling service.

In addition, HIQA has support services which ensure that the organisation can carry out its work in a legal, effective and efficient way.

### **Our safeguarding principles**

HIQA is committed to safeguarding adults in all areas of its work. It takes every reasonable action to promote adults' safety in its staff recruitment, policies and procedures and in the information, training and the ongoing supervision it provides to staff. All staff members are bound by HIQA's procedures and must report any adult safeguarding concerns of which they become aware in the course of their work, up to and including the reporting of concerns to the HSE, the Mental Health Commission and An Garda Síochána or other bodies as required.

### **Risk assessment**

HIQA operates using a risk framework by which risks are identified and assessed. The Executive have ensured that measures are in place to ensure that our services and products are as safe as is possible. HIQA reviews the risk and control measures that it has in place on a regular basis and when an un-assessed risk arises.

### **Procedures**

HIQA has put in place a number of procedures to control adult safeguarding risks and they are available on request. They are:

- Adult safeguarding policy
- Adult safeguarding standard operating procedure
- Recruitment and selection policy
- Managing allegations made against staff members standard operating procedure

HIQA is committed to the implementation and on-going review of this Adult Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep adults at risk safe from harm while availing of our service or activities. This Adult Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on 1 September 2021, or as soon as practicable thereafter has been a material change in any matter to which this statement refers.

The current Relevant Person and Designated Liaison Person is Vicky Blomfield from 11 September 2019. The alternate Designated Liaison Persons are Susan Geary and Eva Boyle.

Signed:

Phelim Quinn, CEO.



Date:

30 JANUARY 2020