

What is a PiPoT? (Adult Services)

A 'person in a position of trust' (PiPoT) refers to any individual who works with adults in either a paid or voluntary capacity. They're entrusted to support & work with some of the most vulnerable people in Sheffield & wider communities.

Allegations may be made that a PiPoT has caused harm to an adult or child either in their professional or personal life. They may have committed a crime that is related to an adult or a child. In these cases it is essential that there's a fair & proportionate response to concerns raised in order to protect adults or children. This briefing's mainly concerned with potential harm to adults with care & support needs, however if the allegation is such that the person may also pose a risk to children then Children's Services must be informed. The information will be considered & processed by the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) Safeguarding Hub on 0114 273 4934.

Want to know more?

Further information that supports the PiPoT process.

[Disclosure and Barring Service](#)

[Common Law Police Disclosure](#)

[Care Act 2014](#) [PiPoT Protocol](#)

[HCPC](#) [NMC](#) [GDPR](#) [GMC](#)

[Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups](#)

[Act 2006](#)

Referrals

Organisations have a legal duty to refer to relevant guidance & to make prompt referrals to the Disclosure and Barring service (DBS) where there's evidence to suggest a PiPoT has harmed an adult or child. The Local Authority will use their power to make a referral in the event that the employer has failed to do so.

Where the PiPoT is also a member of a professional body employers must refer to relevant guidance & make referrals in relation to fitness to practice.

Managing PiPoT Cases

Organisations as employers must have policies in place to manage investigations, act upon their responsibilities & take action against PiPoT. If the Person Alleged To Cause Harm (PATCH) works with adults with care & support needs & is alleged to have abused or neglected an adult whilst undertaking these duties this would usually be managed as part of the Safeguarding Section 42 enquiry process & in parallel with employer employment procedures.

The Designated Adults Safeguarding Manager (DASM) Adult Access on 0114 273 4908 may be informed if a PiPoT is alleged to have caused harm to an adult or child in their personal life or some other role or capacity. In these circumstances the DASM will legally & safely share facts with relevant others. The risks to any adults the PiPoT is working with must be assessed & assurance given that appropriate action is taken to safeguard those adults.

Sources of Referral

Concerns about PiPoT may come via the following routes:

Police

Children's LADO

Other local authorities

First Contact / Adult Access

Member of the public

Whistleblowing

Complaint

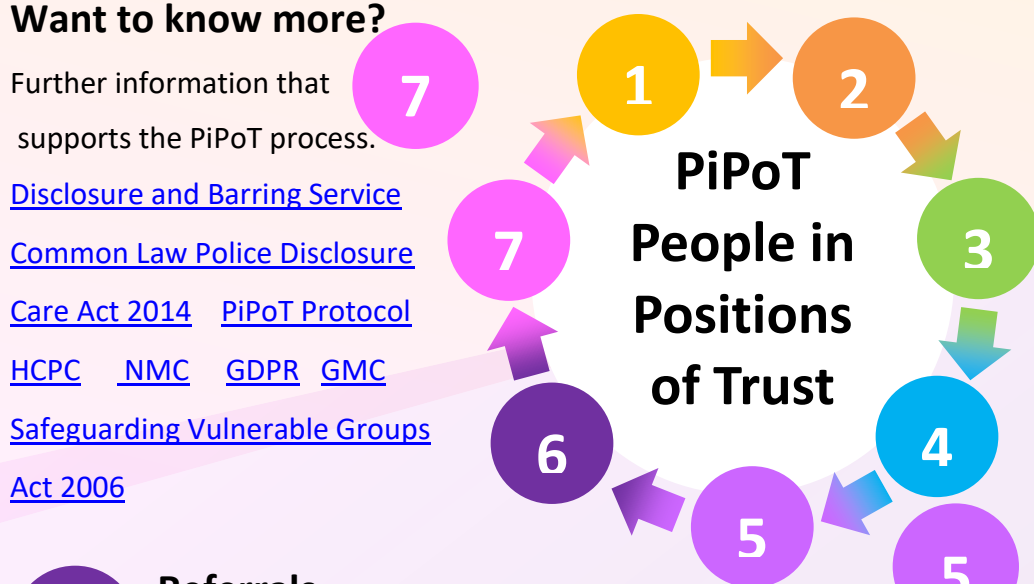
Alerts to commissioners

Collaborative Working

It's imperative that agencies & professionals work together & share the appropriate information to keep people safe.

Safeguarding enquiries, Employment (disciplinary) procedures & Criminal investigations may need to be coordinated & run in parallel to ensure the correct action is taken by the relevant professionals at the right time.

The nature and seriousness of concerns raised will dictate the actions that are taken in relation to working arrangements to safeguard adults at risk.



Information Disclosures

Each organisation is responsible for the management & handling of its own information. Confidential information can be shared as necessary & proportionately if it's justified as being in the public interest e.g. for the detection & prevention of a crime and for the protection of people with care & support needs. When an organisation needs to disclose information regarding the PiPoT, it should (where it's safe to do so) give the PiPoT the opportunity to disclose information themselves within a reasonable timescale.