

CARE TO TALK COUNSELLING

SAFEGUARDING

Introduction

Care To Talk Counselling is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment for all clients who seek our services. This safeguarding policy outlines our commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all individuals, particularly vulnerable adults who may access our counselling services.

Policy Statement

Care To Talk Counselling recognizes its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all clients who engage with our services, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation. We are committed to creating an environment where clients feel safe, respected, and supported throughout their engagement with our counselling service. Our safeguarding procedures aim to identify and respond to concerns about the safety and wellbeing of clients promptly and appropriately.

Responsibilities

Care To Talk Counselling has a duty to:

- Prioritise the safety and welfare of clients at all times.
- Be vigilant for signs of abuse or neglect and report any concerns following our reporting procedures.
- Maintain confidentiality by professional ethics, except in cases where disclosure is necessary to protect a client from harm. Care To Talk Counselling is responsible for:
 - Attending training on safeguarding policies and procedures.
 - Ensuring that we adhere to safeguarding guidelines and report any concerns promptly.
 - Reviewing and updating the safeguarding policy and procedures regularly to reflect best practices and legislative changes.

Confidentiality

Confidentiality is essential to the counselling process, but it may be breached if there are safeguarding concerns that require intervention to protect a client's safety. Clients will be informed about the limits of confidentiality at the outset of counselling sessions.

Risk Assessment

Before commencing counselling sessions, clients will be assessed for any potential safeguarding risks, particularly if they are vulnerable adults.

Care To Talk Counselling will regularly review clients' circumstances to identify any changes that may necessitate a reassessment of risk.

Reporting Procedures

Any concerns about the safety or welfare of a client will be reported following Care To Talk Counselling's reporting procedures, which may include contacting relevant authorities such as social services or the police. Care To Talk Counselling will also

report our concerns to our supervisor. Care To Talk Counselling will document any safeguarding concerns, actions taken, and outcomes in a confidential manner.

Training and Support

Care To Talk Counselling will attend training on safeguarding policies and procedures to ensure they are equipped to recognize and respond to safeguarding concerns effectively.

Review and Monitoring

This safeguarding policy will be reviewed annually by Care To Talk Counselling to ensure it remains effective and compliant with relevant legislation and best practice guidelines.

Any incidents or near misses related to safeguarding will be monitored and used to inform improvements to our safeguarding procedures.

Conclusion

Care To Talk Counselling is committed to maintaining the highest standards of safeguarding to protect the welfare of all clients who engage with our services. This policy will be communicated to clients, and we welcome feedback to help us continually improve our safeguarding practices.