Identify individuals who pose a risk of serious harm



Overview

This standard is about working with colleagues and other agencies to identify individuals who pose a risk of serious harm.

Where an assessment tool is used, this can be paper-based and/or electronic.

There is one element:

1 Identify individuals who pose a risk of serious harm

Target Group

This standard is applicable to those responsible for protecting the public from individuals posing a risk of serious harm

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 liaise with relevant agencies to identify individuals whose behaviour suggests that they might pose a risk of serious harm
- P2 identify why the agencies consider particular individuals' behaviour to pose a risk of serious harm, and those who might therefore be at risk from the individuals
- P3 gather and exchange relevant further information from and with other sources regarding the individuals identified
- P4 identify and review previous assessments made of the individuals, where these are available, establishing the currency of such assessments and their relevance to the present
- P5 verify and check information for accuracy, differentiating between information which is factual and that which is opinion
- P6 assess whether the individuals' behaviour is likely to pose a risk of serious harm and review their circumstances to identify factors that may be contributing to their behaviour
- P7 identify those individuals where the risk of their committing serious harm warrants further assessment, setting out a reasoned justification
- P8 recommend to the relevant person in your organisation the steps to be taken and agree the way forward
- P9 ensure that the relevant agencies are updated regularly as to your progress through the effective exchange of information, maintaining confidentiality in line with your organisation's requirements
- P10 maintain accurate and up to date records of progress

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Knowledge and understanding

Legislative, regulatory and organisational requirements

You need to know and understand:

- K1 legal, regulatory and organisational requirements and guides relevant to identifying individuals whose behaviour is considered to have the potential to cause a risk of serious harm, and their impact upon your working with other agencies to identify those individuals posing a risk of serious harm
- K2 legislation, policies and procedures relating to human rights, data protection, health and safety, diversity and their impact for your area of operations
- K3 the role of your organisation and its services relating to public protection and dealing with individuals posing a risk of harm to others
- K4 the role of the principal agencies involved in public protection, and multiagency arrangements towards assessing and addressing individuals posing a risk of harm and in providing support for victims/survivors/witnesses in your area
- K5 the limits of your authority and responsibility, and the actions to take if these are exceeded

Requirements particular to identifying relevant individuals

You need to know and understand:

- K6 what is considered to constitute serious harm to the public, the principal types of serious harm and those at risk from individuals causing the different types of serious harm
- K7 the relevant agencies able to identify those posing a risk of serious harm and the importance of exchanging information with these agencies
- K8 the nature of assessments made of the risk of harm posed by individuals, the agencies responsible for these, and your organisation's procedures for gaining access to such assessments
- K9 indications of behaviour likely to pose a risk of serious harm
- K10 common indicators that an individual may have problems relating to their mental health which are impacting adversely upon their behaviour, and the appropriate actions to take where you observe such indicators
- K11 agencies to which the individual might be referred for help and support with their mental health, and the procedures for progressing such referrals
- K12 procedures and guidelines for dealing with instances where behaviour likely to cause serious harm is identified
- K13 factors that might contribute to behaviour likely to cause serious harm and the importance of addressing these effectively
- K14 sources of information towards exploring the circumstances of individuals exhibiting behaviour likely to cause serious harm
- K15 the importance of differentiating between fact and opinion

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K16 the importance of maintaining accurate and up to date records, and how to do this

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