



# Chosen Care Group Limited

## Service User Guide

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<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.chosencaregroup.com">www.chosencaregroup.com</a>
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*This guide is available in alternative formats, including Large Print, Easy Read (including pictures), audio version and on various colored paper upon request*

## Welcome to Chosen Care Group

On behalf of Chosen Care Group Limited and all our staff, we welcome you, your family and others who are important to you. We hope that you will be happy with Chosen Care Group Limited. We want to support you to enjoy your day-to-day life in the same way that you do at present. If there is anything you need or would like more information about, please do not hesitate to ask.

There may be questions that you would like to ask. Our staff will ensure that any queries you have are answered as quickly and fully as possible. The information given below should provide you with the answers to some of the most frequently asked questions.

## Useful Contact Information

The person responsible for complaints or comments and suggestions is the

### **Mr. Asad Bin Abdullah**

Registered Care Manager

[asad@chosencaregroup.com](mailto:asad@chosencaregroup.com)

M: 07540250482 T: 02036595052

### **Ms. Sangita Maharjan**

Registered Care Manager

[sangita@chosencaregroup.com](mailto:sangita@chosencaregroup.com)

M: 07540219640 T: 02036595052

### **Mrs. Gracy Metilda**

Chief Operating Officer & Data Protection Officer

[gracy@chosencaregroup.com](mailto:gracy@chosencaregroup.com)

M: 07887792326 T: 02036595052

## What this Service User Guide is for

This guide is intended to give our Service Users the information they need about Chosen Care Group Limited. We can't fit everything into a guide, so any additional information you might need can be found at our Head Office or via our website.

We hope you find this guide useful, if there are changes you want to suggest then please let us know!

## Part 1: About Chosen Care Group

Chosen Care Group is a 'Domiciliary Care' Agency located in Redbridge and our Health and Social Care Services now available at 22 London Boroughs.

### Chosen Care Group Philosophy of Care

- Offer skilled care to enable people supported by us to achieve their optimum state of health and well-being.
- Treat all people supported by us and all people who work here with respect at all times.
- Uphold the human and citizenship rights of all who work and visit here and of all Service Users.
- Support individual choice and personal decision-making as the right of all Service Users.
- Respect and encourage the right of independence of all Service Users.
- Recognise the individual uniqueness of Service Users, staff and visitors, and treat them with dignity and respect at all times.
- Respect individual requirement for privacy at all times and treat all information relating to individuals in a confidential manner.
- Recognise the individual need for personal fulfilment and offer individualised programmes of meaningful activity to satisfy that need of Service Users and staff.

We base our care around you as an individual. To help us to do that, we adhere to a set of important principles outlined below. If at any time you have any questions about these, or you feel that someone is not upholding them, please let the manager know.

### Safe

Chosen Care Group Limited will do everything possible to keep you safe from all forms of abuse and neglect, working with you and other agencies to prevent avoidable harm. We do this by:

- Ensuring that our staff are well trained and skilled to provide the right Care, are able to recognise signs of abuse and report them swiftly
- Giving you the information you need to make informed choices and take informed risks. Staff at Chosen Care Group Limited understand and ensure the balance between your informed risk-taking, and the responsibility to ensure the safety of you and of others

- Identifying any hazards in your home and reducing the risk of infection
- Supporting you with any medication needs carefully to minimise the risk of errors or supporting you to continue to self-manage your medication safely

## Effective

We believe in Care that meets your needs because you are fully involved in arranging your Care. Each Service User is celebrated and supported to be an individual, to have their own social, emotional, spiritual, cultural, political and sexual needs accepted, supported and respected.

### The service we provide is effective because:

- We employ the right staff for you who have the right knowledge, skills and qualifications to fulfil your wishes and to enable you through Care
- We will ask for your views and ideas how you wish for your care and support to be provided and will make sure you can contribute to any proposed changes
- We will make information accessible and, in a way, that you can understand about your Care, medication and the services being offered and how you can tell us if there is something you don't like about our services
- We will consult you on your wishes, history and aspirations in the assessment and put this in your Care Plan. We will check this is up to date when your Care Plan it is reviewed. We will make sure your Care Plan is updated if your care needs change
- We will ask for your informed consent to Care and any changes to it in all decisions about your Care
- The principles of the Mental Capacity Act will be followed, and we will ensure that, where you cannot give consent, best interest decisions will be made following the Mental Capacity Act principles
- You will be supported to achieve as much independence as possible, emotionally, physically, intellectually and socially and without unreasonable restrictions
- We will keep information about you confidential and will tell you how we use your personal information, store it and how long we keep it for. You can talk to our DPO if you are concerned about your personal information

## Caring

Chosen Care Group Limited promotes a person-centred approach because:

- Staff will take an interest in what makes you, you; the things you want to share from memories, the things you like and don't like, current interests, needs and new pursuits
- Staff will treat you with dignity in the way they speak with you and the way they behave
- We will assist you in continuing to use your skills and in pursuing your interests
- We will uphold your right to privacy in all aspects of your care, personal affairs and belongings
- All information about Service Users is treated as confidential and only shared with members of staff, other professionals or organisations for the provision of care with your consent or your representative
- Information about you will be protected and stored to meet legal requirements and only kept for as long as is necessary
- We will make sure you understand information and what is said, providing you with the support you need, and giving you the help, you require to make your voice heard

## Responsive

Chosen Care Group Limited will be responsive to what we see, hear and know, to ensure that you maintain your health and wellbeing.

- Care staff will ensure that they are up to date with what is in your Care Plans and make changes when they are needed
- Chosen Care Group Limited welcomes complaints, compliments and issues raised and will always take them seriously, investigate and take the action needed to put things right, and improve the service we offer
- Staff will work with other professionals to ensure that your Care is joined up.

## Well-Led

Chosen Care Group Limited is a well-led organisation, knowing its responsibilities and carrying them out:

- The management staff of Chosen Care Group Limited are available and approachable for Service Users and staff alike
- Chosen Care Group Limited has the skills to monitor the service and make changes when they are needed
- When things go wrong, Chosen Care Group Limited and its management staff are honest with you and give solutions on how to put things right

## Statement of Purpose

We have a Statement of Purpose which you can ask to see Mr. Asad Bin Abdullah will be able to help you with this.

## Listening to The People Who Use Our Services

We can also share with you surveys from other people who use our services. We do not include them in this guide as they become out of date quickly.

## Our Staff

The staff allocated to support you will be chosen in order to match their skills with your needs, and also to minimise travelling distances in order to support good time attendance. In addition to the direct support staff the Registered Manager works 40 hours per week, most of which should be in addition to the levels displayed. In certain circumstances the manager may be included within the staffing levels described.

Staffing levels may be changed at the discretion of the Manager if there are particular needs. Care staff work on a rota system which ensures that the service is staffed by the appropriate number and skill mix, including weekends and public holidays. New employees are inducted to National Training Organisation standards within 12 weeks of employment. We manage and train our employees with the aim that all of our Care Workers are offered to achieve a RQF diploma. All other employees receive the training appropriate to their work, for example Food Hygiene for catering staff. All employees receive annual training in health and safety matters such as moving and handling, fire awareness and procedures, adult protection issues, and a range of other matters.

## Part 2: Our Services

The services we offer are listed below. If there is a service you require that is not listed, please do not hesitate to speak to the manager to see if it can be arranged:

### 1. Personal Care

We will support you in keeping links with the community, maintain your network of friends and family and help you to visit shops and places of interest where agreed as part of your Care Plan

**Activities:** Chosen Care Group Limited actively promotes Service Users' normal social networks and social activities and the level of support required will be agreed as part of your Care Plan

Each Service User's Care Plan includes a facility for recording life history, social networks and contacts, and preferences for activities and hobbies, so that the service can ensure that these are a part of everyday life

### 2. Complex Care

Chosen Care Group's Complex Care services are designed for individuals with chronic and complex diseases who need continuous care and support from family and carers. We have a sustained record of success in providing high-quality bespoke care in almost all clinical and social settings, providing care for individuals with a range of needs including

- Complex Care - Adults, Children and Young People
- Head and Spinal Injury Rehabilitation
- Home Ventilation and Respiratory Support
- Renal Care

### 3. End of life care

At Chosen Care Group, our end of life care services are designed to provide assistance and support to those individuals who are in the last stages of their death and to their families. There are individuals with chronic diseases who have to experience severe pain and irritation during their last days resulting in stealing the comfort of their families too.

#### 4. Learning Disability

At Chosen Care Group, our Learning Disability care service is outcome-based, supporting you to live as independently as possible and empowering you to have choice and control over your care. We care for and support people of all ages who have learning disabilities and associated needs, such as communication difficulties, autism, epilepsy and physical disabilities. Our person-centered approach helps you to reach your potential and develop your independence include people with

- Moderate to severe learning disability
- Profound and multiple learning disabilities / Complex needs
- Learning disabilities and behaviour that challenges

#### 5. Extra Care

As opposed to what many users think of it, Extra Care (sometimes known as assisted or supported living) provides our clients with access to high levels of care without having to sacrifice all of their autonomy.

#### 6. Dementia Care

If you have a loved one suffering from Dementia and Alzheimer's disease, you can relate to the pain and misery the patient has to go through. It starts with minor incidents of forgetting little things such as going out with car keys. But, as the disease enters into the next stage, the patient starts forgetting a lot of important details and events concerning his life.

It ultimately reaches a stage where the victim forgets his or her association with family members and friends and faces trouble in performing daily activities. It is regarded as one of the worst diseases with regards to suffering since there is no cure discovered yet. But, for every dark night, there's a brighter day.

#### 7. 24-hour Live-in Care

For individuals with complex and varying needs, there is nothing better than opting for a 24-hour live-in care service which is beneficial for both the person being cared for and their family.



## Benefits of 24-hour live-in care

- Our 24-hour live-in care ensures the maintenance of your independence and freedom to live life as you choose
- Our 24-hour live-in care guarantees the comfort and security of living in familiar surroundings
- Our 24-hour live-in care assists with the avoidance of separation from much-loved pets
- Our 24-hour live-in care provides relief from the burden of domestic chores such as cleaning, shopping and laundry
- Our 24-hour live-in care guarantees the freedom to choose what you eat and when you eat.
- Our 24-hour live-in care ensures the provision of consistent care by a person who understands you and your varying needs.
- Our 24-hour live-in care brings with it the one-to-one personal care and attention unrivalled by residential homes
- Our 24-hour live-in care eliminates the elements of stress, vulnerability, loneliness and insecurity for the patient.
- Our 24-hour live-in care provides immediate medical support in case of emergencies.

## Privacy

We will respect Service Users' privacy at all times. We will do this by making sure that:

- Discussion of Service Users and their affairs will be for the purposes of managing and improving care, and for no other reason, and will be conducted in private
- Records will be designed, used and stored safely and confidentially, and the Data Protection Act 2018 principles for information sharing will be followed
- We will ask you to keep your Care Plan safely in an agreed place so that your Care Workers can read it when they come to your home

## Service Users' Dignity

Your dignity is a matter of the utmost importance to us, and all staff will have received training in this area.

- You will be asked what you would like to be called, and this name will be recorded on your Care Plan and used by all staff
- In the absence of information on what you want our staff to call you, staff will address you formally, using your title and surname
- Staff are trained to support you with dignity always and will ensure that support is given in a dignified way whether you are alone or in company
- Staff are trained to knock and wait for your invitation before entering your home

## Part 3: Complaints and Comments Procedure

We always aim to provide a high standard of care in all our services.

Our Service Users' views are important to us and help to ensure our services are consistently meeting people's needs. If you are unhappy with any of our services it is important that you let us know.

If a complaint alerts us to possible abuse or neglect, we will tell the Council's adult safeguarding team. The safeguarding team will decide how to investigate and monitor outcomes.

### Making a Suggestion

Often people feel more comfortable about suggesting improvements rather than complaining formally. Anyone receiving services, and their friends/ family, may make a suggestion. First you should speak to the Manager or their Deputy.

If the suggestion is something that Chosen Care Group Limited as a company needs to consider you can send it to:

#### Mr. Asad Bin Abdullah

Registered Care Manager

asad@chosencaregroup.com

M: 07540250482 T: 02036595052

#### Ms. Sangita Maharjan

Registered Care Manager

sangita@chosencaregroup.com

M: 07540219640 T: 02036595052

#### Mrs. Gracy Metilda

Chief Operating Officer & Data Protection Officer

gracy@chosencaregroup.com

M: 07887792326 T: 02036595052

### Making a Complaint

Chosen Care Group Limited aims to handle complaints quickly, effectively and in a fair and honest way. We take all complaints seriously and use valuable information from investigating to help us improve the service we provide. We treat all complaints in confidence.

Chosen Care Group Limited assures clients and their families that it will not withdraw or reduce services because someone makes a complaint in good faith.

## Who Can Complain?

Anyone affected by the way Chosen Care Group Limited provides services can make a complaint. A representative may complain about the affected person if they:

- Have died
- Cannot make a complaint themselves, or
- Have given consent for the representative to act on their behalf

If you are not happy about making a complaint yourself and you do not know someone who can talk or write to us on your behalf, we will be happy to find someone from an independent organisation to act as an advocate for you.

## How You Can Make a Complaint?

You can complain:

- In person
- By telephone
- By letter
- By email
- Through a member of our staff
- Through an advocate or representative

We will acknowledge all complaints whether verbally or in writing within 3 working days.

## Anonymous Complaints

We deal with anonymous complaints under the same procedure; however, it is better if you can provide contact details, so we can tell you the outcome of our investigation.

## Responsibility

The Registered Manager has overall responsibility for dealing with all complaints made about their service. We will provide as far as is reasonably practical:

- Any help you need to understand the complaints procedure; or
- Advice on where you may get that help

## How We Handle Complaints

The Registered Manager may ask one of the management team to investigate the complaint. That person will have enough seniority and experience to deal with the issues raised by the complaint.

We will acknowledge a complaint within 3 working days and give you the name and contact details of the person investigating it.

We will keep you informed about the progress of the investigation. We aim to have all complaints finished within 28 working days unless we agree a different time scale with you.

When we have finished investigating, we will arrange to meet with you to discuss the outcome, and write to you with-

- Details of the findings
- Any action we have taken
- Our proposals to resolve your complaint

## Time Limits

You should complain as soon as you can after the date on which the event occurred or came to your notice. If you complain more than twelve months later, we may not be able to investigate properly. But we shall also consider whether you had good reason for not making the complaint sooner and whether, despite the delay, it is still possible to investigate the complaint effectively and fairly.

## Further Steps

Once your complaint has been fully dealt with by Chosen Care Group Limited, if you are not satisfied with the outcome you can refer your complaint to the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman (LGO) and ask for it to be reviewed. The LGO provides a free, independent service.



The LGO can be contacted for information and advice, or to register your complaint:

T: 0300 061 0614

W: [www.lgo.org.uk](http://www.lgo.org.uk)

The LGO will not usually investigate a complaint until the provider has had an opportunity to respond and resolve matters.

**Our service is registered with and regulated by the Care Quality Commission (CQC)**

The CQC cannot get involved in individual complaints about providers but is happy to receive information about our services at any time. You can contact the CQC at:

Care Quality Commission (CQC)  
National Correspondence Citygate,  
Gallowgate  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE1 4PA  
Tel: 03000 616161  
Fax: 03000 616171

## Advocates

All Service Users have the right to access an advocate who will act in their interests to help them solve problems, discuss concerns, and understand information. Mr Asad Bin Abdullah will be happy to provide information on local advocacy groups and other support networks.

## Insurance

Chosen Care Group Limited Carries Public Liability Insurance and Employers Liability Insurance up to

£10,000,000 for any one claim. The insurance covers all aspects of its undertakings. However, the insurance does not take the place of normal household insurance cover for accidental breakage or damage to household items. Please do not make private arrangements with our staff because this will not be covered under our insurance policy.

## Part 4: About Your Care and Support

### Care, Treatment and Support That Meets Your Needs

- Your personal needs will be assessed to make sure you get safe and appropriate Care that maintains your rights
- You will get the Care that you and your social care professional agree will make a difference to your health and wellbeing
- Your Care needs are coordinated if you move from one provider to another
- Staff respect your cultural background, gender, aged, sexual orientation, religion or belief and your disability if you have one

### To Be Safe When Using A Service

- You will be protected from abuse or the risk of abuse, and staff will respect your human rights
- If you need support with your medication we will make sure that you get the right support to make sure your medication is managed safely

### To Be Cared for By Staff with The Right Skills to Do Their Jobs Properly

- You will be cared for by staff who have the knowledge, skills and experience needed to meet your health and welfare needs
- You will be looked after by staff who are well managed and have the chance to develop and improve their skills

### Chosen Care Group Limited Routinely Checks the Quality of Our Services

- We continuously monitor the quality of our services to make sure you receive the support you need
- Your personal records will be accurate and kept safe and confidential
- We will make sure that we have the right numbers of staff so that your Care Worker has supervision and support

## Before Your Service Starts

- The first step is to arrange to visit you in your own home. Chosen Care Group Limited will discuss with you your individual requirements and the range of Services we are able to provide for you
- The Registered Manager or one of our team will visit you in your home, or in hospital if necessary, and will write an assessment with you. This information will form part of your Care Plan which explains how we will be able to support you to achieve your care, health and wellbeing goals
- If you have any questions, please discuss them with your Care Worker, or contact the Registered Manager, who will be very happy to answer them
- Once you have agreed for Chosen Care Group Limited to provide you with care and support, you will be asked to sign the Care Plan and sign that you give us consent to provide you with the care and support as planned
- Before your service starts we will make sure you know who is coming to provide your care and support, when they are coming and how long they will stay. Your Care Plan will tell them what they need to do when they visit you. We will also explain to them what your needs and wishes are

## Fees

Chosen Care Group Limited fees are set out in the Service User Contract. If you would like details on the fees and terms of payment you can discuss this with Mr Asad Bin Abdullah.

## Your Care Team

Working with the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), it is the policy of Chosen Care Group Limited to adhere to:

- The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Incl. Exemption Order 1975)
- Health and Social Care Act (2008)

Chosen Care Group Limited carry out stringent background checks and enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service checks on all our staff. In addition, our policy further strives to provide protection by ensuring that at least two satisfactory written references are obtained to provide information concerning individuals' competence, ability, trustworthiness and experience.



Staff will be required to seek confirmation of their status via an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check.

## **Matching Care Staff to Meet Your Needs**

For you to receive quality care, we understand that it is important that you can be cared and supported by staff who know what your needs, expectations and wishes are. We will make sure we match your Care Worker to meet your needs and we will have a small team of Care Workers who will provide you with your care and support. This will ensure you have sufficient cover when your Care Worker has holiday and that they can get to know you and what is important to you.

Obviously not everyone gets on with each other. If you are unhappy with your Care Worker, please bring this to the attention of the Registered Manager (Mr Asad Bin Abdullah). The matter will be resolved sensitively and confidentially, and a new Care Worker or Support Worker will be assigned to you if this is appropriate.

## **Holiday Leave and Sickness Cover**

When a Care Worker is away, Chosen Care Group Limited will make other arrangements to ensure you receive the service you need. You will be informed in advance the name of the Care Worker(s) who have been selected to replace your regular one. If a permanent change needs to be made, we will discuss this with you. Chosen Care Group Limited will make every effort to ensure you receive a reliable service always.

## **Identification Badges**

Care Workers are issued with a laminated Chosen Care Group Limited identification badge that carries a photograph of them on it. Care Workers should show you the identification badge when they visit you. You should not allow a Care Worker into your home if you do not know them before they have shown you their identity badge. If you have any concerns about the person - you should contact the office.

## Staff Conduct

- Staff will not directly charge you for any services provided, all charges must be documented and processed through Chosen Care Group Limited
- Staff are not permitted to accept any gifts in cash or kind from either yourself, your family or friends
- Staff are not allowed to witness or benefit in any way from the last will & testament of individuals using the services of Chosen Care Group Limited
- Staff are not allowed to bring pets, children or other family or friends with them when they are working in your home
- Staff are not allowed to smoke or consume alcohol in your home
- As a rule, care staff cannot conduct any activity that is not specified in the Service User's Care Plan, or which may place themselves or others in danger
- Care Workers are not permitted to use your internet or WIFI

## Your Care and Support

Your personal care and health care is planned in consultation with you, our staff and anyone else who is important to you, if you ask for them to be involved. To ensure that we provide the highest level of care for you, our staff will record the details of your care in the Care Plan along with details of your personal choices regarding the normal activities of daily living.

All Service Users are actively encouraged to become involved in the Care Planning process and will be consulted at each stage of the Care Plan.

Every time your Care Worker visits you, they will record what activities they have provided. If you decide that you don't want the care as planned on a visit they will discuss this with you and record it in your daily visit record.

Your Care Worker is trained to tell Chosen Care Group Limited when they don't provide your care as agreed in the Care Plan. This is to make sure we can respond if your needs change.

## Risk Assessment

- The assessment of risk is addressed at the start of service for each Service User and the results are integrated into the Care Plan. This makes sure that your views and the views of those important to you, will be fully taken into account, as part of the person-centred Care Planning process
- The following are examples of the types of risks we assess. We recognise your right to choose and your right to take risk and each risk will be discussed in detail and those discussions will be recorded. This will show the way in which Chosen Care Group Limited aims to meet your needs and to ensure we can work safely with you in your home:
  - Security in the home
  - Fire
  - Electricity
  - Moving and handling
  - Infection control
  - Medication
  - Handling money
  - Personal Safety

## Review of Your Care

We will carry out service reviews within 6 weeks of your service starting and then every 6 months or more often if required. Changes in your care and support will usually require a reassessment to make sure your needs can be met. Please contact our office if you wish to request a review or contact the Social Services or Health Authority who may be paying for your service on your behalf.

## Short Notice Cancellations

We ask that you give us as much notice as possible if you wish to cancel your visit or if you are going to be away from home.

You may cancel booked individual Care Worker visits by giving at least 24 hours' notice to the Registered Manager. Cancellations where less than 24 hours' notice is

given, including booked Care Worker visits made where you are unexpectedly not present, or refuse entry, will be charged at the normal rate for the full booked visit.

## **Terminating Your Contract with Chosen Care Group Limited**

You can cancel the service at any time (and for any reason) within 14 days of the date of this Agreement (the “Cancellation Period”).

A Service User may at any time and for any reason give Chosen Care Group Limited at least 14 days written notice to terminate their individual service contract. If you give less than 14 days’ notice we reserve the right to charge a cancellation fee or a service suspension fee.

Please note, if you suspend the service for a period of time in accordance with the above paragraph we cannot guarantee that the same Care Worker will attend your home when you resume the service.

## **Call Times**

Call times are primarily set according to the Service User’s wishes. Obviously, it is not always possible to achieve the exact requirements from day one, and sometimes a compromise is reached. You will always be advised of any changes and your approval sought before any change.

Punctuality is a high priority and is monitored very actively. Our aim is to arrive on time, all the time. Our policy is that, should a member of staff know that they will be more than 15 minutes late arriving, then the office or our out of hours’ manager will be notified and the Service User informed immediately.

## Part 5: Key Policies and Procedures

### Gender Choice

You have the right to choose the sex of the person sent to support you with personal care. This is because of the personal nature of the service. We will record your choice when we talk to you as part of your service planning.

### Handling Money

When Care Workers make financial transactions on your behalf for things like collecting pensions, shopping or paying bills - they will enter the details on the financial record sheet kept in your home. They will keep the receipt for shopping and count the change out to you. Care Workers should not be given cash cards or PIN numbers to obtain money from a bank on your behalf. Only financial arrangements that have been formally agreed and written in the Care Plan can be carried out for you.

Please contact the Manager about any needs you have that are not being met, or if you are unsure whether or not they are being met.

### Gifts, Wills and Other Documents

Chosen Care Group Limited aims to make sure that you receive a care service of the highest possible standard. To make sure our staff always work professionally and to protect you and our staff from any allegation of financial abuse:

- Care Workers are not allowed to accept gifts of money or other presents
- Care Workers are not allowed to accept loans
- Care Workers must not buy lottery tickets or sell you raffle tickets
- Care Workers must not sell to you from mail order catalogues
- Care Workers must not ask for sponsorship or for donations for charitable organisations or good causes
- Care Workers are not allowed to act as witness to legal documents and wills
- Care Workers are not allowed to benefit from wills
- Care Workers are not allowed to recommend tradesmen or a member of their family or friends to carry out work in your home

## Keys and Key Safes

Care Workers do not usually hold the house keys of people they visit. However, if there is a reason why this needs to be done - it must be formally recorded in advance as described in the Chosen Care Group Limited Key and Key Safe Policy.

Care Workers will be given the key safe combination numbers of the people they visit. Chosen Care Group Limited policy arrangements ensure that these numbers are kept securely and are never written down with the address.

## Medication and Healthcare Related Activities

Care Workers will administer medication but only when it has been agreed and written in the Care Plan. Both prescription and 'over the counter' remedies must be agreed beforehand so that it can be checked as to whether the medicines will have no 'side effects' if taken at the same time.

Care Workers receive training in the administration of medication and we have a number of medication policies at Chosen Care Group Limited. Some health-related activities when agreed, need to be carried out under the supervision of a Health Care Professional and staff will be only able to perform them when they have the correct training, are fully supervised and assessed as being competent to meet your health-related needs safely. The Registered Manager will need to give approval before any support is provided.

Care Workers are not allowed administer medication from family filled medication dispensers and no assistance can be provided that has not been formally agreed with the Manager and detailed in the Care Plan.

Your Care Worker will record any medication administered on a Medication Administration Record each time they provide any medication administration support.

## Confidentiality and Data Protection

Our policy is that any information about you is strictly confidential and that maintaining a position of trust in this regard is paramount. However, because some information is relevant to providing quality Care, such information will be shared with members of staff who may be supporting you. You will be consulted where appropriate before information is released.

Information about you will be stored in paper form and may also be held on computer or other electronic devices. All are treated in the same strictly confidential way.

Information about you is needed to enable staff to provide proper support and treatment. Some of the information may also be used for other purposes, such as:

- Making sure our services meet your needs
- Helping staff to review the support they provide to you to help them achieve the highest standards
- Investigating complaints or legal claims
- Auditing of our services.

Sometimes information about you needs to be passed on to other organisations, for example if you are receiving care from a GP or hospital. The types of organisations with whom we may share information about you are:

- GPs
- District nurses
- Other health professionals
- Social workers
- Care Quality Commission

We have a number of policies about how we manage your personal information that comply with the General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018 and you can speak to our DPO for more information about this.

## Equality and Non-Discrimination

Chosen Care Group Limited offers services to all people without prejudice of their culture, race, ethnic origin, color, religion, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, disability or disease. We therefore believe that:

- You have the right to practice your beliefs, religion or culture without constraint by restrictive or discriminatory practice
- You have the right to express your sexuality and to be free from discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation as well as the right to take free, informed, voluntary decisions on your sexuality, sexual orientation and gender identity, without coercion or discrimination

- Complaints of discriminatory practice will be thoroughly investigated, and the results of the investigation made known to the complainant
- All complaints will be recorded in such a way as to highlight repeated problems

## **Infection Control**

Care Workers are supplied with plastic aprons and gloves which they will wear when they carry out personal care duties. Care Workers need to wear protective clothing to prevent the spread of infection. Care Workers are also expected to wash their hands on entering and before leaving your home. Please contact the office if your Care Worker does not do this.

## **Smoke Free Law**

Legislation states that a private dwelling is not defined as smoke free unless used as a place of work. At certain points in the day your home becomes a place of work for our care/support staff. For the health and safety of our staff, we ask you and anyone else present in your home, to refrain from smoking and ventilate any room in that will be used for your care for at least one hour before the agreed time.

If you smoke while your Care Worker is with you, the Care Worker will be obliged to leave your home for the duration of your smoking and shall not be permitted to re-enter your home until 1 hour after you last smoked. Any additional requirements or any variation to this clause will be specified in your Care Plan.

## **Private Work**

Care Staff are not permitted to undertake work for you privately and are not insured by us to be in your home either when you are not present or when they are not visiting as part of their agreed schedule of work with Chosen Care Group Limited.

Any direct engagement by you of a Care Worker supplied by us shall render you liable to pay either a Permanent Engagement Fee to us totaling £1000.00, or to engage the Care Worker for a further 6-month period.

## **Protecting You from Abuse and Harm**

Chosen Care Group Limited are committed to ensuring that you will be protected from harm and abuse and enabled to live independently as possible in a safe environment.



Care Workers receive regular training on how people should be treated and they are trained to recognise if someone is being bullied, physically abused or suffer financial, emotional and psychological harm. Person(s) such as informal carers, relatives, friends and members of the Home Care Staff or other professionals can commit abuse.

Abuse can take form in subtle ways like Care Workers calling people pet names that they don't like or speaking to someone else in a language they don't understand so that they do not know if they are being discussed or not. Care Workers using their mobile phone whilst they are providing care or speaking over the head of a Service User to another Care Worker.

***Any reports of abuse or concerns of abuse must be reported to the Registered Manager without fail. If you think you are being abused or are concerned you might be you can speak to Mr. Asad Bin Abdullah.***

If you do not think you can speak to Mr. Asad Bin Abdullah You can contact: Local Safeguarding Coordinator directly.

Your telephone will not be used by Care Workers except for the following reasons:

- You or they have a medical emergency. We will not be responsible for payment of your telephone bill
- To make a Free phone telephone call to (Insert name of Electronic Call Monitoring Providers Name) upon arrival and departure of your home and this will be discussed with you at the start of your service

## **Withdrawal of Service**

Where termination of contract is the only reasonable option after consideration, Chosen Care Group Limited will ensure a reasonable notice period of at least 28 days, unless safety issues require a swifter departure from the service.

Although the Registered Manager will take all possible measures to resolve problems, there are some reasons why the consideration of withdrawal of service have to be made as follows:

- Physical violence towards staff
- Serious verbal abuse towards staff which includes swearing, making derogatory remarks that are racist or sexist and that are meant to cause offence to staff

- Refusing to adhere or co-operate with the risk control measures put in place under the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 and thus putting themselves and staff at risk
- Withdrawal of service will be considered when there are risks present to the health and safety of the staff that are unacceptable and no control measures can be found

Other reasons that Chosen Care Group Limited will consider the withdrawal of the service is the continual pressure on staff to perform duties that are not part of the agreed Care Plan and the continual undermining of staff 'one to another' or threats of physical violence.

If you have failed to meet your financial commitments to Chosen Care Group Limited, this will also be a situation where withdrawal of the service is considered.

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