

Case Study Peter

The adult at risk is Peter, a 26-year-old male with severe autism and learning disabilities who attends day care on three days per week. The person alleged to have caused harm (PACH) is another service user. The allegation is one of physical abuse. Both service users were travelling to the Day Centre and were sat together as usual. The PACH reached over to Peter and pinched him on the left arm.

The bus was immediately stopped, and staff separated both service users to different seats. Distraction techniques were used. Staff advised the PACH that their actions were not appropriate. Having reached the Day Centre, Peter and the PACH were kept apart by their 1:1 members of staff. Peter was initially distressed but soon calmed down. He was checked for injuries and he had a red bruise with the imprint of three fingers from contact. This was recorded on a body map.

Peter's mother has been informed of the incident, advised of actions taken to minimise risk, including them being kept apart by staff members. She is happy with the measures put in place. Peter's mother is consenting to this being addressed through safeguarding adults procedures and is likely to contribute where needed.

Taken from ADASS/LGA Making decisions on the duty to carry out Safeguarding Adults enquiries - June 2019