

Policy Name: Staff Boundaries Policy

Issue Number 5

Policy Statement

South Somerset Mind seeks to ensure a proper relationship between staff and service users

1. Staff members must respect each service user as an individual in adherence with the Equal Opportunities Policy here at South Somerset Mind. However they must recognise the difference between being friendly with the service users and being a friend.
2. No member of staff is permitted to visit service users out of South Somerset Mind office hours.
3. The only exception to this is if a service user is in crisis, then two members of staff at all times should be present when visiting any service user out of South Somerset Mind office hours. A record of the visit is to be made available to senior managers and The Board.
4. No staff member is to provide or supply any service user with drugs or alcohol, and under no circumstance should a staff member consume drugs or alcohol with service users.
5. Under no circumstances should a member of staff give any service user their personal address and/or telephone number. Staff should only be contactable through SSM office.
6. Care should be taken about how much personal information is divulged by staff members to service users, to avoid putting friends and family members at unnecessary risk.

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Honorary President: Maureen Street