# Risk Assessments and Management

##### Policy

My Support and Care Services Ltd acknowledges that an element of risk taking may be involved for Customers to maintain skills and develop new skills. We also acknowledge that it is vital that Customers are not denied opportunities because it may involve an element of risk.

The purpose of risk assessing is to identify any risk areas and develop & put into place strategies to minimise risk to Customers and others involved in providing their care.

My Support and Care Services Ltd will complete and implement any risk assessment felt appropriate for each Customer and will undertake the risk assessment process for any situation or activity deemed a risk for the staff employed by My Support and Care Services Ltd.

##### Procedures

#### Need for Risk Assessments

A risk assessment will be completed for any given situation that is likely put the Customer or others at risk due to their vulnerabilities.

Risk for our Customers may be increased for a number of reasons, when considering a risk assessment for planned situation or in response to an unplanned event (i.e. incident) the following should be considered:

* Any physical disabilities
* Health / Medication (epilepsy, diabetes etc.)
* Mental health (confusion for example)
* Sensory ability (vision, hearing etc.)
* Ability to communicate with others / understand others
* Perception of danger / risks
* Perception of safety
* Vulnerability from others (abuse in all its forms, exploitation etc.)
* Proximity to any major hazards (water, main road etc.)
* Any previous incidents
* The Law

The following people should be consulted throughout the risk assessment process:

* The Customer
* Staff
* The service manager.
* The Customers care manager
* Any other person that the risk assessment may impact upon (with consent of the Customer)

Risk assessments will include the following details:

* Why it is in place
* The benefits of confronting risk
* The consequences of not confronting risk
* Instructions and / or guidance to minimise risk

The risk assessment will be discussed with the Customer and signed by all parties involved, the risk assessment will then be implemented. A copy of the risk assessment will be forwarded to the Customers care manager for comment and approval.

Risk assessments will be reviewed on the following basis:

* 6 – 12 monthly
* As requested by Customer
* As dictated by any incidents
* If the risk assessment is failing in any way

#### Company Risk Assessments

The service manager will be responsible for producing risk assessments for the purposes of minimising risks for employees within the company. These will include:

* COSHH statements and policy.
* Fire Safety Assessment.
* Health and Safety policy.

These assessments are to be subject to review on an annual basis.