

## **RYEDALE CARERS SUPPORT**

### **POLICY ON THE ACCEPTING OF GIFTS**

This policy is intended to offer clear guidelines as to what is acceptable, in order to protect the interests of staff, volunteers and clients.

The acceptance of gifts or money can easily lead to criticism and to the suspicion of improper motives. It could also place you in an embarrassing position if allegations were made at a later date.

It is therefore essential for caution to be exercised. Both staff and volunteers can politely and tactfully refuse personal gifts offered by clients. An exception can be made for small tokens of thanks e.g. flowers, a cake, small box of chocolates etc.

Volunteers should consult with the Chief Officer if the person offering a gift persists and presses you to accept, or if there is any other problem. A decision can then be made and appropriate action taken.