

How you can  
**recognise and  
report** concerns to  
help adults stay safe  
or prevent a  
death



**Abuse  
of Adults**

*Speak out,  
don't ignore it,  
report it*



Phone

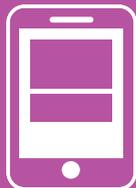
**Safeguarding Adults -**  
*All Adults have a right to live  
free from abuse*



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letter



Talk to  
someone



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**Guide for the  
PUBLIC**



Sheffield  
Adult  
Safeguarding  
Partnership

## What is Adult Safeguarding?

**The Care Act places a legal requirement on all agencies to make sure that all adults (aged 18 and over) should be able to live without being harmed or at risk of abuse/harm.**

Adults who have care and support needs (visual impairment, hearing impairment, physical disability, physical ill health, learning disability, mental health issue etc) may be less able to protect themselves from harm and may struggle to share their worries.

***“you may be the only one who could help the person share their concerns/fears - please be our eyes and ears and stand up so that adults can stay safe”?***

**Share your concerns – if it feels wrong/looks wrong please report it!**

## Harm is defined in the Care Act as

**Physical** – for example hitting etc

**Sexual** – for example - forcing adults to do sexual acts they don't want to or can't consent to (including rape, sexual assaults etc)

**Financial** – for example taking money or anything of value from adults etc

**Neglect** – any action that restricts choice, causes harm or isolates people, for example not supporting them to get washed/dressed etc

**Discriminatory** – It is a criminal offence to bully someone who has a disability or is “different” (disability (or other) hate crime)

**Mate Crime** is a form of Hate Crime and involves people pretending to a friend of the adult to get control of their money, steal their food, hurt the adult physically, hurt the adult sexually, intimidate the adult etc.

# Abuse of Adults – Speak out, don't ignore it, Report it

**Hate Incidents** are actions that are not crimes, they do cause upset and harm; and should always be reported.

**Emotional** – for example. Threatening to leave them alone or intimidating them etc.

## **Organisational Abuse (previously known as Institutional abuse)**

Organisations such as care homes/home care agencies/hospitals / supported living.

Adults have a right to good quality care which may not be provided, this is more likely to happen in organisations with not enough staff and/or poorly trained staff and this is likely to result in poor standards of care and neglect.

Inappropriate behaviour by staff, unnecessary or avoidable restrictions on the adults contact with others or external activities, lack of choice about when to eat, get up, go to bed etc.

**Domestic Violence** – is described as any behaviour between two or more adults aged 16 and over that results in controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, or violence. It includes Honour based violence and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).

## **Modern Slavery/Human Trafficking**

Forcing or tricking an adult into slavery, sexual exploitation, working unpaid as a domestic slave etc.

## **Exploitation by Radicalisers**

Adults who have care needs or adults who are isolated may be targeted by adults or groups who support terrorism. The adult may be persuaded or bullied into getting involved in actions that may cause harm to themselves or others (e.g terrorist)

# *Abuse of Adults – Speak out, don't ignore it, Report it*

*What should I do if I think something is wrong?*

**OR**

*I am being hurt?*

*A loved one is being hurt?*

- Your actions could save a life
- You can share your concerns without giving your name
- You can share your concerns via the tear off slip (postage paid) inside this leaflet
- You can ring the First Contact Team – 0114 273 4908
- or you can share your concerns with a trusted professional – Doctor, Nurse, social worker etc
- You can also report concerns about the care in hospitals, home care agencies and care homes to the Care Quality Commission (CQC) on 0300616161 (you can do this without giving your name)

# Abuse of Adults – Speak out, don't ignore it, Report it

## CONCERN FORM

**Please use this form if you have any concerns about yourself or any other adult who is being harmed or abused.** You may be the only person who knows about this and your actions could save a life. Give us as much information as you can to help us stop the harm. If you do give your name it won't be shared with the person causing the harm without your consent.

**Your Name** (optional)

**Contact telephone number or email address**

**If you give your contact details do you want to be contacted with an update**

Yes

No

Who are you worried about...

FOLD HERE

**Name**

**Address**

**Age/date of birth (if known)**

**Do you have a contact number or email address for the person**

– if so please add

**Can you say why the adult is not able to prevent harm themselves** – disability, mental ill health, using drugs etc

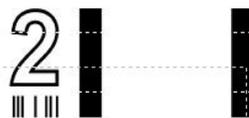
**Can you describe what you have seen, heard, been told** and if you know who is causing the harm can you tell us their name/ address etc. This may be a worker/family member



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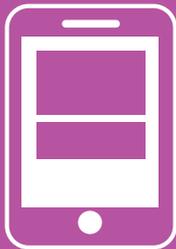
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