

Safeguarding Adults

Quick Reference Factsheet

Statutory criteria for Safeguarding Adults (Care Act 2014)

A Safeguarding adults concern should be raised if a person aged 18 years or over:

- has or may have needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs); and
- is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect; and
- as a result of those needs, is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.

Care and support needs

These are needs linked to a physical or mental impairment.

This includes conditions as a result of either physical, mental, sensory, learning or cognitive disabilities or illnesses, substance misuse or brain injury. A formal diagnosis of the condition is not required.

Definition of Abuse

Abuse or neglect may be deliberate, or the result of negligence or ignorance.

Unintentional abuse or neglect arises, for example, because pressures have built up or a person does not have the correct knowledge, training or support.

Abuse can be a crime.

Categories of abuse

You should not limit your view of what constitutes abuse or neglect, as they can take many forms and the circumstances of the individual case should always be considered. Someone may be experiencing or at risk of multiple categories. The ten main categories in the Care Act (2014) are:

1. Physical
2. Sexual (abuse/exploitation)
3. Emotional
4. Financial or material
5. Neglect or acts of omission
6. Discriminatory
7. Organisational/institutional
8. Domestic abuse (including Forced Marriage, Honour Based Violence and Female Genital Mutilation)
9. Modern Slavery
10. Self - Neglect

Before making a safeguarding adults referral

Consider the following:

- Have you discussed your concerns with the adult (or a suitable representative) where it is safe to do so?
- What are the adult's (or representative's) views about the concern?
- Have you asked the adult what they would like to happen?
- Have you sought consent from the adult (or their representative) to report a safeguarding adults concern? Is there a need to override consent?
- What do you need to do to manage the immediate risks? e.g. call Police or other emergency service, get the person to a place of safety, inform management of a service, support the person with a basic safety plan (e.g. who (and how) they could contact for help in the short-term) etc.
- Have you collected all the information you need to raise a Safeguarding Adults Concern? You can find out what information you need to raise a concern on the Newcastle Safeguarding Adults Board [webpages](#)

Making a safeguarding adults referral

Referrals can be made directly to Newcastle Adult Social Care by anyone.

- Professionals should use the [Safeguarding Adults Initial Enquiry Form \(SAIEF\)](#) to make referrals.
- Members of the public can report via telephone – 0191 278 8377
- Referrals do not need to be made out-of-hours unless there is an urgent social care need – Emergency Duty Team – 0192 278 7878

People can refer anonymously, please state this at the point of reporting and Adult Social Care who will try as far as possible to maintain anonymity.

For other information

Further information about safeguarding adults in Newcastle can be found on our [website](#).

There are free e-learning courses available on safeguarding adults and children for people living, working or volunteering in Newcastle. Register with Virtual College [here](#)

Waltham Forest have produced a three-minute film explaining safeguarding adults and children for people who are volunteering - <https://youtu.be/HHQG8CJROhU> . As explained in the film you can report concerns to a designated/single point of contact for safeguarding (if you have one) or you can report directly to Adult Social Care (see above).

The Ann Craft Trust also have some useful information on their website: [Safeguarding and coronavirus – info, tips and resources](#).