

How to recognise

signs of abuse

and neglect

It may be:

- physical
- domestic
- emotional
- sexual
- financial
- modern slavery
- discriminatory
- organisational
- self neglect



Find out more about abuse and report it at
www.safeguardingadultsyork.org.uk or call 01904 555111

How can you help?

You may suspect neglect or abuse because:

- You have general concerns about someone's well-being
- You see or hear about something which could be abuse or neglect
- Someone tells you something has happened or is happening to them, which could be neglect or abuse.

Some people will not be able to tell anyone they are being harmed. If you are worried about someone and think they may be at risk of harm then report it.

You must never assume that somebody else will recognise and report what you have seen or heard. Please report any suspicions of abuse or neglect.

Safeguarding Adults in York

City of York Adults Safeguarding Board works to protect adults with care and support needs from abuse and neglect.

To raise a concern about adult abuse or neglect, call **01904 555 111** or call the police on **101**.

Or, tell us online at **www.safeguardingadultsyork.org.uk**.

What is adult safeguarding?

Safeguarding means protecting an adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. It is about people and organisations working together to prevent and stop abuse or neglect.

Who is an adult at risk?

Many adults, because of illness or disability, may be unable to protect themselves from abuse. An adult at risk is someone who is aged 18 years or more who:

- Has care and support needs (whether or not the Local Authority is meeting any of those needs)
- Is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect
- As a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.

Who carries out the abuse?

Anyone can carry out abuse or neglect. This could include a carer, friend, neighbour, family member, professional, partner or a stranger.

Where does it happen?

Abuse can happen anywhere. It could take place in someone's own home, in a public place, in hospital, in a care home or college. It can take place when an adult lives alone or with others.

What is abuse?

Abuse and neglect can take many forms. It might include:

Discriminatory abuse - this includes forms of harassment, slurs or similar treatment; because of race, gender and gender identity, age, disability, sexual orientation or religion.

Domestic abuse - this is any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse. It take place between people aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. Domestic abuse includes psychological, physical, sexual, financial, emotional abuse; so called honour-based violence.

Financial or Material abuse - this includes theft, fraud, internet scamming, coercion in relation to an adult's financial affairs or arrangements, including wills, property, inheritance or financial transactions.

Modern Slavery - this encompasses slavery, human trafficking, forced labour and domestic servitude. It also includes traffickers and slave masters coercing, deceiving and forcing people into abuse, servitude and inhumane treatment.

Physical abuse - this includes assault, hitting, slapping, pushing, misuse of medication or restraint, and the use of inappropriate physical sanctions.

Psychological abuse - this includes emotional abuse, threats of harm or abandonment, stopping contact between people, humiliation, blame, controlling, intimidation, coercion, harassment, verbal abuse and cyber-bullying. It can include isolation and unreasonable and unjustified withdrawal of services or supportive networks.

Neglect includes ignoring medical, emotional or physical care needs, failure to provide access to appropriate health, care and support or educational services. Includes the withholding of the necessities of life, such as medication, adequate nutrition and heating.

Self-neglect covers a wide range of behaviour where someone neglects their own personal hygiene, health or surroundings. It includes behaviour such as hoarding.

Sexual abuse - this includes rape, indecent exposure, sexual harassment, inappropriate looking or touching, innuendo and sexual photography. It also includes subjecting people to watch pornography or witness sexual acts, as well as taking part in sexual acts to which the adult has not consented or was pressured into consenting.

Organisational or institutional abuse - this includes neglect and poor care practice by an organisation or care setting, such as in a hospital, care home or someone's own home. Organisational abuse can range from one-off incidents to ongoing ill-treatment.

What happens after abuse is reported?

We will treat every report of suspected abuse seriously. Everyone is different and will need different support or advice depending on their situation.

Where possible we will take steps to ensure the immediate safety of the adult at risk and anyone else affected by the alleged abuse, including children.

We will involve the adult at risk, or their representative, and will work together with them to plan what we can do to support and help keep them safe and as independent as possible.

Together with our partner agencies, we will always do what we can to prevent abuse happening again. We cannot do this without your help!



Abuse, exploitation or neglect are always wrong.



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CITY OF YORK
Safeguarding
Adults Board



CITY OF
YORK
COUNCIL

Report abuse



Let us know about any abuse you have experienced.
You can tell us in a number of ways. These are:



Call City of York Adult Social Care, Monday to Friday,
8.30am to 5pm, on **01904 555111**



To contact us in the evening or at weekends, call:
01609 534527



If you are hearing impaired or deaf, please text:
07534 437804



To report your concerns online, visit:
www.safeguardingadultsyork.org.uk



Or you can ring the police: call **101**. Or, if someone is
in danger right now: call **999**.



Find out more about safeguarding at:
www.safeguardingadultsyork.org.uk

If you would like this document in an alternative format, please contact:



(01904) 551550



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