

Adult Safeguarding

Safeguarding ensures that adults facing or at risk of abuse or neglect receive the support they need to live safely.

This guide explains what you can do if you are worried about yourself or someone you know.

What is abuse and neglect?

- It can happen once or lots of times
- It can happen anywhere, including in a person's home or in a public place
- It can be done by anyone, including someone that the person at risk knows.

Types of abuse and neglect

Neglect

A person is not getting the help, food or healthcare they need.

Self-neglect

A person is not looking after themselves, or not wanting help given to them.

Sexual abuse

When a person is made to do sexual things that they do not want to do.

Physical abuse

When a person's body is hurt, including being hit, kicked, burnt, given medication that they do not need.

Emotional abuse

When a person is made to feel upset or worried, including being threatened, shouted at or called names.

What if I'm worried?

These are short descriptions of just a few types of abuse and neglect. There are lots of others but if you are worried about yourself or somebody else, you should speak to somebody you trust or your local Adult Social Care Department.

Don't be afraid to speak up and report your concerns.



Who might need Safeguarding?

Safeguarding is for any adult who:

- has needs for care and support

AND

- is experiencing, or at risk of abuse or neglect

AND

- cannot protect themselves

Care and support is a mix of different types of support for adults who need extra help to live their lives and be independent. This includes:

- people with a physical or learning disability
- people with mental health needs
- older people

How can you report a concern?

Safeguarding Self Referral:

<https://adultsocialcareportal.surreycc.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/saferef#headPssrGs>

Safeguarding Public Referral:

<https://adultsocialcareportal.surreycc.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/safepubref#headPsprGs>



What happens next?

Once you have reported your concerns to your Adult Social Care Department, they will decide if there needs to be a safeguarding enquiry.

A safeguarding enquiry is when information is collected to work out:

- what has happened
- and
- what needs to happen now to make sure that the person is safe

What if it's an emergency?

If you feel that somebody is in danger and that it is an emergency, call 999.



Other ways to get support

- Telephone: 0300 200 1005
- Textphone (via Text Relay): 18001 0300 200 1005
- SMS: 07527 182 861 (for the deaf or hard of hearing)
- VRS: Sign Language Video Relay Service
- For emergency situations outside our standard lines hours. Telephone: 01483 517 898 or Email: edt.ssd@surreycc.gov.uk
- Textphone (via Relay UK): 18001 01483 517898
- Text (SMS): 07800000388 (for the deaf or hard of hearing)
- Speak to us confidentially at the practice - we are here to help