

PATIENT INFORMATION

Adult Safeguarding

What is Adult Safeguarding?



Working with you, for you

Keeping people safe is called Safeguarding.



Safeguarding means people are protected from abuse and neglect. They are also able to be as independent as possible and make choices about how they want to live.



Abuse is when someone does or says things that frighten you or cause you harm.



Neglect is when your care and support needs are not being met.



It is the law that the Council and Social Care Services must safeguard all adults at risk of abuse or neglect.

Who can be at risk of abuse or neglect?



- Older people
- People with a visual or hearing impairment
- People with a physical disability
- People with a learning disability
- People with a mental health problem
- People with a long-term illness or condition.

Who might abuse you?

People who could abuse you may be:



- Someone in your family
- Neighbours
- Strangers
- Friends
- Volunteers
- Carers
- Staff
- Professionals

Most people will not abuse you.

What type of abuse are there?



Physical abuse could be someone hitting, slapping, pushing, kicking, misuse of medication, being locked in a room, inappropriate sanctions or force feeding.



Sexual abuse could be someone touching your body without your permission or someone making you touch them in a way you do not want.



Financial or material abuse could be someone taking your money or other things that belong to you.



Psychological abuse could be someone being unkind to you, threatening you, swearing at you, calling you names or someone ignoring you.



Domestic abuse could be physical abuse, sexual abuse, financial abuse or physical abuse. Domestic abuse is when the abuse is by your partner or member of your family.



Discriminatory abuse could be someone bullying you or hurting you because of:

- Your religion
- A disability
- Your age
- Your sexual partner
- The colour of your skin or hair
- Where you come from
- The language you speak



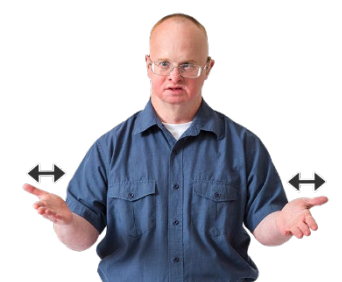
Organisation abuse could be that your care staff or other organisations like the hospital or police treat you badly, neglect you or provide a bad service.



Neglect is when the support you need to live your life safely has not been given to you. This support should have been provided to you by the family or the professionals responsible for your needs.

Self-neglect is when you are not taking care of yourself properly.

Where can abuse happen?



Where?

Abuse can happen:

- At home
- In a hospital
- At a day centre
- At work
- In the community
- At a social club

What happens when you contact Single Point of Contact Team?



They will listen to you.



They will tell you what will happen next.



They will support the person at risk.

What other support might be offered to adult at risk of abuse and neglect?

They may arrange for an advocate if



- The adult at risk needs support with the safeguarding concern.
- The adult at risk is not able to understand or recognise that they are at risk or abuse or neglect.



An **advocate** is someone who supports a person to understand information and to express their needs and wishes.

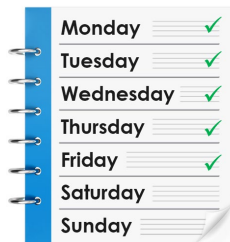


<https://www.torbayandsouthdevon.nhs.uk/services/safeguarding-adults/>

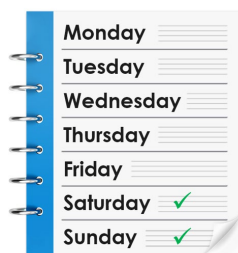
What to do if you think you or someone else is at risk of abuse or neglect?



Contact: Torbay Safeguarding Adults
Single Point of Contact Team



Telephone: 01803 219700



Emergency Duty Service (out of
hours): 0300 4564876



Email: safeguarding.alertstct@nhs.net

If you feel someone is in immediate danger or there is an emergency situation, please call 999.

For further assistance or to receive this information in a different format, please contact the department which created this leaflet.