

ONE MINUTE GUIDE TO SAFEGUARDING FOR HOME VISITING COUNCIL WORKERS

This guidance is aimed at those that work in and out of families / people's homes
(maintenance workers, pest control etc.).

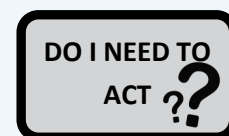
Due to the nature of your work, you are in a position to identify and report **any concerns** you have when visiting tenant's properties. Safeguarding means **protecting everyone from harm, abuse and neglect**. You have a **duty** to help protect children and/or adults at risk who may be experiencing and/or at risk of, abuse or neglect, regardless of their age.

REMEMBER: SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY!

Discuss/report your concerns if you are worried about a child/young person/adult at risk, even if 'something just doesn't feel right.'

Your information could be a missing part of a bigger picture.

What is an 'Adult at Risk'? An individual aged 18 and over who has needs for care and support and is experiencing, or at risk of abuse and/or neglect.



Safeguarding and Types of Abuse

Signs of abuse are not always obvious, and a person may feel scared or unable to say what is happening to them.

The types of abuse in adults and children includes, but is not limited to:

- ⇒ **PHYSICAL**- Harm such as hitting, kicking, biting, misuse of medication
- ⇒ **EMOTIONAL**- Causing a person to feel unloved, worthless or inadequate
- ⇒ **SEXUAL**- Unwanted sexual activity, with perpetrators using force, making threats or taking advantage
- ⇒ **NEGLECT**- Failing to meet a person's basic needs such as food, clothing, adequate shelter
- ⇒ **SELF-NEGLECT**- Behaviours of an adult that threatens the person's health or safety
- ⇒ **MODERN SLAVERY**- Exploitation of other people for personal or commercial gain
- ⇒ **EXPLOITATION**- Imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a person sexually or criminally
- ⇒ **DISCRIMINATORY**- Misuse of power that denies opportunity to some groups or individuals
- ⇒ **FINANCIAL**- This is an aspect of coercive controlling behaviours: threats and degrading behaviour
- ⇒ **ORGANISATIONAL**- Mistreatment of people by poor, inadequate care and support. Systematic poor practice that affects the whole care setting (abusive culture within a care setting)
- ⇒ **RADICALISATION**- The process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremism ideologies associated with terrorist groups.
- ⇒ **DOMESTIC ABUSE**- Incident/s of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members

Always **'THINK FAMILY'**- Remember that people rarely live in complete isolation and therefore we need to consider the needs or impacts on others such as the wider family, children or parents/carers.

Signs To Look Out For:

- ◆ Anyone **disclosing anything concerning** to you (e.g. telling you that they/someone else being abused or concerned with their wellbeing) ✓
- ◆ Children and/or adults at risk, looking untidy or living in **poor living conditions** e.g. severe hoarding, unsafe environments, severe dampness, lack of food, presence of animal faeces, lack of heating or insufficient sleeping arrangements ✓
- ◆ **Drug/alcohol/substance misuse** - This could increase the risk to others living in the property who may be children and/or adults at risk
- ◆ Young children or adults at risk **being left alone for long periods** of time without appropriate care arrangements in place ✓
- ◆ Young children **not being appropriately supervised**
- ◆ People being **locked in their homes** without a key or means of leaving
- ◆ **Concerning / challenging behaviour**— such as aggression, shouting, anger or hostility
- ◆ **Bruises / injuries to non-mobile babies**
- ◆ **Unexplained bruises** and /or **injuries** to adults at risk
- ◆ Someone who seems **scared/fearful**
- ◆ Severe **mental health concerns**

WHO DO I NEED TO CONTACT?

Following discussion with your manager/supervisor/co-ordinator, you need to report to Adult/Children's services as soon as possible.

✓ Do

Follow your instincts - even if you are not sure, don't ignore the signs and raise your concerns. **Share information and concerns with your Manager/ Coordinator / Supervisor**

Contact Adult/Children's Services (they will ask for information including your name, job title and a description of the concerns. You will receive support from your manager if you need to report a concern

If you feel you can, ensuring there is NO risk of serious danger and/or harm, **inform the person that you will be reporting the concerns** you have to children/adult services

⊘ Do not:

Investigate any concerns yourself

Manage challenging situations or other people's anxieties

Break confidentiality or information sharing rules (gov.uk/informationsharing)

Download the NHS Safeguarding app

Provides 24-hour mobile access to safeguarding guidance and local contacts to report safeguarding concerns



IF YOU BELIEVE SOMEONE IS IN IMMEDIATE DANGER YOU SHOULD CALL THE POLICE ON 999

	Hampshire	Isle of Wight	Portsmouth	Southampton
CHILDREN	0300 555 1384	0300 300 0117 (24/7)	02392 688 793	02380 833 336
ADULTS	0300 555 1386	01983 814 980	02392 680 810	02380 833 003
OUT OF HOURS	0300 555 1373	<u>Adults</u> 01983 821 105 <u>Children</u> 0300 300 0117	<u>Adults</u> 02392 822 251 <u>Children</u> 0300 555 1373	02380 233 344