

Safeguarding Adults with Learning Disabilities



Easy Read Summary



Northamptonshire
Learning Disability
Partnership Board

Northamptonshire 
Safeguarding Adults Board

What is Safeguarding Adults with Learning Disabilities?



This is an information pack to help to keep you safe and help people who have been abused.

Safeguarding means making sure you are safe from abuse and neglect, and are able to be independent and make choices.



What is abuse?

Abuse is when someone hurts you or treats you badly.

Abuse is always wrong. There are different kinds of abuse.



Physical abuse is when someone hurts you, for example hitting, kicking, biting, punching or slapping.



Sexual abuse is when someone touches your body or your private parts in ways you do not like or want. This includes kissing you, making you touch them, having sex with you when you do not want them to.



Emotional abuse is when people talk to you in unkind ways. For example: teasing, threatening, swearing, ignoring you, shouting, and bullying.



Financial abuse is when people take or control your money or things which belong to you. And when people cheat you out of your money



Neglect is when people who are supposed to help you don't look after you properly. For example, not giving you enough food, not keeping you warm and safe, not giving you medication or taking you to the doctors if you are ill.



Discrimination is when people treat you badly or unfairly because of the colour of your skin, your religion, your disability or because you are lesbian or gay.



Abuse is always wrong and should not happen!

If these things happen to you or your friends, you should tell someone you trust.

You could tell:



- ◆ **A member of staff**
- ◆ **Someone in your family**
- ◆ **A nurse**
- ◆ **A doctor**
- ◆ **A care manager**
- ◆ **A social worker**
- ◆ **A friend or neighbour**
- ◆ **An advocate or advocacy group**

Who is working to help keep people safe?



Social Services and Health Commissioners (like contract managers) - they plan, pay for and commission services which offer good support and help keep people healthy and safe from abuse.



People who provide services - like residential homes, day centres, home care agencies and respite services. They must work to keep people safe and well. They should also report any possible abuse to social services. They should have a policy about abuse and you can ask to see this.



People who offer health and social care support like community nurses, social workers, psychologists and personal assistants. They can help to identify people who are at risk of being abused and services where people are not safe.



People who investigate reports of abuse - when abuse is reported, professionals try to find out more about what has happened. They also try to protect people so that the abuse does not happen again. Social Services have an Adults Safeguarding Team to try and make sure this happens.



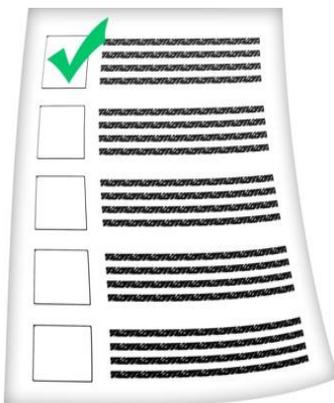
The Police – will be involved in looking at cases of serious or complex abuse and when a crime may have happened. They also try to protect people so that the abuse does not happen again. They work closely with social services.



Employers – should make sure they do not give jobs to people who might hurt or abuse people with learning disabilities. They carry out checks, (for example DBS - Disclosure and Barring Service checks) to find out whether new staff have abused people in the past.



People who inspect services - the Care Quality Commission is responsible for inspecting services. Their job is to make sure that services offer good, safe care and support



The Safeguarding Adults Board – is made up of some of the big bosses from social services, health agencies and police. Users and family carers are also part of this Board. The main job of the Board is to make sure that the things that have been put in place to help keep people safe are working well.



Families and friends -they are good at noticing when people might have been abused or are in services where they are not safe.

Who to contact to report/discuss a possible act of abuse against an adult?

You can contact the **Customer Service Centre** -



Tel: 0300 126 1000



E-mail: adultcarenc@northamptonshire.gov.uk



[click here for the online reporting form](#)

If you do not wish to give your name or address that is ok
If you feel unsafe and need urgent attention **always** call the police on

999